

# SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING

Held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7pm

In the Sutton Memorial Hall (small hall)

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

In attendance: Linda Gunson (Clerk), one member of the public, Cllr Andrew Reid, Dist Cllr James Mallinder.

Record of public session – Resident would like to take on role of Tree Warden for Sutton

Report from Andrew Reid – he covers 26 parishes, tries to attend as many meetings as possible, sometimes covering three per evening. He was very happy to be invited to Sutton.

1. Welcome by the Chairman
2. Apologies – Nigel Albertini
3. Declarations of Interest – Mary-Jane King – non pecuniary interest – item 9 – Hare House.
4. Record of public session – as noted above.
5. Discussion with Cllr Andrew Reid and AM on behalf of the PC – speeding and flooding/drainage issues. ANPR is a pilot scheme, a joint venture between Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Police. Several difficulties to overcome, access to data, data protection and funding. Sutton is in the first batch of 40 parishes to have access to the scheme. The TVAS signs – PC can apply for a sign, on a rota basis. The PC to pay for any pole(s) if none in the village. All other costs borne by SCC. AR - having a TVAS sign permanently erected is counter productive as motorists tend to ignore them. SID, AM confirmed the PC have one in the village. Safe Cam do visit the village, confirmed one was here a few days ago, the information is passed to Suffolk Police. Kill Your Speed signs, AR confirmed the PC could apply for these as a gift. No payment required. 30mph repeater signs – some are badly faded. The main mandatory 30mph sign when approaching the village from Alderton is leaning, the poles are badly rusted. AM could SLOW signs be placed on surface of road either end of village? AR - normally only placed where there is a hazard. AM we have photos of all 30mph signs and road visibility. AR would like these sent to him. SCC should be able to give a definitive answer to our concerns.

Flooding/drainage – concerns regarding road grips – these should be kept clear, but some are under a contract of a kind with local landowners/farmers. Highways would undertake this if there were no agreement. PY – large signs informing motorists of “large machinery in the road” are still lying around on verges. AR – Contractors may be at fault – he will investigate. Flooding problems – along main road near Church. The dip past the picnic site (both



directions) is difficult to get through, at times is impossible and vehicles have turned around, re-routing around Hollesley. AR – flash flooding is an issue all over this area.

Extra funding will go into flooding/drainage issues over next three years. AR advises PC to keep in touch and advise of problems.

GF – HGVs – problem with these vehicles crossing the road on bends, leaves other vehicles very little room, especially when up against kerbs. AR kerbs are in place to stop bank/verge from breaking down, nothing can be done about this situation. SCC is currently conducting a review regarding HGVs/LGVs. Parishes have been asked to comment on problems affecting them. Clerk confirming the PC had done so.

MK – discussing problem of heavy traffic from Woods Lane, backing up to Sutton Hoo. AR confirming traffic lights are correctly in cinque. A Transport Strategy Team are looking at problem, particularly in context with Bentwaters to Woods Lane and growth in the area. What could be done? Re-working of infrastructure around the Melton area? DG mentioning rough surface of Woods Lane since Developer re-laid the road. AR confirming nothing to be done immediately. AR was thanked for attending the meeting – he left at 7.45pm.

6. Report from Dist Cllr James Mallinder - Focusing on environmental issues – 45% reduction in spraying of glyphosate. Blue bins - still a 20% contamination with nappies etc. New Waste Partnership – in the future there will be individual collections of household food waste and glass which will mean small new crates for each household.

GF – is village bottle bank to be removed when new waste policy is implemented? JM – if the bottle banks are used regularly then they will not be removed. Due to funding issues – it could be two to three years before the new policy comes into force. The Government wants to ensure the whole of the UK operates under one policy. New trucks will be needed to implement this policy and are only available from Germany. Economically, this has been ill thought out. MPs may object to the economics of this. JS - will the householders have to pay more? JM there will be an impact – hopefully there will be financial support from Government.

JM - ongoing concerns regarding the signage at Ramsholt car parks – meeting with Strutt & Parker who act on behalf of Bawdsey Estate didn't go well. The reason signs/camera erected on site is due to a number of motor homes parking/staying overnight. Strutt & Parker will not remove the signs. Planning Enforcement team may need to be involved.

AM – requesting what to do with dead deer along the roadside, especially near the village. If the animal is small it can be pushed into the hedge line. If it is a large animal, contact Norse at East Suffolk Council and they will collect it.

JM – there are some new grants available for consideration.

SC – some footpaths in Sutton are suffering with dog fouling. Could we order some signs to deter this sort of problem? We have three dog poo bins around the village, which was felt was enough. JM can free up some funding for these signs. Clerk to apply.

JM – Queen's Platinum Jubilee – an Enablement budget is available should we wish to apply for funding. JM was thanked for attending and left the meeting at 8pm.

7. Minutes of last Parish Council Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021. Agreed as a true record, proposed AM, seconded JS.

8. Matters Arising:

**Village sign** – PY confirming this is now erected in garden of Pink Cottage - the owner kindly purchased the oak post. A letter of thanks was sent to her. **Pliocene Forest** – AM said



five trees now planted/fencing contractors are in and fence should be up by the end of the month, the remainder of the trees will then be planted. PY – on the recreation ground is a sick looking Chestnut tree – will monitor this. DG – **Memorial Hall** had received an AONB grant, and three trees will be planted in the picnic area. **Middle Barn** (Low Barn) at Stonner Point. IF confirming the gate is still open, so no diversion of footpath. **Register of Interests** – Councillors should check their information. **CIL** payments – a further £350.80 had been received on 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 2021. The required CIL Report has been completed and filed as at 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2021. CIL receipts are required to be spent within five years of receipt, otherwise they need to be returned.

SC as a volunteer did a vast amount over 2020/21, collecting/delivering prescriptions, shopping, running some residents to hospital etc. Recompense payment of £100 towards fuel etc was approved. SC reluctantly accepted.

9. Planning Applications -

**Hare House** - ESC has approved this application. To continue to be compliant, the unit (granny annexe) must have a reliance on the main dwelling, in order to be considered as a single planning unit. Should the circumstances change, the Certificate validity can be challenged, and the unit could be removed from the site.

**Rockhall Barn** – this application is recommended for approval; it was heard at the referral panel before Christmas and is just waiting to be signed off.

General discussion re siting of mobile caravans in the area. One such caravan that was sited around 6 months ago, is accommodation overflow for a stockman's family. One other is on the Sutton Estate – in the grounds of a house. Short discussion followed - JS would like to put this matter on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Ferry Farm, Ferry Farm Drive** – JS – planning committee have looked at this application and confirmed the PC has no objection to it.

Finance –

**Review of Accounts as at 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

Current account £380-75

Business Premium account £6,101-66

Common Rights account £1,960-78

Total Funds £8,443-19

**Review of Projected Actual against Budget at Year End**

No material differences other than Asset Maintenance exceeded budget by £725 due to the authorised expenditure on the village sign refurbishment £730 and the purchase of a new speed gun £195. No expenditure on Contingency, Donations or Emergency Plan to date authorised.

Current projected excess income over expenditure of £622-65 largely explained by CIL receipts in the year £716-47.

**Bank transactions 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021 to 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

26<sup>th</sup> October East Suffolk Council CIL receipt £350-80

6<sup>th</sup> December Interest receipts £0-21

6<sup>th</sup> October Cheque 100505 CAS Website renewal £60-00 Approved 6 October 21

28 October, 29 November, 29 December S/Order Clerks Wages 3 x £120-00



**Invoices Outstanding Approved for payment**

SALC Clerks Training costs £30 x 2 £60-00

L Gunson Clerks Printing expenses £44-70

Sutton Memorial Hall meeting costs £120-00

S Collins COVID support expenses £100-00

**Bank Transfer**

Approval was granted for £500 to be transferred from the Business Premium account to the Current account.

**Budget Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

A Draft Budget was considered and approved requiring a Precept for 22/23 of £3,415 which would keep the Parish Council tax as the same charge as the previous year. The Clerk was duly authorised to submit the Precept request to East Suffolk Council as £3,415.

**10. Correspondence –**

Clerk reading letter from BSEVC, a Suffolk based charity which covers community transport, family carer support and later life community, included was a questionnaire asking if we offered any befriending services to our parishioners. Letter also contained a request for a donation towards their work. Councillors felt we should obtain more information about this charity before sending a donation. Clerk will follow up.

Letter read to Councillors received from a visitor to the village, complaining having notes placed on his vehicle advising he was on private land, when parking on a grass verge near the entrance to Sutton Hall Drive. Clerk forwarding letter to owners of Sutton Estate as it was an issue between themselves and the visitor. A reply was sent to the visitor, with a copy sent to the Clerk. JS said she had been advised that a resident had placed a letter on a vehicle as it was parked on his land, JS unsure who owned that vehicle.

**11. The Plough Public House –**

New tenants now moved in. They have lots of ideas on how to regenerate the pub. There are however some old fridge/freezers in the car park so hopefully these will be removed shortly.

**12. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee and Village Party combined**

Date Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – start time 4.30pm Guests £10 pp and under 16's free. Bring your own drinks. Flaming Cheek will provide music. Catering is being investigated. Beacon will be lit during the evening, accompanied by a choir. Fund raising - over Easter - afternoon tea. Possible bric a brac sale. Two large hampers to be raffled. Memorial Hall Committee meeting Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Jan. Will be requesting a sum of £500 and would like to request from the PC another £500. Dist Cllr James Mallinder does have an Enabling budget, and we shall apply for a figure (to be decided) from that. SC confirming that some monies could be returned once tickets were sold.

**13. Dog signage already discussed earlier.****14. AOB – PY – concerned about footpath situated on top of the river wall beyond Rockhall Wood which requires repair. The Environment Agency were unable to conduct the repair as**



they could not resource clay locally to re-enforce the wall. Recent exceptional high tides have topped the wall and a possible breach would not only flood the inland land but also prevent the use of the footpath. The proposed National Coastal Footpath includes this section of the river wall.

Clerk – a resident raised the question of whether a bench could be dedicated to a parishioner who lived in the village for a great many years, but who passed away last year. Matter to be deferred to next PC meeting.

MK – A parishioner has reported that the footpath between Pettistree Hall Barns and the reservoir is in poor condition. This is due to wet weather and farm vehicles using it. Multiple Amazon vehicles have been using the tracks, MK did make contact with Amazon but they sub contract out so it's the Hire Company at fault. They will neither pass a message on nor reveal the name of the company. They suggest leaving a note in the delivery instructions but this appears to make no difference. Hopefully, drier weather and a reduction in farm traffic will help.

SC – Newsletter printing. Woodbridge Golf Club are no longer printing this but SC has found a competitive replacement in Hollesley Church. They will bill quarterly rather than yearly. We print 50 copies off each month.

Concerns were raised that a substantial number of vehicles are being parked in a village property with possible evidence that vehicles were being placed for sale. Whilst it was recognised that private sales were permitted, it was noted that any business activity would require formal permission. The PC will monitor the situation. GF and IF declared a non-pecuniary interest in this matter and did not take part in any discussion.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March in the Bowls Hut.

Signed ..... 

Dated ..... 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022 .....