

SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2024 COMMENCING at 7.30 P.M.

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

PRESENT

Councillors: G Barber (Chairman), R Chamberlain, C Eyre, D Fosbrook, E Hall, T Priestman and T Whiskard.

Also present: The Parish Clerk and three members of the public (MOPs).

212/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive apologies for absence from M Bhatia, B Horan, J Sinclair Smith (Vice Chairman), K Stepien-Bialy, A Waller and Ward Councillor C O’Leary.

213/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive dispensations and declarations of interest.

214/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to confirm and sign the Minutes as a true record of the Meetings held on **11th July and 15th August 2024.**

215/24 Public Participation - THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive information/queries/questions from members of the public (MOPs): *(10 minutes)*

- Residents spoke regarding Turnip Brow, in respect of securing the land to develop for residents to visit and promote wider environmental issues. They are reaching out to the community by:
 - a) Drawing together a group of people who are environmentally concerned and who would be prepared to champion the project.
 - b) Working with that group, to circulate information based on the above through the various village networks including the Langley Unplugged Facebook group, The Lavender Fields WhatsApp group, the Grapevine magazine, the Women’s Institute, Hollinhey primary school and other local networks.
 - c) Creating a simple online survey platform to invite feedback from people reached through those networks.
 - d) Reaching out to relevant local organisations such as Rossendale and Peaks and Plains to invite their support and participation.

MEMBER REPORTS

216/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive report from the Cheshire East Ward Member.
(See Appendix 1)

217/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive report from Macclesfield Neighbourhood Policing Team.
(See Appendix 2)

Members discussed the ASB at Whiston Close and that Plus Dane do not seem to have communicated with the Parish Council regarding the appointment of new tenants for some time. The Chairman has communicated this with Plus Dane and this will be rectified in the future.

218/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive report, from the Climate Emergency Working Group.
(See Appendix 3)

219/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive report from the Lyme Green Community Hall working group (WG) and **agree** costs of £40 towards printing costs.
(See Appendix 4)

The long-term goal is whether this is feasible or a sustainable project.

FINANCE

220/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to approve schedule of receipts and payments for September 2024.

Receipts From: NONE RECEIVED

Payments To:

BACS	Sarah Giller	Clerks’ net salary £705.37 and expenses £48.13 Pension contribution £43.81 AUGUST	£753.50
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Spending power: GPOC			
BACS	Arrow Business Machines Ltd	230 copies of sunflower letter.	£15.18
Spending power: GPOC			
DD	SSE	Account for 01/07/24 – 30/06/24 (collected by DD 31/07/2024) Collected 22/8/24	£174.99
Spending power: GPOC			
DD	Spoton.Net Ltd (It'seeze website)	Months subscription AUGUST 2024	£54.00
Spending power: GPOC			
DD	Langley Methodist Church	Hall hire 15 th August 2024 .75 hrs	£11.25
Spending power: GPOC			
Pension Contributions:			
DD	NEST (National Employment Savings Trust)	AUGUST contribution Employee pension contribution - 5% - £37.13 Employer pension contribution - 3% - £6.68	£43.81
Spending power: GPOC			
HMRC payments:			
BACS	HMRC	HMRC payment covering Employee Income Tax AUGUST	£NIL
Spending Power: GPOC			
Additional Payments:			
BACS	David Fosbrook	Climate Change Group - Langley fete pitch fee	£25.00
Spending Power: GPOC			

- 221/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **note** the completion of External Audit with no issues raised.
- 222/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **note** that a “Notice of Conclusion of Audit” has been published along with the certified AGAR (Sections 1, 2 & 3) on the website and to **agree** to publish said notice for fourteen days.
- 223/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **agree** to **adopt** Model Financial Regulations for Local Councils 2024.
- 224/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **approve** bank reconciliation up to 31st July 2024 and to **verify** figures against bank statements at the next meeting.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COUNCIL

- 225/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **discuss** help regarding a community buyout with respect to St Dunstan’s Inn, Langley and it was noted that advice from Cllr, who has been involved in a community buyout, is that this would be unlikely to succeed.
- 226/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **discuss** light pollution Lavender Fields development and **agreed** councillors would investigate whether there is a planning issue relating to the external lighting.
- 227/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **note** quote for repairs to Sutton memorial railings and that Cadent and the insurers have been notified of damage to the war memorial, and **agree** to allow a temporary repair, until members hear from Cadent in respect to accepting responsibility for the damage. *(quote for £5400)*
- 228/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **discuss** attendance for Remembrance Day and **agree** notifications relating to road closures (in Grapevine, on Facebook and noticeboard) and that members will need two pews reserved for the Parish Council and one for ex-servicemen at front (to check wreaths ordered).
- 229/24 Sunflower Competition – **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **receive** report on next stage of competition and **agree** to measuring of the qualifying entries on Saturday 28th September.
- 230/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **discuss** issues with installation of Langley Christmas tree and agreed Members would review the loose pipe.
- 231/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **agree** solicitors’ fees of £850 relating to Turnip Brow (community Orchard) but, to hold the appointment until Members know what level of interest there is in the community. The MWM and Climate Group will be investigating.
- 232/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **discuss** CIC donations and **agreed** that they thought it would be a little too premature for a notice board on the Vistry Development. With regards the Lavender Fields development there was concern that there is a notice board in Langley already. Members wondered how much funds are available and whether they are specifically for a Parish Council notice boards in which case funds could support the new Parish Council notice board on Ridge Hill.
- 233/24 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **discuss/agree** action regarding contractor details and documentary evidence needed in relation to notice board on Ridge Hill.

ALLOTMENTS

234/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive report regarding site inspection and **note** actions.

235/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to **agree** purchase of three posts (cost £33) to shaw up boundary fencing.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

236/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive reports on highways issues and consider action.

- Hedge cutting needed – Ridge Hill and Langley Road.

THE GRAPEVINE

237/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to **discuss** ideas for inclusion in the next Grapevine magazine. (Deadline for November and December 5th October)

- Remembrance Day map
- Repairs to memorial
- Sunflower Competition
- Turnip Brow - article on proposals.

PLANNING

238/24 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to **agree** comments for return to the relevant authority for these new applications:

Application No:	24/2869M
Proposal:	Ridge Cottage, Hollin Lane, Sutton, SK11 0NN
Location:	General purpose agricultural barn
Decision:	18th September 2024 (extended to 20 th September)

THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to **agree** the following comments to send to Cheshire East Council: *“Sutton Parish Council would object to this application because we have concerns over the size of the building (to be used for agricultural purposes) which, is not commensurate with the farmable area of the plot. The area is substantially less than 5.7 acres as shown on the plan. Also, the existing buildings are screened by the house and the position of the proposed building is far more prominent.”*

Application No:	24/3015M
Proposal:	Erection of Stable block and associated hardstanding
Location:	Fernlee, MEG LANE, SUTTON, SK11 0LY
Decision:	18 th September (extended to 20 th September)

THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to **agree** the following comments to send to Cheshire East Council: *“Sutton Parish Council would object to this application due to the following concerns:*

- *There are no details of drainage.*
- *There are no details regarding waste disposal or midden.*
- *There are a number of trees, which are important to the local landscape, and they need to be protected.*
- *It is too close to neighbouring properties and to the road*
- *The Parish Council feel it would be more appropriate to site this elsewhere on the holding.”*

239/24 Noted; Decisions, appeals and withdrawals this month:

Application No:	24/1813M
Proposal:	Rear extension and elevational alterations
Location:	34, GONVILLE AVENUE, SUTTON, CHESHIRE, SK11 0EG
Decision:	approved with conditions

CORRESPONDENCE

240/24 Unity Trust Bank – to note that from 22nd September 2024 charges will be on a monthly basis, rather than quarterly.

241/24 Cheshire East Highways – Footway from Moreton Drive to Bell Avenue re: 100689666. **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **agree** that residents need a ramp to allow wheelchair users to get through.

242/24 MFWG meeting minutes 22nd May 2024.

243/24 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AND FUTURE MEETING AGENDA

- To **consider** quote for refurbishment of Millennium Signs (Sutton, Langley during 2024/25 and 2025/26).
- To **review** and **agree** Earmarked Reserves for 2024/25.
- Park for All
- Lorry signage on Coal Pit Lane.

244/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to agree the date for next meeting as Thursday 10th October 2024 commencing at 7.30 p.m.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.48 p.m.

Minutes agreed by Sutton Parish Council as a true record

..... Chairman

DRAFT

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Cheshire East Ward Member Report

Cheshire East Council Finances

The First Quarter Review of the Council's finances has now been published, and it does not look good. A projected year end overspend of £26.5m, mostly in adult social services and children and families. It is highly likely that the Council will need to use Exceptional Finance Support agreed by the Government. This allows the Council to borrow money, at 1 percent above base rate, and use that to cover costs this year. This is the small as you and I taking out a mortgage to cover the costs of a year's worth of credit card spending, and is something I voted against when it was first proposed. Fundamentally, the Council is failing to take the necessary action to stem the overspends, cutting other services such as libraries and recycling to try and fill the gap.

Rewarding

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England will be publishing its proposals for new ward boundaries for Cheshire East at the end of September. We don't yet know what the proposals will mean Sutton parish but the proposals submitted by Cheshire East Council to the Commission kept the three villages in a single member Cheshire East ward. The revised ward would not include Rainow, but would include Bosley and North Rode.

Dumping at Langley Pond

I have chased Planning Enforcement several times now, and have yet to hear back from Planning as to whether my request for the application to be considered by committee rather than under delegated authority has been accepted.

Coal Pit Lane Quarry

I have again raised the unauthorised building works with Planning Enforcement.

Speeding and Roads Survey

Just to let you know that I will be delivering a speed and roads survey around the parish and will share data with the parish council. I have done Langley so far, Lyme Green is next.

Traffic Calming Measures

I am looking into using my ward budget for traffic calming measures around the parish, subject to the results to my survey. Will update more in October.

Appendix 2 – Report from Macclesfield Neighbourhood Policing Team

School children are back in school and I have resumed school parking patrols at Hollinhey Primary School.

TRUCAM enforcement has been utilised on Jarman and Byrons Lane.

Continued Surgeries

Next surgeries are Saturday 21st September - Sutton General store café 10-11am

Saturday 21st September - Lyme Green Park 3-4pm

Incidents of note

17/8/24 - Missing person Ridge Hill Sutton Found safe and well

22/8/24 - Whiston Close - Police, Housing and social services collectively working towards best outcome surrounding an address and its occupants. PCSO Newns conducted door to door and offered reassurance and advice 17/9/24.

31/8/24 - Suspected drink driver Tunnicliffe Road Sutton – All in order the driver was not intoxicated.

31/8/24 - Shoplifting Lyme Green Business Park.

04/9/24 - Reports of off-road motorcycles Ridgeway Reservoir - Search made no trace.

07/9/24 - Male arrested Whiston Close – Macclesfield Beat Team conducting reassurance and advice to residents

07/9/24 - Theft - Sutton Acre Hall Lane/

08/9/24 - Drug Driving offence Lyme Green business Park.

09/9/24 - Possession of cannabis Bullocks Lane Sutton.

09/9/24 - Dirt bikes ASB Macc Forest.

13/9/24 - Speeding car A523.

Appendix 3 – Report from Climate Emergency Working Group

The Group has not met since the verbal report to the Council meeting in July. As reported at that time the event at the Langley Fete went well with children enjoying the Pebble Pledge activity and adults completing the WWF Carbon Footprint Calculator. By the time of this Council meeting in September a further event will have been held, along very similar lines, at the Sutton Fruit and Vegetable Show on the 1st September.

We have been asked if we would like to undertake a children’s activity as part of the Scott/Guide and Church Harvest event on 29th September, as we did last year. Unfortunately, due to holidays and other commitments not enough people from the group are able to take part this year.

There has been some small progress on the Turnip Brow Community Orchard project. Representative from CEC has confirmed that the quoted costs for the land transfer cannot come down and in fact may go up slightly. The CEC legal and other costs for the land transfer will therefore remain between £4,000 -£5,000.

We still await final confirmation of the figure and guidance as to next steps. Enquiries have been made of our own solicitors and from the information we have given them, they would regard the transfer as a straightforward matter and the costs are unlikely to exceed £2,000 and may be much less. Either way both costs together come within the maximum budget of £8,000 that the Council have set themselves for the land acquisition. Therefore, on the advice of our Clerk, our partners Macclesfield Wild Network (MWN) have been contacted to advise them of the above. In addition, we have asked for their help and leadership with the next phase which is the community consultation/engagements events. They have been advised that we cannot finalise matters until we are confident, we have community backing for the project.

Resident has said that he will speak with his Board about the way forward and at the time of writing we are awaiting the outcome of their Board meeting. I have invited representatives from the MWN to attend the Council meeting at 7.30p.m. to outline what might be next and to answer any questions –their attendance might be dependent on when the MWN Board meets.

Appendix 4 – Report from the Lyme Green Community Hall working group

WG meeting 27th August 2024 at Sutton hall - Present, Cllrs Chris O’Leary, Trevor Priestman, Christine Eyre and Eleanor Hall. Residents Kevin Hoines and Brenda Griffiths.

Research regarding other village halls - This is still ongoing and will ultimately assist with the objectives of our working group, of establishing need, viability and sustainability of a hall at Lyme Green.

Meeting with CIC - We recently met with members of The Three Villages Community Action Group CIC, the purpose being to see if the CIC entity could help with the hall project if taken forward, the conclusion was it could not, this meeting with be further outlined in our initial report.

New residents of Bollin Grove -We now understand at the time of preparing this report that 19 residents have moved in, we are approaching them with a copy of the initial consultation document to seek their views. (As others move in they will be approached also)

Funding sources - the WG continue to research sources of funding and as part of the feasibility study we want to see whether sponsorship is likely to cover part of the building or running costs. We are going to do something in the Macclesfield Express and also speak to local businesses to test this out.

WG initial report - It was previously advised that this would be submitted to the Parish Council in October. The WG are working towards completion of this document.

As well as presenting an electronic copy we would like to have a number of copies printed for Cllrs and working group members as there will be some A3 size papers that are difficult to examine from PDF’s on computers/tablets. We therefore ask that a sum of up to £40 be agreed to cover these costs. (As the report is still being prepared it is not possible to provide an exact quote it may also be necessary to print further copies of the initial consultation document referred to above).

Next meeting - 8pm Tuesday 23rd September 2024 at Sutton Hall