

SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Tuesday 11th October 2022 at 7pm

In the Bowls Pavilion

Present: Nigel Albertini, Sue Collins, Mary-Jane King, Peter Youngs, Alan McManus, David Gunson, Jacki Schafer (arriving later)

In attendance: Linda Gunson (Clerk)

1. Welcome by the Chairman.
2. Apologies – George Franks, Ingrid Franks
3. No members of the public were in attendance.
4. Declarations of Interest – MK – neighbour of Hare House – to be discussed under Planning.
5. Report from Cllr Andrew Reid – this had been circulated via email to all Councillors.
6. Dist Cllr James Mallinder was unable to attend the meeting but had sent his Report which included the ESC campaign “Ease the Squeeze” It confirmed some projects are all ready up and running. The “warm rooms” project had been discussed by the Memorial Hall Trust, who felt that the conditions could not be met to enable a suitable scheme to be implemented. The PC will ensure that information is signposted on the website, SC will mention it in the next newsletter and Clerk to place information on the village notice boards.
7. Minutes of last Parish Council Meeting held on 26th July 2022. Agreed as a true record. Proposed PY seconded AM. AM signed the Minutes.
8. Matters arising – DG – Judith Andrews is the new Chairman of Sutton Memorial Hall Trust. Since the last PC meeting, DG has taken delivery of all the security fencing for the recreation ground and it is hoped that this will be erected by the end of October/beginning of November. Clerk’s Employment Contract – still awaiting template from SALC. Clerk will chase. SC confirming she now has all the Anti Dog Fouling signs and decided to place these at eye level on the electricity poles, rather than small posts placed on the grass verges. This is to avoid any trip hazard DG – BT had recently had eight vehicles at Wilford Bridge which severely delayed traffic movements, reportedly up to 40 minutes to travel through this area. PY confirming large yellow signs still remain on some grass verges. MK confirming that the cameras were now working at Ramsholt car parks. Footpath – Sutton Hoo – Wilford Bridge on Agenda. Nut Tree Farm/Hare House on Agenda. County Broadband – SC – do we want to put something in the newsletter? DG – confirmed that the PC had received notification that it is still exempt from external full audit. Thermal Imaging



Cameras – Clerk has confirmed with Henry Stothard that we could survey between 11 and 29 properties. Permission will need to be sought from the property owner. AM is happy to take on the role of Co-ordinator and will deal with further emails from Henry Stothard. Shop Walk – on the Agenda. Concealed driveways sign – AM left this with the resident concerned.

9. Planning –

Hare House – discussed up to date position – awaiting response from ESC.

Keeper's Cottage – awaiting reply from ESC

Nut Tree Farm – It is unclear as to the intentions of the new owners of this listed property. It has been reported that windows are left open and current Contractors had been informed that the building is derelict.

10. **Sutton Hoo – Wilford Bridge footpath.** This is an ongoing problem with Paul West of SCC who refutes that there is a problem with overgrowing vegetation and bank encroachment. Clearly there is. James Mallinder has contacted National Trust at Sutton Hoo and he thinks the Trust needs to be more assertive on this issue. He also feels that if SCC still refuse to engage with all parties, the Press may need to be contacted to highlight the situation.

Shop Walk footpath – Once the crop was harvested, the path was reinstated across the field, albeit slightly off from where it was originally.

River path near Stonner Point – Brian Atkinson and DG have cleared this and hopefully it will remain so for several months. MK queried if the path was accessible around the steps and DG confirmed that this had been cleared. Clerk requesting that a bottle of wine is given to Brian Atkinson for the help he has given this year with clearing of footpaths etc. All agreed.

Pink Cottage - MK raised concerns from some motorists that the light that illuminates the village sign can be disorientating especially when the weather is poor with reduced visibility. Could the light be raised? Clerk will write to owner of Pink Cottage.

11. The Plough Public House – New tenants have arrived. AM had been advised by them that they had undertaken a new five-year lease. The PC wish them well.

12. Finance –

Review of Accounts – as at 11th October 2022 (previously circulated)

Current Account	£ 622.28
Business Premium Account	£5,223.25
Common Rights Account	£1,961.58
Total Funds	£7,807.11

Comprises:

General Fund	£5,845.53
Common Rights Fund	£1,961.58
C/L Fund	£1,108.79



NA queried sundries £1,020, this was explained as an amount paid to Peninsula Forestry which represented £850 plus recoverable £170 VAT in respect of the urgent works necessitated by dangerous partially fallen trees over Shop Walk footpath. Councillors had been informed and approved the urgent action in order to avoid any possible public liability claim.

Accounts were approved, proposed NA, seconded SC

Bank Transactions 26th July 2022 – 11th October 2022

28th July Chq 100518 R. Kay Audit fee £100.00
28th July Chq 100519 Sutton Bowls Club (hire) £20.00
28th July Chq 100520 L. Gunson (expenses) £41.90
Above items were approved in Minutes 26th July 2022 item 11.

28th July, 28th August and 28th September 2022 – Clerk's wages £174.00
5th August – Standing Order – Suffolk Preservation Society £30.00
15th August – Transfer ex Business Account to Current Account £1,000.00
22nd August Chq 100521 – Peninsula Forestry £1,020.00 as referred to above.
6th September – interest received £2.57
29th September Chq 100522 – Zurich Insurance. Cheque cancelled.
29th September Chq 100523 – L. Gunson £214.00 re personal BACS payment made to ensure insurance cover by Zurich Insurance with effect from 1st October 2022.
CAS Insurance were unable to provide renewal with existing Insurers. An alternative quotation quoted in excess of £500.00. Clerk contacted Zurich Insurance to renew at a premium of £214 but due to lateness it necessitated a BACS payment to ensure cover continued seamlessly. Councillors were informed throughout the process and approved new Insurers and the payment action.

Review of Actual against Budget for year 2022/23

£850.00 expenditure on tree surgery was not budgeted for however, it is anticipated other savings may lessen the impact on finances.

Invoices outstanding for payment

CAS invoice - £60.00 annual renewal for website host. The item was reviewed, authorised and a cheque prepared for signature.

CIL Fund

The Memorial Hall Grant of £1,000.00 had not been actioned to date, although the fencing materials have now been delivered and paid for. Project is anticipated to be completed by early November.

Common Rights Account

PY – had located old documentation which established that the matter referred to the Secretary of State for Air would pay compensation relative to the common land, and



that a meeting was held on the 27th June 1961, to discuss compensation for the extinction of common rights over the land involved. Barclays Bank confirmed to the Clerk that the existing bank account had been opened 16th July 1996 and therefore had no relevance to the decision. PY suggested there were more historical Minutes and NA would investigate whether these contained any indication on the purpose and responsibilities underlying the receipt of the funds. Councillors agreed that a final decision on the matter would be made at the next PC meeting.

Defibrillator

PY – had supervised a recent software update on the defibrillator. However, it was advised that after five years the battery required replacement. In addition, the routine expiry date replacement of the pads was required. Councillors discussed the matter and it was felt that in addition to adult pads, it was considered necessary to ensure that child size electrode pads should be provided. The defibrillator had originally been kindly donated by the adult children of whose parents had lived in the village for many years, and had passed away. PY advised that the maintenance had to date cost £204.00 with additional costs to come regarding the pads. NA suggested that PY advise the PC regarding the additional costs at the next PC meeting. AM suggested that at the next PC meeting, the PC should consider a contribution to the ongoing maintenance of this community asset.

Inland Revenue

The Clerk advised that SALC were now able to offer payroll services to Parish Councils in order that they may remain Revenue compliant. Councillors agreed that this was a sensible option and the Clerk was advised to provide further details at the next PC meeting.

13. East Suffolk CC – Ease the Squeeze Campaign – As previously mentioned this will be referred to in the next Newsletter and contact details will be placed on the notice boards and website. Clerk to liaise with SC.
14. AOB – MK – very concerned about the amount of water and flooding on the roadside from the Church to the Hollesley junction (B1083) when heavy rain is experienced. Grass has grown over the majority of the roadside grips, leaving floodwater nowhere to run off. MK asked if Clerk could contact Cllr Andrew Reid to highlight the problem.

The traffic situation between Sutton Hoo and the Melton junction was discussed. The volume of traffic has become much worse. DG – is the situation exacerbated by the pedestrian crossing being used more heavily at school times? MK felt that it didn't and that it was the increase in traffic travelling to and from the peninsula that is the main cause. DG had noticed in the press that ANPR cameras are to be rolled out at a possible 200 locations in Suffolk. All agreed that speeding through the village had got worse.

Community Bus Connections – Clerk had received email from Alderton Clerk to ask if we had any complaints about this bus service. SC confirming that possibly only



one or two residents in Sutton used the service. The bus has to be booked a week in advance, so obviously not helpful if you need to get to an urgent GP appointment.

The Sutton Heath Clerk has resigned her post and leaves at the end of October. She had offered the job to the Clerk at Sutton – this was declined.

Clerk recently attended the opening of the new DAS office at Martlesham. She had spoken with a Mr. Rod Gibson who confirmed that some of our parishioners had benefitted from their advice and assistance.

National Trust – Clerk had attended in August the unveiling of a Woodbridge Society Blue Plaque to honour Edith Pretty at the Sutton Hoo site.

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Date of next meeting Tuesday 6th December at 7pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Signed.. A. L. McManis

Dated ... 6/12/22

Chairman