

DRAFT MINUTES of the **EXTRAORDINARY MEETING** of **SILKSTONE PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Monday 22nd January 2024** in Silkstone Sports Pavilion.

PRESENT

Meeting chaired by Cllr Lesley Gill.

Councillors: Cllr Richard Leech, Cllr Debra Smith, Cllr Janice Wake, Cllr Peter Millar, Cllr Meryl Liddell, Cllr Jim Logan and Cllr Derek Liddell.

Also present : Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer : Richard Bell; Cllr Robert Barnard (BMBC) and six residents.

23-178 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED to note apologies received by the Clerk in advance of the meeting from Cllr Thompson.

23-179 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED to note no declarations of interest made by Councillors.

Members were reminded that they are personally responsible for and must update their entry in the register of interests within 28 days of becoming aware of a pecuniary interest that is not already registered (s31, Localism Act 2011).

23-180 BOUNDARY COMMISSION REVIEW

Cllr Gill gave an opening introduction as to the purpose of calling an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council following the draft proposal by Barnsley MBC (BMBC) to recommend to the Boundary Commission that Silkstone Common is moved out of Penistone East Ward into Dodworth Ward. She said she was disappointed that no one from BMBC had discussed this with the parish council and said she is very much against the proposal.

Cllr Gill asked Council to set aside Standing Orders to allow Cllr Barnard and members if the public to speak.

RESOLVED to set aside Standing Orders.

Cllr Robert Barnard (BMBC) explained that the proposal to take Silkstone Common out of Penistone East into Dodworth was not supported by him or Cllr John Wilson (BMBC) as two of the three Councillors for Penistone East. Alternative proposals that were made had been rejected. He said that there were a few Parish Councils who had different parts of their parish split between different Ward boundaries and this draft proposal going to Cabinet of Wednesday 24th January 2024 included others moving out of Penistone East Ward and Springfield moving from Penistone West.

Cllr Barnard said that in his view it was nonsensical to split Silkstone and Silkstone Common.

A member of the public said that she was surprised to have not heard about such an important thing and wondered how this would affect the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) which had recently been created. Another resident said

that the CARE group work out their plans based on the whole village so there may be occasions when grant applications are made to two separate Ward Alliance. It may be workable but not ideal.

Cllr M Liddell said that there is a distinct difference between Silkstone Common and Dodwoth and that they had nothing in common, she too raised the issue of the NDP being for the parish with no link to Dodworth. Cllr Millar agreed and said there may be implications on planning objections.

Cllr Smith said that there may be budget implications; having two sets of Ward Councillors with different priorities could cause issues. She too was disappointed that no one from BMBC or the Ward Councillors had told the parish council what was being proposed.

Cllr Wake agreed that the identity of Silkstone Common was tied very closely to Silkstone and there was no natural link to Dodworth. Cllr Logan agreed.

Cllr Leech repeated his disappointment that no one had told the parish council and it was only due to a chance discovery anyone in the parish found out about it. He further said that the NDP was for the parish, which is one distinct area, it is one place not two parts. He too said he was very much against the proposal.

Cllr Gill asked if any member if the public wished to add anything else before asking Council to reinstate Standing Orders.

RESOLVED to reinstate Standing Orders.

Councillors discussed the next steps in order to fight the draft proposal from BMBC.

RESOLVED to ask the Clerk to:-

- 1) Write to the Leader and Chief Executive of BMBC expressing disappointment and objecting to the proposal.
- 2) Seek an extension to the initial consultation from the Local Government Boundary Commission.
- 3) Draft a press release for the Chair of the Council to approve.
- 4) Create a Newsletter to go to all residents of the parish as soon as possible.

The Chair closed the meeting at 7.28pm.

Chair's signature	Date
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