

SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 2024 COMMENCING at 7.30 P.M.

IN ST. JAMES CHURCH HALL, CHURCH LANE, SUTTON, SK11 0DS

PRESENT

Councillors: G Barber (Chairman), J Sinclair Smith (Vice Chairman), M Bhatia, R Chamberlain, D Fosbrook, T Priestman and T Whiskard.

Also present: The Parish Clerk and PSCO J News. There were no members of the public (MOPs) present.

- 30/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to receive and accept apologies for absence from Cllrs E Hall, K Stepien-Bialy, A Waller and Ward Councillor C O'Leary. Cllr B Griffiths was not present.
- 31/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to receive Dispensations and Declarations of Interest: Cllrs Sinclair Smith and Barber declared an interest in Item 37/24 (as members of the PCC). Cllr Priestman declared an interest in 47/24 (he will be writing a paper on this matter for a political party)
- 32/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to agree and sign the Minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 11th January 2024.
- 33/24 **Public Participation – THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to receive information/queries/questions from members of the public (MOPs): There were no members of public present.

MEMBERS REPORTS

- 34/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to receive report from the Cheshire East Ward Member and agreed to enquire with the Head of Hollinhey Primary school whether their allocation of S106 monies had been received and that it is the full amount. (See Appendix 1)
- 35/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to receive report from Macclesfield Neighbourhood Policing Team. (See Appendix 2)
- 36/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to receive report of the Climate Emergency Working Group: (See Appendix 3)
- Update since report issued: Members attended a meeting, regarding Turnip Brow, at which it was agreed in principle the asset can be transferred. The next stages are; to contact residents to see if there is an interest and write a formal form business plan for the official application. The leasing arrangement would likely be 125 years for a pepper corn rent. It is likely the council would have to pay legal fees. The group were asked to enquire regarding an estimate.
 - Events – they are looking at purchasing a gazebo for general use.
- 37/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to receive report from graveyard working group: (See Appendix 4)
- 38/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to receive report from the Lyme Green Community Hall Working Group: (See Appendix 5)
- 39/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to receive report from Macclesfield Forest Working Group: (See Appendix 5)

FINANCE

40/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to approve schedule of receipts and payments for February 2024.

Receipts From:

Simmons	Allotment Plot 13	£57.00
Park 4All Lyme Green	Donation for Christmas returned.	£50.00

Payments To:

BACS	Sarah Giller	Clerks' net salary £868.55 and expenses £43.65 Pension contribution £61.28 HMRC payment due £44.40 JANUARY	£912.20
------	--------------	--	---------

Spending power: GPOC

BACS	Three Villages Community Interest Company (CIC)	Donation for year 2023/24	£250.00
------	---	---------------------------	---------

Spending power: GPOC

BACS	Mr David Easterbrook	Christmas receipts Langley: £8.66 – batteries £16.99 – new set of lights	£25.65
Spending power: GPOC			
DD	Spoton.Net Ltd (It'seeze website)	Months subscription January 2023	£54.00
Spending power: GPOC			
DD	ICO	Information commissioner's office	£35.00
Spending power: GPOC			

Pension Contributions:

DD	NEST (National Employment Savings Trust)	JANUARY contribution Employee pension contribution - 5% - £48.05 Employer pension contribution - 3% - £13.23	£61.28
Spending power: GPOC			

HMRC payments:

BACS	HMRC	HMRC payment covering Employee IncomeTax £13.80 DECEMBER	£13.80
Spending Power: GPOC			
BACS	HMRC	HMRC payment covering Employee Income Tax JANUARY	£44.40
Spending Power: GPOC			

Additional payments:

BACS	David Fosbrook	Allotment keys	£40.00
Spending Power: GPOC			

41/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **approve** and **verify** figures from Bank Statement against bank reconciliation (up to 31st January 2024).

42/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **agree** to add an additional signatory(s) on bank account.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COUNCIL

43/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **discuss** lack of gritting on Leek Old Road and **agreed**, rather than ask for a grit bin, to request that the road be reinstated on the gritting route.

44/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **discuss** S106 monies pending and:

44a - To **note** the Ward Members response regarding S106 monies for Lyme Green and his continued endeavours to get this matter resolved and **agree** to suggest that the Ward Councillor approach MP David Rutley.

44b - To **note** Ward Members response regarding S106 monies Langley Playing Fields and his continued endeavours to get this matter resolved and **agree** to suggest that the Ward Councillor approach MP David Rutley.

45/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **discuss** Ward Councillors response regarding significant problems with parking at Macclesfield Forest and **agreed** that the Ward Councillor along with PCSO have actioned.

46/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **discuss** residents' enquiry regarding Quiet Lanes signage and **agree** to contact the rights of way team informing them that the signs appear to be rotten and some cases have fallen down and enquire whether they intend on renewing with new signage.

47/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **discuss/agree** response to be drafted to discuss at the March meeting regarding The Local Government Boundary Commission consultation. (**Deadline 1st April**)

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

48/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVE** to **receive** reports on highways issues and consider action.

- Tree at Plough House grown over road. Send letter /report to Highways.
- Metal sign rusted (height limit on bridge) – on Jarman.
- Two x pot holes on Bullocks Lane, just past entrance to Sutton Hall on bend. Dinner plate size and deep
- Deep pothole on Tunncliffe Road – after the shop and before Bell Avenue.
- Ridgeway reservoir from Leather Smithy - road is disintegrating on the righthand side by the reservoir wall.

- Bollinhead Lane, from the junction of Whiston Lane to the junction Heathcotes Lane whole length road disintegrating.
- Beginning of Walker Lane on junction of Hall Lane - large pot hole.
- Lindrum Avenue - pot hole, with white marks around it, had been there for a long time.

49/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVE to agree to respond to the Highways Engagement Survey review and draft a response for councillors to review and action (*deadline by 1st March*).

THE GRAPEVINE

50/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to agree ideas for inclusion in the next Grapevine magazine (deadline 15th February).

- To advertise the Sunflower Competition.
- To advise residents that any suspicious activity should be reported using 111 or 999 rather than emailing the PCSO direct.
- Police surgery dates – to refer to website.

PLAYGROUNDS

51/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive report from Park 4All @Lyme Green: (**See Appendix 6**)

PLANNING

52/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to agree comments for return to the relevant authority for these new applications:

Application No:	24/0243M
Proposal:	Ino New Industrial Unit for manufacture, storage and administration for Associated Steel Products
Location:	UNIT 5, Hawkshead Quarry, RADCLIFFE ROAD, SUTTON, SK11 0JB
Deadline	21-Feb-2024

THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to agree the following comments to send to Cheshire East Council: *“Sutton Parish Council have no objection to this application.”*

53/24 Noted; Decisions, appeals and withdrawals this month:

Application No:	22/4998M
Proposal:	HENNING HALL NURSING HOME, LONDON ROAD, LYME GREEN, SK11 0LD
Location:	Installation of solar roof panels on extensions to the hall
	approved with conditions

Application No:	22/4999M
Proposal:	HENNING HALL NURSING HOME, LONDON ROAD, LYME GREEN, SK11 0LD
Location:	Listed building consent for installation of solar roof panels on extension to the hall
	approved with conditions

Application No:	21/2866M – APP/R0660/W/23/3327031
Proposal:	Higher Kinderfields Farm, Hollin Lane, Sutton, SK11 0NN
Location:	Change of use of a garage/workshop into 5 accessible tourist units.
Deadline:	28 th February 2024

Enforcement:

Potential planning breach - Reported by resident roadway built on Land off Heathcote Lane - Enforcement have been informed and their opinion sought.

Potential planning breach - Reported unplanned works around Langley pond. Enquiries to be made with Seddons.

CORRESPONDENCE

54/24 ChALC - Buckingham Palace Garden Parties 2024 - (Deadline Thursday 15th February).

55/24 Cheshire East Highways – Crossing Strategy Consultation (Deadline 10 March 2024).

[Crossing Strategy Consultation 2024 \(cheshireeast.gov.uk\)](https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/crossing-strategy-consultation-2024)

56/24 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AND FUTURE MEETING AGENDA

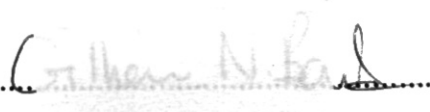
- Christmas Tree Langley – new pipe/live tree.

- To **consider** quote for refurbishment of Meg Lane phone kiosk.
- Remembrance Day Risk Assessment. (*March*)
- To **submit** quotes for insurance cover (expires 1st April 2024)
- To **review** Council policies.
- To **consider** quote for refurbishment of Millennium Signs (Sutton, Langley during 2024/25 and 2025/26). (*Feb 2025*)
- To **agree** co-option of Lyme Green Councillor.
- Notice board Rural Ward.

57/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to agree the date for next meeting as 14th March 2024 commencing at 7.30 p.m.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.33 p.m.

Minutes agreed by Sutton Parish Council as a true record

.......... Chairman

..........

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Ward Councillors report

S106 monies for Langley playing fields and from Gaw End Lane development

I have escalated both of these issues to the Executive Director for Place and await a response. I will let you know as soon as I hear something.

Update regarding S106 monies since receiving this report – the Ward Councillor has been informed that this matter is going to be escalated.

Parking at Macclesfield Forest

I attended the MF Working Group and this issue was discussed. I have raised again the ongoing problems, which have further increased since Christmas. I have been assured that the white lines outside the Leather Smithy will be reinstated, but no other action has been promised by the Council. I will continue to lobby on this.

Junction of Byron's Lane and Bullock Lane

Both PCSO Jim Newns and I have again raised this and requested that double yellow lines be painted around the junction. It has been added to the list of such requests.

Council's finances

Are even more precarious now than we previously discussed. The Council is a projected £3.6m in total reserves left for next year, which the s151 officer (Chief Finance Officer) has described as 'inadequate'. I would be astounded if there was not a s114 notice before the summer.

Other

I have now been the ward councillor for nine months. Would be good to get some feedback on what I should be doing and how I should be working with the parish council. Members very happy with how the Ward Councillor is working; attending meetings, supporting the community and his accessibility.

Update regarding planning - the appeal for the original proposal to build 42 houses on land opposite the Robin Lane/London Road junction has been allowed – permission has been granted to build to the original plans.

Appendix 2 – Macclesfield Neighbourhood Policing Team Report

- Continues with parking patrols at Hollinhey school plus visits into school.
- TRUCAM – has been re-calibrated and he plans on using this next week. This is enforceable. He is happy to train any volunteers.
- Regular mobile patrols in the evening in rural areas and issuing pictures on social media to reassure the public.
- Important that any suspicious criminal activity is phoned in using 111 or 999 rather than email direct.
- There have been a few reports of people selling things out of a bag. Be vigilant.
- Theft from cars in Langley, Lyme Green and Sutton.
- Report to police any images taken from visual doorbells – it is an offence if someone tries to break into a car even if they did not manage to.

Police surgeries:

Saturday 10th February - Sutton café 12 noon – 1 p.m

Wednesday 14th February - Langley Methodist Church coffee morning 10 a.m – 11 a.m.

Sunday 25th February - Lyme Green Park 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

- Parking issues Macclesfield Forest – Main Road.
- Applied for lines outside the Leather Smithy and down hill.
- Asked for lines to be redone in forest.
- Attended forest working group.
- Signage not correct so very frustrating.
- Byrons Lane/Bullocks Lane – requested lines again.

Incidents to note:

- 8/1 - number plate taken Meg Lane.
- 11/1 - suspicious vehicle (pick-up) seen at Hawkhead Quarry.
- 15/1 - front wall knocked down Symondley Road. Drunk driver.
- 14/1 - land rover theft on Ridge Hill.
- 14/1 - attempted theft of van on Robin Lane.



- 1/2 - drive off at filling station.
- 2/2 – suspicious activity Cop Meadow and Tunnicliffe Road.

Appendix 3 - Climate Emergency Working Group (Report 5th February 2024)

The group have now signed up for the CEC Climate Sustainability Hub and also sent a reminder. No response from CEC Carbon Neutral Team thus far.

CEC property services have agreed a site visit to Turnip Brow to consider our application for an asset transfer for a community orchard and re wilding project. Once we have CEC agreement in principle the next step would be the community consultation *before* going ahead (just in case there isn't the interest which we anticipate/need).

The group reviewed the action plan and began the process of discussing what might be the activities for the coming year. It was acknowledged that "community Leadership" and an awareness raising role was probably where the opportunities lay to make an impact.

Actions that had been addressed in the past year or so included: Raising awareness through letters to businesses, the webpage development, and occasional articles in the Grapevine. The monthly litter picks, the children and families event, action around Brighton Crescent to minimise impact on green space and the exploration of the community orchard with Macclesfield Wild Network.

For the revised plan for 2024 it was agreed that the headings from the Cheshire East Town and Parish Council Toolkit will continue to be used, but the action plan itself will be a much more simplified version.

- **Education:** develop links with Hollinhey School to promote climate issues.
- **Residents:** Have a presence at village events to promote the WWF Carbon Foot Print calculator and to promote domestic composting of food waste.
- **Businesses:** revisit list of local businesses to see if they reference sustainability and green issues on their websites.
- **Transport:** the group to look at this issue at the next meeting
- **Waste:** continue with the litter picks and promote composting of green waste now that CEC no longer provide green bins free.
- **Natural Environment:** "Nurturing Nature" initiatives such as bird boxes, swift bricks, leaving gap in fence for hedgehogs. The main activity will be the Community orchard if this is to go ahead.
- **Energy Supply:** the group to look at this issue at the next meeting.

Appendix 4 – Graveyard Working Group

A meeting was held 5th February:

1. Received planning consent from the Council for graveyard – They have three years to commence works.
2. Received consent from the diocese – They have one year to implement.
3. Fundraising is ongoing, and leaflets sent out to residents and available in the shop.
4. There will be further publicity in the Grapevine.
5. Proposing to make a start on a track to serve both areas – Agreed by PCC.
6. A contractor is lined up for April.
7. Discussing with diocese for the transfer of land to be consecrated.

Appendix 5 - Lyme Green Community Hall Working Group

- A meeting is to be held on 19th February on the site to review the sites feasibility.
- A meeting is arranged for 15th February with Mollington Village Hall to gain information.
- The group plan to distribute a leaflet to investigate what residents would use the hall for (cost £24).

Appendix 6 – Macclesfield Forest Working Group

The meeting was held on 24th Jan. 2024. There were representatives from Peak National Parks, United Utilities, and CEC Green Infrastructure department and Police, present but unfortunately none one from Highways.

Key issues discussed:

- Still concern about cyclists going "off Grid".
- The idea of "pop up" car parks (a maximum of 52 days a year) - this has been successful elsewhere in easing parking difficulties.
- Some commercial dog walkers are not picking up after the dogs and they are not always under control. Rangers actively engage with anyone behaving inappropriately.
- Issue of inappropriate parking which had led to difficulty in larger vehicles being able to get up the lanes. Concern that this will delay emergency vehicles.



- The police are able to use enforcement powers if a vehicle causes an obstruction and PCSO does this when he is on duty. He would urge anyone to call 111 if there is an illegal obstruction.
- The issue of the parking signs not being enforceable needs to be clarified. The issue is the spacing of the signs, but it may be that where there are signs, people parking within sight of them might be able to be issued with a ticket. PCSO would ideally like yellow lines from the Leather Smithy down Clarke Lane.
- The rural crime team are interested and will pursue any illegal 4x4 activity so people are encouraged to report it, via 111
- The culvert at Trentabank has collapsed and there is ongoing discussion with Highways to get it repaired.
- Work is ongoing to improve the forest habitat for birds and other wildlife. I reported the wall at the top of Bottoms had not been repaired and that the barriers had been blown over. UU accepted that it was their responsibility and would be looking into it further. I also asked for clarity about overnight camping in the laybys – this is not necessarily illegal although the discharge of grey waste is. The Rangers and PCSO have had a quiet word with any campers who seem to be there more than just over night. The mobile electric notice board, which was put up on Brighton Crescent during the summer months to inform and deter people from the forest when parking was full, was a Covid initiative and there are no plans to repeat it.

Specific Actions:

- PCSO Jim Newns is going to explore the legality and deployment of no parking cones for busy times.
- CEC will seek clarification about the decision of the inspectorate that the parking signs cannot be enforced.
- CEC to check with the Enforcement Team if they will patrol the forest periodically to act as a deterrent to irresponsible parking.

Appendix 6 - Park 4All @Lyme Green

Green Space Consultation:

You will have seen that Lyme Green Community Park has been moved from LOW to MEDIUM, Park 4all already knew there would be a change as we identified with CEC that our park was in the wrong category, I.E. Sports fields and had been for years, prior to the consultation ending we were informed that this mistake would be rectified, Park 4all put a lot of effort into canvassing the community for the park to be upgraded to HIGH.

Our efforts included printing a lot of questionnaires to distribute to households that did not use the internet or were unable to get to the library for a printed copy. We do know that many residents responded. A conversation with Matt Smith the manager at Ansa indicated that because of their budget cuts they could not manage further parks being in the HIGH category, it seems that the only reason the park has not been upgraded to high is because of Ansa's difficulty with their budget. In view of this we have emailed CEC, (email copied to SPC) a manager at CEC asking for an explanation. We thank everyone who has supported asking for changes including the Parish Council and our Ward Councillor. We were seeking a change to HIGH to support all the work that has gone into the park refurbishment, as well as future work planned, volunteers had hoped that at some point we could apply for a green flag award, however, without the park being in the HIGH category this is unlikely to be feasible.

Easter: It is possible that Park 4all may organise some sort of activity for children and/or families, this is just in the discussion stage at present.

Water supply: We are going ahead with a mains water supply into the park to help our gardening volunteers, we hope this work will be carried out by Fairways Landscapes/United Utilities before Easter. This work is costing us over 3K.
Gardening Group Shed: We have a small metal shed in the park for gardening tools, this shed has been attacked a few times and is a little too small, we have just heard that a grant application to The National Lottery has been successful and a local resident is donating £400. These monies will fund a small 8'x8' container to replace the shed, the container will have a living roof to help with the biodiversity in the park. CEC who initially did not indicate that there would be a fee for the admin work involved to obtain the necessary permissions are charging us £400, initially they wanted over double that amount but it was negotiated down.

