



Minutes of a meeting of Sutton on the Forest Parish Council held on Wednesday 12 March 2025 at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillor Barry
Councillor Knighton (chair)
Councillor McMeekin
Councillor Rankin
Councillor Shearman

In Attendance: Sue Bracewell (clerk)
NY Councillor Taylor (NYC)

Two members of the public.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Prowde.

Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

25.12 Minutes of the meeting held

12.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2025 had been circulated. These were agreed as a correct record, proposed Cllr Knighton and seconded Cllr Shearman

25.13 Public Participation (part 1)

13.1 Mr & Mrs Carr had raised three concerns. The first was the issue of heavy traffic going through the village. Mrs Carr advised that heavy vehicles going through in the early hours are in breach of their operating licence. Cllr Taylor asked for the points to be emailed to him so he can take it further and get some answers.

25.14 Report from North Yorkshire Council

25.15 NY Cllr Taylor reported that the Solar farm had not submitted a full planning application to date. Sites submitted under the Call for Sites campaign can be found on the public website. Cllr Taylor asked for our help in educating residents about this list and the Call for Sites project. It has been put in Sutton Times already under the Parish Council's summary comment, and will be discussed at the Annual Meeting. Cllr Taylor advised that his Locality Fund for next year was 50% less than last year at £5000. He would be happy to support a project in our village if we want to bid for anything. Councillors to consider possible projects. **Action: All Councillors**

25.16 Public Participation (part 2)

16.1 Communication of planning applications. Mrs Carr asked if we could publicise planning applications in the village. It was suggested it might be possible to put them on the Sutton Facebook page. It was also suggested that residents could sign up on the planning portal to get notifications. This could be publicised on Facebook and in Sutton Times. **Action: Cllr Knighton (FB)/Cllr Rankin (Sutton Times)**

16.2 The issue of a North Wigginton wind farm was mentioned. Cllr Knighton agreed to look into this. **Action Cllr Knighton.**

16.3 Speeding vehicles Cllr Knighton has spoken to our Community Officer. '95 Alive' is a Road Safety Partnership in North Yorkshire, an organisation to support on speeding issues. Cllr Knighton to look further into this to see if it would help us. It was also suggested that Cllr Prowde might be able to extract some data from the motion-activated speed signs. **Action: Cllr Knighton/Cllr Prowde.**

25.17 Matters arising

17.1 Cllr Barry reported that the work on the millennium oak has been completed. A quote of £915+VAT had been received from Alasdair Downie for the tree work recommended in our tree survey. This quote was accepted, proposed by Cllr Barry and seconded by Cllr Knighton.

17.2 Cllr Barry reported on the playing field storage. Sutton Park are going to carry out a bat survey and in the meantime the equipment has been moved to temporary storage at Home Farm. The issue of permanent storage had not progressed. Cllr Barry was asked to go back to the Playing Field Committee and suggest that they investigate using the self storage units that are available down the road on the industrial estate. **Action: Cllr Barry**

25.18 Chairs report

18.1 Fence at the Pound: this work is now completed.

18.2 Community Police Officer. Cllr Knighton had been in touch with PC Powell and he is very happy to attend our Parish Meeting if we let him have the date and the topic we would like him to cover. There had been no further instances in the village of anti-social behaviour but we should keep a watchful eye. PC Powell suggested that video doorbells can be very useful in providing surveillance across the village.

18.3 North Yorkshire Community Messaging is a free service from North Yorkshire Police which provides email updates on policing matters and security advice. <https://www.northyorkshirecommunitymessaging.co.uk/>

18.4 Scanning for digital records – Cllr McMeekin had raised a request from Derek Jacobs to purchase a fireproof and waterproof storage box to keep all the village historical records safe. It could be stored in the church hall. The cost was estimated at £50-100. This was thought to be an excellent idea and should be supported.

18.5 Cllr Knighton had been looking into digital storage for our historical files. Initial quotes suggested costs would be in the region of £40 per 1000 sheets to convert to searchable pdfs. Cllr Knighton will investigate further. **Action: Cllr Knighton**

18.6 Traveller Accommodation Assessment. **Action: Cllr Knighton to complete response**

18.7 Dog behaviour: There are concerns in the village about unruly dogs. This is a difficult issue. It was suggested that we ask the Community Police Officer if he could offer any advice. **Action: Cllr Knighton**

18.8 Footpaths - Many of the footpaths in the village are narrowed by overgrown grass verges. It was suggested that perhaps we could encourage residents to clear the area outside their own homes. This can go in the next issue of Sutton Times and on Facebook. **Action: Cllr Knighton/Cllr Rankin (Sutton Times)**

18.9 Call for Sites – discussed earlier

18.10 Agree date for Village Meeting - Wednesday 4 June was agreed.

25.19 Finance

19.1 The following payments were approved, proposed Cllr Knighton, seconded Cllr Rankin

3.1.25	BACS	4/24	HMRC	Clerks PAYE	243.40
10.1.25		7/24	HSBC	Bank charges	8.00
11.1.25	BACS	45/24	S m Bracewell	Expenses	105.20
11.1.25	BACS	7/24	ALCC	Membership	50.00
11.1.25	BACS	7/24	SLCC	Membership	110.00
17.1.25	BACS	7/24	D S Marwood	Grass cutting	150.00
17.1.25	BACS	7/24	R Delaney	Fencing repairs The Pound	889.76
17.1.25	BACS	7/24	Grey Village Hall	Room rent	180.00
10.2.25		7/24	HSBC	Bank charges	8.00
24.2.25	BACS	7/24	BHA trees	Tree survey (CIL)	780.00
4.3.25	BACS	13/24	Grey villageHall	Maintenance support	1,000.00
25.3.25	BACS		HMRC	Clerks PAYE	251.20
25.3.25	BACS		S M Bracewell	Salary	1978.48
25.3.25	BACS		S M Bracewell	Expenses	195.19

19.2 The financial update had been circulated and was noted.

19.3 Insurance pre-renewal questionnaire. This was agreed.

19.4 Clerk confirmed that the mandate with HSBC had finally been resolved and Cllr Shearman, Councillor Knighton and the clerk now had authority on the account. Cllr Knighton now had access to our online banking.

25.20 Planning

20.1 The planning update as circulated was noted.

25.21 **Reports from village organisations**

21.1 Village Hall: Cllr McMeekin reported that the jazz evening with Ma Bessie night had been very successful. Future events were unsure due to the difficulty in selling tickets.

21.2 Newsletter - To include relevant messages of thanks in next edition. **Action: Cllr Rankin**

21.3 Playing Field. Nothing further to report

21.4 Social Media Nothing to report

25.22 **Moor end** – The ponds are much improved, the weevils appear to have done their job and the azolla is dying off. A heron was reported seen fishing in the pond recently.

25.23 **Any other business**

23.1 YLCA - Do we wish to remain members when our subscription runs out at the end of March? It was agreed it would be useful to continue our membership.

23.2 Clerk was asked to check that the weed spraying will be done at The Green.
Action: clerk

23.3 Dates of future meetings. Clerk to check that future meeting dates are visible on the website. **Action: clerk**

25.24 **Date of next meeting**

Next meeting **Wednesday 14 May 2025 7pm (to include our AGM)**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed:

Date: