



# *Sutton on the Forest*

## *Parish Council*

Minutes of a meeting of Sutton on the Forest Parish Council held on Thursday 10 August 2017 at 7.30pm in the Grey Village Hall.

Present: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor England  
Councillor Rankin  
Councillor Shearman

In Attendance: Sue Bracewell (clerk)  
Councillor Christine Cookman (HDC)  
Councillor Patmore (NYCC)

Four members of the public.

### **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Perks.

### **17/47 Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **17/48 Minutes of the meeting held on 10 May 2017**

48.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 10 May had been circulated. These were agreed as a correct record, proposed Cllr Rankin seconded Cllr Anderson.

### **17/49 Matters arising**

49.1 Cllr Shearman reported that the Speedwatch scheme is up and running. Several volunteers came forward after Annual Parish Meeting and Paul Phillips is leading the scheme.

49.2 Canadian Memorial Service went well. Cllr Anderson had received a letter from Robert Sheffield apologising for not being able to come to the service and saying he would like to be included next year.

49.3 BT phone box. Council had received an email asking if we wanted to adopt and put in a defibrillator. Phone is still live.

### **17/50 Matters arising from Annual Parish Meeting**

50.1 To consider the installation of seats at village bus stops. Difficult decision as to how many seats and location of them. Use Sutton Times to let people know where seats might be located and see what reaction we get before making a decision. Some research to be done to find what kind of seats/shelters are available and approximate costs.

50.2 To consider creation of footpaths on Stillington Road and York Road. Cllr Shearman to take this forward to establish location and need.

50.3 To consider installation of defibrillator for the village. BT phone box is one possibility and is well placed. Need to establish if the phone is working and if the defibrillator can still be installed in a working phone box. It was agreed to get estimate of costs from the BT contractor.

#### 17/51 **Public Participation**

51.1 Martin Burgess addressed the Council regarding his offer to gift to the Council the piece of land behind the cottages on The Green. Appended at the end of these minutes is the information circulated earlier regarding this offer and the concerns raised by Councillors. Martin was able to confirm that work was in hand to repair the car parking area and agreement had been reached with cottage residents to pay an annual rent to cover its future maintenance.

51.2 Cllr England proposed that the Council accept this offer in principle and this was seconded by Cllr Anderson. The Council would seek to clarify the details and practicalities involved to ensure that the Council's position was protected for the future. The Council wished to record their thanks to Martin Burgess for his kind offer.

#### 17/52 **Report from North Yorkshire County Council**

52.1 Councillor Patmore reported NYCC are on recess at the moment. She reported on discussions for a merger of police, fire and ambulances services.

#### 17/53 **Report from Hambleton District Council**

53.1 Cllr Cookman reported that the Making a difference grants and Easingwold Lions may help with funding for the defibrillator. She raised the issue of the Rose and Crown licence application and we reported that we have sent in our comments. She also raised the issue of the felling of a tree without permission. This has been passed on to Enforcement Officer and we await a response.

53.2 Michael Kitchen has raised issues about the development at Blackwell Ox. The comments are noted.

#### 17/54 **Finance**

54.1 The following payments were approved, proposed Cllr England seconded Cllr Rankin

20.6.17	1231	210/17	Inc Dot	Canadians Order of Service	71.88	
20.6.17	1232	140/17	Inc Dot	Sutton Times June	73.88	
20.6.17	BACS	70/17	HMRC	Clerks PAYE	156.00	
20.6.17	BACS	30/17	D S Marwood	Grass cutting	282.00	
20.6.17	BACS	150/17	B Shearman	Parish meeting catering	90.80	
20.6.17	1233	80/17	S M Bracewell	Clefs expenses	121.77	
20.6.17	BACS	180/17	All hallows	Cemetery maintenance	600.00	
20.6.17	1234	210/17	Miss Daisys	RCAF reception	175.00	
20.6.17	1235	210/17	A Dolding	RCAF expenses	54.38	
20.6.17	BACS	210/17	YCA	RCAF afternoon tea	200.00	

54.2 The financial update had been circulated and was noted.

**17/55 Moor End**

55.1 John Smale advised that a company in Goole is coming to look at the dredging problem to give us some advice. The debris could potentially be put into the small pond at the bottom. John will come back with estimated figures once he has had discussions with the contractors. He will then be in a position to make the funding applications which will require match funding from the Parish Council. This decision may need to be made before our September meeting.

**17/56 Planning**

56.1 The planning update as circulated was noted.

**17/57 Reports from village organisations**

57.1 Village Hall. Outside is being repainted and any remedial work may surface and need repair.

57.2 NYCC Hambleton County Area Committee, no report.

57.3 Easingwold & Villages Forum - next meeting 24 August in Raskelf defibrillators to be discussed.

57.4 Playing Field. There are two issues relating to the playing field at the moment. One is fast food litter being dropped, this has now been cleared. The second issue is about glasses from pub going on the grass. A new notice has been erected pointing out that glasses are not allowed on the field.

**17/58 Date of next meeting**

Next meeting **Wednesday 13 September 2017 7.30pm in the Grey Village Hall**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45pm

Signed:

Date:

## Request from Martin Burgess

Please respect the in confidence marking on this document.

### **Summary:**

Martin Burgess owns the terraced houses on The Village Green and the service area behind them. He is thinking of selling the houses and is minded to gift ownership of the service area to the Parish Council. There is no commitment at this stage, he merely wishes to know our reaction to this proposal.

### **Background:**

I have attached a large scale plan and a Google earth print of the area.

- Originally, there was a shared driveway which crossed the village green diagonally ( shown dotted on the plan) and the residents parked on the village green in front of the houses.
- On taking ownership, Martin created the service area between the outbuildings and the houses with two allocated parking spaces per house. This removed the need to park on the village green and considerably improved the aspect of the village.
- The service area is gravelled and each resident has a condition in their tenancy that they will contribute £10 per year for upkeep. Martin did say that he has never actually collected this.
- He is about to re-tarmac the access drive way.
- His concern is that should he sell the properties and the service area, the latter could be used for infill building. This would inevitably result in a return to the village green being used as a parking area, which he feels is unacceptable.
- He has considered the use of a covenant in any deed of sale which would seek to protect the service area from being used for development. However, such covenants are difficult to enforce and can be circumvented by a determined developer.
- His alternative thought is to gift ownership of the land to the Parish Council because this should provide a higher degree of protection.
- The occupants of the houses would still be liable for an annual fee to cover wear and tear.

### **Action:**

Please could you append a short note giving your views on Martin's suggestion. I apologise for circulating this as hard copy, but it was necessary to include the plan and I have no means of scanning such a large document.

Regards

Bob

16 November 2016

The concerns raised by Councillors:

- We would need a clear estimate of the likely cost and frequency of maintenance. (Martin could provide this).
- The mechanism for collecting an annual payment and reviewing the payment would have to be specified and should not be onerous for the PC (now and in the future).
- A restrictive covenant would probably be required, but it would be necessary to get this and maintenance liability prepared by a solicitor to ensure that it did not unduly constrain the PC in the future.