

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Sawley Parish Council held  
Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024, at the New Sawley Methodist Church,  
Tamworth Road. The meeting started at 19:00 prompt.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr A Chewings (Chair), Cllr J Hey Heddle (Vice), Cllr D Doyle, Cllr B Cope, Cllr J Archer, Cllr Z Rose, Cllr H Atkinson, Cllr W Richmond.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mrs B Colegate (Clerk), Mr R Morris (Speed Watch).

**036/24** **Apologies for absence** – Cllr G Daxer, Cllr M Dawson, Cllr K Simmons, Cllr K Athwal, PCSO N Eaton.

**037/24** **Declaration of members Interest:** “To enable any councilors to indicate any items on the agenda in which they have a personal or pecuniary interest in accordance with the parish councils code of conduct.”

- (a) Members must ensure that they complete the Declaration of Members Interest sheet prior to the start of the meeting.
- (b) Where a member indicates that they have a DPI but wish to make representation regarding the item before leaving the meeting, those representations must be made under public speaking.

**Clerk and Cllr J Hey Heddle declared an interest in matters for determination 042/24 (f) as they are members of the church making the grant request.**

**MOVED TO SUSPEND THE PARISH COUNCIL STANDING ORDERS TO ALLOW RESIDENTS TO HAVE A FAIR TIME TO SPEAK ON MATTERS OF THE ROADWORKS IN SAWLEY.**

**Moved: Cllr Z Rose, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr D Doyle.**

**038/24** **Public Speaking** - At the start of the meeting a period of not more than fifteen minutes will be made available for members of the public and members of the council to comment on any matter already on the agenda.

- (a) Speed Watch and SID’s report – **SEE APPENDIX 1:1**
- (b) Members of the Public – **SEE APPENDIX 1:0**
- (c) Police Matters – **NONE**
- (d) Borough Councillors report – **NONE**
- (e) County Councillor Report – **NONE**

**039/24** **Minutes** - To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

**ALL APPROVED**

**040/24** **Parish Councilors Reports** - **APPENDIX1:2**

**041/24** **Parish Clerk Report** –**NONE**

**042/24      Matters for Determination**

- a) To receive the Internal Auditors Report and the Accounts for 2023/24  
**RECEIVED – REPORT RECEIVED AND ACCEPTED BY THE COUNCIL.**
- b) Approval of the Annual Governance statement for 2023/24  
**RESOLVED - That the Annual Governance Statement 2023/24 (Section 1 of the Annual Return) be approved by Council and signed by the Chairman and Clerk/RFO**
- c) Approval of the Accounting statement for 2023/24  
**RESOLVED - That the Accounting Statements for 2022/23 (Section 2 of the Annual Return) be approved by Council and signed by the Chairman and Clerk/RFO (d) Approval of Annual Return**
- d) Approval of Annual Return to PKF Littlejohn for 2023/24  
**RESOLVED - That the Annual Return be submitted to the External Auditor and the prescribed notices and accounts be published on the website and displayed on the notice boards.**
- e) Appointment of Barrie Woodcock as Internal Auditor for 2023/24  
**APPROVED**
- f) S136 grant request from New Sawley Methodist Chapel - £350 for a new Pano.  
**ALL AGREED**
- g) S136 grant request from Friends of Sawley Park - £325 to pay for Jolly Jingles to come and put on free Punch and Judy shows during the fun day.  
**ALL AGREED**
- h) Traffic problems in Sawley  
**Motion brought by Cllr J Hey Heddle to send to Derbyshire County Council evidencing their failings regarding the traffic in Sawley. SEE APPENDIX 2:0**
- i) Update on CCTV on Sawley Park.  
**NOTED**

**043/24      Planning**

To consider the following planning applications and decisions between 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024 – 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024.

- a) ERE 0424/0011 – 15, Chantry Close, Sawley, NG10 3AJ.  
Installation of dropped kerbs, formation of vehicular crossing over footpath and new hardstanding. Works include alteration to existing boundary treatment as required.  
<https://register.civicacx.co.uk/Erewash/Planning/Details/ShowDetails?id=39464&pcid=7242c846-51f7-4f8b-82a0-c5acc894c440&dpid=DetailsPage>  
**NO OBJECTION**

- b) ERE 0424/002 – 26m Ingleby Road, Sawley, NG10 3DH.  
Proposed new dwelling and parking (re-submission in amended form of previously approved application ref ERE0323/0014 due to addition of single storey rear extension.)  
<https://register.civicacx.co.uk/Erewash/Planning/Details/ShowDetails?id=39450&pcid=7242c846-51f7-4f8b-82a0-c5acc894c440&dpid=DetailsPage>  
**NO OBJECTION**
- c) ERE 0324/0039 – 33, Weston Crescent, Sawley. NG10 3BS.  
Replacement of existing single storey extension with two storey side extension, front projection and erection of raised patio at the rear.  
<https://register.civicacx.co.uk/Erewash/Planning/Details/ShowDetails?id=39405&pcid=7242c846-51f7-4f8b-82a0-c5acc894c440&dpid=DetailsPage>  
**NO OBJECTION**

Decision Notices (Erewash Borough Council planning portal)

- d) ERE 0224/0030 – 17, Turner Road, Sawley, NG10 3GP.  
Single storey wrap around extension, render to the existing front elevation, raised patio, front porch, installation of hard standing and new dropped kerb.  
<https://register.civicacx.co.uk/Erewash/Planning/Details/ShowDetails?id=39264&pcid=f89a0e4d-1af8-461e-aeefa-21722ae53c14&dpid=DetailsPage>  
**NOTED**
- e) ERE 0124/0022 – Grounds farm Lock Lane, Sawley, NG10 3AA.  
Remodelling of dwelling to include roof alterations, increased roof height, additional dormers and roof lights, alterations to chimneys, erection of first floor front and rear extensions and single storey rear extension, insertion of windows and Juliet balconies.  
<https://register.civicacx.co.uk/Erewash/Planning/Details/ShowDetails?id=39105&pcid=70b280ac-4c08-4726-9e01-4d4406efaaaa&dpid=DetailsPage>  
**NOTED**

044/24

**Finance**

- (a) To receive the bank reconciliation and budget monitoring: -
- (b) The following accounts are presented for approval of payment: -

Cheque Number	Payee	NET	VAT to reclaim	Amount Total
300344	SDCVS March Wages	654.42	0.00	654.42
300345	N Power	569.78	28.49	598.27
300747	Zurich insurance	788.53	0.00	788.53
300748	Cuttlefish	460.00	92.00	552.00
300749	East midlands Audit	131.50	0.00	131.50

300750	DALC			

(c) Income – £902.79p Sawley Womens Institute reimbursement for memorial Bench on Wilmot street.  
Erewash Borough Council – Precept and Concurrent function  
£51298.84p.

**045/24 CORRESPONDENCE –**

**046/24 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 7.00pm, The Methodist Chapel, Tamworth Road, Sawley.

**APPENDIX 1:0 – PUBLIC SPEAKING**

Lynn, Resident of Sawley for 52 years – feels like Derbyshire County Highways department just allow people to dig up Tamworth Road every time as the easy option and don't bother looking at any other options to ease congestion.

Robert, Sawley Resident – Argues that a lack of planning and accountability from Derbyshire County Council for the quality of work completed and allowed to be done. He would like to see a meeting with these Councillors (who are public servants after all) to be able to hold them to account for the decisions they are making. Also why is there no schedule of work available like the planning portal on the Erewash Borough Council Webpage.

Ralph Morris, Sawley Community Speed Watch – Missing any consequences for over running on works and poor work. What about the poor local businesses who are on their knees due to the effects of these roadworks.

Shaun, Sawley Resident – Fines need to be higher to deter poor work and not sticking to the permits and money needs to be pumped back into the Parish affected.

Paul, Post Office Master – Shops with perishable foods are losing money hand over fist due to reduced trade and having to throw perfectly good stock away with no way of recouping the money.

John Devil, Sawley Resident – Poor Signage is making road work situation worse and traffic in general as HGV's are missing the signage and causing chaos turning close to the railway bridge. Signage needs to be moved and more common along the road in hope the HGV's see it.

Lytton, Trent Barton – Frustrated at the lack of communication from Derbyshire County Council. He works closely with both Nottinghamshire County Council and also Leicester County Council and says that they far exceed the communication he receives from Derbyshire County Council. The result is drivers end up getting abuse for the delays when it is not their fault and this is not acceptable.

**APPENDIX 1:1 SPEED WATCH AND SID'S**

## **SID Report - Sawley Parish Council 26/04/24**

### **Satisfactory**

- Both SIDs converted to Solar on 17 April
- Net result of invoicing is a refund
- Installation enables devices to be rotated 180 degrees

### **Opportunities**

- Potential for third SID, subject to funding
- New post on Draycott Rd needed to overcome 2 issues.

### **Challenges**

- Relocating the SIDs will be less straightforward

### **Threats**

- None

## **CSW Report - Sawley Parish Council 26/04/24**

### **Satisfactory**

- Volunteer availability remains strong
- 18 Watches held, 9936 vehicles 'clicked' since March meeting

### **Opportunities**

- Unofficial Community Speed Watch sign

### **Challenges**

- None other than the weather

### **Threats**

- None

### **Statistics since 26/03/24**

18 watches held

9936 vehicles 'clicked'

140 >35mph - top speed 46mph

625 >31mph

10 letter 2's issued.

No Sawley owners

## **APPENDIX 1:2**

Hardwick Court - rear footpath

Myself with the support of Cllr Harry Atkinson have taken up the issue of the overgrown footpath behind Hardwick Court. Harry has identified that the land where the footpath runs through is in the ownership of Derbyshire Highways. They have been requested to cut back the overgrowth, opening up the path and taking branches away from damaging residents back garden fences.

In addition to this Cllr Chewings had to contact EMH to remove the rubble that had been dumped on the pathway that belonged to them.

Housing Issues

Cllr Chewings has taken up issues of failure by EMH to carry out repairs on two properties in Sawley.

Unsafe upstairs - originally was going to take EMH three months to undertake a surveyors report before repairs carried out - now being done in two weeks.

Failure of front door locking system - repeated failures by EMH to keep appointments and carry out repair. Now sorted.

Provision of new street bin/ dog poo bin Wilne Road.  
Representations by Cllrs Atkinson, Chewings & Doyle persuaded EBC to provide a new additional bin on Wilne Road.

Sawley Friendship Club - Cllrs Chewings, Doyle & Richardson are actively involved in the committee of the voluntary group - aims to end isolation and loneliness amongst senior citizens. Successful Easter Monday Party held with some 80 Sawley Senior Citizens attended.

Future events planned - Spring Bank Holiday Monday, 27th May - garden party with guest celebrity attending.

Fish & Chip Supper with Sing along,

Halloween / Bonfire event

Christmas Party - the club is also looking to have a presence at the forthcoming Sawley Fun Day.

Cllrs Doyle and Chewings - continue to be involved in both the monthly community litter picks and regular Community Speed Watches.

Traffic problems - the chair has made numerous representations to Derbyshire Highways.

Still awaiting repairs to bus shelters following the decision by the previous administration to cut maintenance & repairs to bus shelters

## **APPENDIX 2:0**

### **Sawley Parish Council, General meeting 30th April 2024.**

#### **Proposed motion on Traffic chaos in Sawley 2023-4 (Second draft)**

**Proposed, Cllr J. Hay-Heddle (Vice Chair.)  
Seconded Cllr Alan Chewings Chair.**

1) Sawley Parish Council reacts with dismay to the mayhem and the delays which resulted from the recent round of road-works in Sawley. Members are concerned First about the financial costs that fell upon the local community<sup>1</sup> – especially those resulting from delays occurring when no work was being carried out; journeys which usually only took minutes were now taking over an hour. Secondly to air quality from having all these engines idling for long periods – often over an hour. Third, that it is only a matter of time before such delays at road works give rise to such anger and frustration<sup>2</sup> as to result in another serious accident such as that which occurred at the junction of Victoria Street and Tamworth Road in the early hours in October '23, only this time with fatal consequences.

2) The Council notes that the supervision of the management of road works to ensure “best Practice,” minimum disruption and the safety of all concerned is the

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<sup>1</sup> It is quite easy to demonstrate that the gridlock occasioned the other week cost drivers in the order of £500,000 in delays (10,000 vehicles a day delayed 1 hour each at a value of £12 per hours for 4 days = £480,000) and that a loss of similar magnitude afflicted local businesses adversely affected. In lost sales and contracts and perishable goods ruined.

<sup>2</sup> We note that nothing is more frustrating or annoying than being held up for perhaps an hour and finding that no work is taking place.

responsibility of the local Highways Authority that has granted the licence to proceed with the work.

3) The Council notes that the penalties available for failures in this duty of care can be quite substantial. For instance a Council Highways Dept. was taken to court in 2016 by the Health and Safety Executive over an alleged breach which resulted in two fatalities. They were found guilty and fined £115,000.

4) We thus urge Derbyshire County Council (DCC) to ensure that its Highways Authority is made fully aware of this supervisory responsibility and the potential consequences of failure to ensure best practice in carrying out road works. We further urge them to plan such work well in advance specifically to minimize disruption, and to communicate with local residents and businesses to inform them of plans and progress. This supervisory responsibility includes: -

a) Ensuring that the safety of the workforce and road users is not jeopardized by procedurally questionable working practices, such as poor management of contra-flows, lack of awareness of the scale and timing of local traffic flows, and of the cumulative effect of other road-works in the area.

b) Highways authority should also ensure that the contractors operate the management of their works, including the use of temporary traffic lights, so as to take cognizance of these factors to minimise delays, frustration and financial losses to the local community. Also to ensure that such lights are removed when work is suspended over night and at weekends and that carriageways are made passable at times when no work is being carried out<sup>1</sup>. (Using large, thick steel plates to cover holes and trenches perhaps?)

5) The council has received representations, most notably from Trent Barton, on the subject of inadequate stakeholder communication and management. As a stakeholder the council wishes to add its own concerns over the inadequate stakeholder management during the recent round of roadworks in Sawley. DCC Highways should learn from the examples of highways authorities which engage far more proactively with stakeholders, particularly Trent Barton. The council finds it disappointing that DCC does not appear to demonstrate best practise and is not meeting the standard set by neighbouring councils in stakeholder engagement.

6) We note that DCC is planning to make perhaps 100 staff redundant to save some £4 m. Per year. In the light of the above we urge DCC ensures that the Highways department has sufficient staff to discharge both its legal responsibilities and deliver best practise for stakeholders as described above and that there should be staff cover available 24/7 to handle emergencies.