

**SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7pm

In the Bowls Pavilion

Present: Nigel Albertini, Sue Collins, Mary-Jane King, David Gunson, Alan McManus (Chair), Jacki Schafer, Peter Youngs, George Franks, Ingrid Franks.

In attendance: Linda Gunson (Clerk)

1. Welcome by the Chairman.
2. Apologies – there were none.
3. No members of the public were in attendance.
4. Declarations of Interest – There were none.
5. Minutes of last Parish Council Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Agreed as a true record. Proposed AM, seconded SC. AM signed the Minutes.
6. Matters arising:

Issue of flooding – MK commented whilst driving through flooding on the road adjacent to the Sutton Heath picnic site, (B1083) her vehicle had again suffered some damage. Speeding issues – ANPR camera will again be placed in the village for one week at the end of February. Ease The Squeeze, SC reported no further help had been sought by any parishioners. Common Rights Fund – NA to comment later in the meeting. Thermal Imaging survey undertaken by AM and Clerk had proved useful to householders. Broadband issues – AM received a detailed letter from Therese Coffey's office however, AM disputed that he could receive 4G signal as Open Reach had suggested. Sutton village is apparently on a Government Funding Gigabit Scheme. GF asking if anyone had recently suffered problems with their landline. PY commenting Open Reach had been out today at the end of their driveway, fixing a problem, but it has taken two days to sort out. MK – their landline is not very satisfactory and SC still has a problem with her phone line.

**7. Finance:**

**Review of Accounts as at 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023 (previously circulated)**

Current Account	£ 363.78
Business Premium Account	£4,704.13
Common Rights Account	£1,962.67
Total Funds	£7,030.58
Comprises:	
General Fund	£3,959.12



Common Rights Fund	£1,962.67
CIL Fund	£1,108.79

Accounts were approved, proposed JS, seconded MK.

### **Bank Transactions 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 – 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

5<sup>th</sup> December – interest received bank accounts £3.97  
 6<sup>th</sup> December – Chq 100525 – Sutton Bowls Club – pavilion hire £40.00  
 14<sup>th</sup> December – Chq 100526 – Disability Advice Service – donation £100.00  
 14<sup>th</sup> December – Chq 100527 – L. Gunson (Clerk) – expenses £58.50  
 28<sup>th</sup> December – Clerk's wages £174.00

### **Review of Actual against Budget for year 2022/23**

No further exceptional items not budgeted for occurred in the period.

### **Invoices outstanding for payment**

A contribution of 50% towards the maintenance of the Community Defibrillator was agreed, and costs would be presented to the next meeting for formal approval, proposed JS and seconded MK. It was noted that the contact pads were suitable for both adults and children, in the light of increased youth activities occurring in the village.

### **Budget and Precept for 2023/24**

A budget formulated for a Precept of £3,500 (previously circulated to Councillors) was discussed and approved. Proposed AM seconded SC. The Clerk was authorised to formally submit the Precept of £3,500 to East Suffolk Council.

### **CIL Fund**

The Memorial Hall grant payment of £1,000 was again deferred to the March meeting. The CIL Fund return for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 was noted as signed on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 and uploaded to the PC website. GF enquired as to whether any further CIL funds had been received, and it was noted that nothing had been received by the Council in the September CIL payments.

### **Common Rights Account**

NA updated PC on the progress to substantiating the reasons for and responsibilities attached to the funds held as Common Rights. It was clear that any original Trustees were no longer contactable. So far, NA had been unable to establish any firm responsibilities attached to these funds. Clearly this situation could not be allowed to continue indefinitely. Although the PC may not be able to uncover any further facts, it was evident that a formal decision should be made at the next PC meeting, so that the matter is concluded in this financial year.

8. NA and Clerk reporting on recent site visit with Suffolk CC Highways Inspector. The flooding opposite Church Farm does not meet their criteria in that the flooding is not classed as dangerous. Discussed the question of the blocked grips being dealt with,





Highways Inspector confirmed that if they dealt with one, all would need to be cleaned out and this would prove very costly. We would be placed on a "wish list". He confirmed no member of the public should take on the task of cleaning out the grips themselves, this is a very dangerous practice as connections from utility companies/BT broadband wires etc can run through the ground, and near to the surface, if damaged, it could run into thousands of pounds in fines.

9. Planning – discussing Sutton Hall Estate, erection of two agricultural stores. No objection – however comment to be made that the proposed upper metal cladding should be an appropriate colour sympathetic to an agricultural setting.

10. Village Litter Pick – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March 9.30am

11. Pink Cottage – Clerk had been contacted by the owner of the property, who was happy to fit a new light to the village sign thus illuminating it much more clearly.

12. AOB – Clerk had contacted SCC regarding refilling of grit bin. The potholes at the end of Post Office Lane, also becoming concerning. NA – advised that he undertook the role of Parish Recorder. This involved filing a parish report annually. SC had been contacted by two walkers who had advised that a gate at Metersgate Quay was boarded and had barbed wire on the top, thus preventing them from walking further. GF advised that the walkers were in error and that the correct footpath was unhindered. Clerk vacancy, two experienced Clerks within the Peninsula had been approached to enquire if they would take on Sutton PC, both declined.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

Date and time of next meeting – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Signed Al. McMan

Dated 28/3/23

Chairman