

SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 10TH APRIL 2025 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), R Chamberlain, C Eyre, D Fosbrook, E Hall, T Priestman, K Stepien-Bialy, A Waller and T Whiskard.

Also present: The Parish Clerk and two members of the public (MOP).

- 83/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to receive apologies for absence from PCSO J Newns, Cllr M Bhatia and Ward Cllr C O’Leary.
- 84/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to receive dispensations and declarations of interest from Cllr Stepien-Bialy who declared an interest in Resolution 99/25 as Editor of the Grapevine.
- 85/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to confirm and sign the Minutes as a true record of the Meetings held on 13th March 2025.
- 86/25 Public Participation - THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to receive information/queries/questions from members of the public (MOPs):
- Resolution 94/25 - Enquiry regarding the bird feeders installed and donated by Regen in Cop Meadow and where the bird seed would come from. *To be discussed at the May meeting.*

MEMBER REPORTS

87/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive report from the Cheshire East Ward Member. *(See Appendix 1)*

88/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive report from the Macclesfield Neighbourhood Policing Team. *(See Appendix 2)*

Members reported that there had been some criminal damage to the library in Lyme Green Park and a bench was set on fire (sometime after 7 p.m. on Wednesday 9th) and Brookside Avenue people were seen crawling about under cars.

89/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive report from the Climate Emergency working group (CEWG):

a. Update on Langley Community Orchard. *(See Appendix 3)*

Further reported that the Macclesfield Wild Network will be losing a member of their group, and a resident agreed to allow the group access to their water supply in order to water the trees in the orchard.

b. **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to note receipt of OS location plan for Langley Orchard.

c. **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to agree promoting wildlife and biodiversity in gardens at the following events:

- Promote Earth Day 22nd April
- Sutton Show 7th September.
- School Fete 17th May
- Lyme Green 25th May.
- Langley Fete 6th July

d. **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to agree the discretionary use of £100 of the CEWG budget (£250) earmarked for 2025/6 for the purchase of materials, the cost of a pitch (where this is applicable) and for limited publicity materials.

FINANCE

90/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to approve schedule of receipts and payments for April 2025.

Receipts From:

BACS	Heapy	Allotment Plot 7B	£29.15
CHQ	Patterson	Allotment Plot 6B (DEP 29)	£31.23
CHQ	Cottrill	Allotment Plot 15B (DEP 29)	£28.60
BACS	Dalton	Allotment Plot 14B	£36.25
BACS	Lovett	Allotment Plot 5B	£26.25
BACS	Cheshire East Council	2025/26 Paris Precept Payment (1 st Instalment)	£14750.00

Payments To:

BACS	Zurich Town & Parish, Insurer Trust Account	Insurance cover 01/04/25 – 31/03/26 PAID 19/3/25 TO AGREE RETROSPECTIVELY	£1585.55
Spending power: GPOC			
BACS	Sarah Giller	Clerks' net salary £932.92 and expenses £37.60 Pension contributions £66.91 HMRC £47.00 MARCH	£970.52
Spending power: GPOC			
CHQ	Gill Barber	Purchase of Sunflower Seeds	£32.36
Spending power: GPOC			
BACS	Hayes & Partners Ltd	Cost of obtaining OS location map for Langley Orchard.	£25.80
Spending power: GPOC			
BACS	Middlepeak Engineering	Refurbishment of Millenium sign Langley.	£1134.00
Spending power: GPOC			
DD	Spoton.Net Ltd (It'seeze website)	Months subscription MARCH 2025 (Collected by DD 14/4/25)	£58.80
Spending power: GPOC			
DD	SSE	Account for 01/02/25 – 28/02/25 (collected by DD 21/03/2025) FEBRUARY	£174.99
Spending power: GPOC			
DD	Unity Bank	Service Charge MARCH	£6.00
Spending power: GPOC			
Pension Contributions:			
DD	NEST (National Employment Savings Trust)	MARCH contribution Employee pension contribution - 5% - £51.57 Employer pension contribution - 3% - £15.34	£66.91
Spending power: GPOC			
HMRC payments:			
BACS	HMRC	HMRC payment covering Employee Income Tax MARCH 2025	£47.00
Spending Power: GPOC			
Additional Payments:			
BACS	Office Essentials Limited	Copier Paper and Laminating pouches.	£26.90
Spending Power: GPOC			

91/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to approve 4th Quarter finance report and verify figures against year-end bank reconciliation up to 31st March 2025.

92/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to note Audit 2024/25 notifications received from:

- JDH Business Service Ltd – Notification of Internal Audit and
- PKF Littlejohn – Notification of External Audit.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COUNCIL

93/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to discuss procedure for Annual Parish Meeting (APM) and Annual Meeting of the Council (AMC) and agreed to commence the APM at 7p.m. with the AMC commencing no earlier than 7.30 p.m. (tea, coffee and cake to be provided).

94/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to agree refurbishment of seating in The Pleasance and Tunncliffe Road and note Social Value work by Regen.

95/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to discuss/consider commenting on proposal to form a Mayoral Combined County Authority for Cheshire East Council, Cheshire West and Chester Council and Warrington Borough Council (Deadline: Sunday 13th April 2025 at 23.59) and agreed that members should comment as individuals.

LYME GREEN COMMUNITY HALL

96/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to agree next stages:

- a. To agree to go forward with the solicitor, Elderflower, as was decided at the meeting in February and sign the terms and conditions document.
- b. To discuss and agree that the LGC Hall working Group arrange a meeting with Elderflower to clarify the formation of the Charitable Trust and to fully understand the number & membership of its trustees.
- c. To discuss and agree what points need to be established at the LGC Hall Working Group meeting with the solicitor, to move to Phase 2 of acquiring the land.

Members discussed some concerns they had regarding how this has been dealt with by the solicitor and **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to **agree** that the best way forward would be for the Working Group to meet with the solicitor to clarify its position and look into getting additional quotes to move on to Phase 2 should it be necessary.

ALLOTMENTS

97/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to **receive** report regarding current position with tenancies.
 There are two outstanding payments for plots 8A and 13. Plot 8A is now vacant and the tenant of plot 13 wants to move to smaller plot. It is likely tenant of plot 13 will move to 8A. A site meeting will be arranged for first Friday in May.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

98/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to **receive** reports on highways issues and consider action:

- From the shop to the junction of Parvey Lane/Walker Lane road in very bad condition.
- Sutton reservoir wall collapsed/knocked down near the 2nd entrance (not the one that leads to the defibrillator but one further up the road).

THE GRAPEVINE

99/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to **discuss** ideas for inclusion in the next Grapevine magazine (deadline 15th April).

- Improvements to FP4 with new 2in1 field gate and steel kissing gate and signposts installed. *(next issue)*

PLANNING

100/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to **agree** comments for return to the relevant authority for these new applications:

Application No:	25/0862/HOUS Householder
Proposal:	Demolition of existing garage and construction of new detached garage and store, and alterations to boundary wall.
Location:	Bollin Head Farm Bollinhead Lane, Sutton, Macclesfield, Cheshire East, SK11 0NA
Deadline:	17 th April 2025

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

CORRESPONDENCE received:

101/25 CEC Public Rights of Way – improvements to footpath.(Sutton FP4) field gate and kissing gate.
102/25 CHT – Cover for theft or damage.
103/25 MOP (St Dunstans Inn) - notification of a public meeting April 9th to consider the option of community ownership of the St Dunstan Inn, Langley. *Cllrs Whiskard and Stepien-Bialy attended.*

PLAYGROUNDS

104/25 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to **receive** report from Lyme Green Community Park (April update)

- The Group are planning a community celebration on Sunday the 25th May. The format will be similar to the King’s Coronation event which was highly successful.
- Cllr Eyre reported that the dog show on Sunday seemed well supported.

105/25 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AND FUTURE MEETING AGENDA

- To **consider** arranging a defibrillator training session for 2025.
- Annual Parish Meeting. *(May)*
- Annual Meeting of the Council – Election of Chairman, Vice Chairman and appointment of working groups. *(May)*
- To **review** and confirm bank Signatories. *(May)*
- To **approve** end of year accounts for year ending 31st March 2025. *(May)*
- Annual Audit - to **approve** Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2024/25. *(May)*
- Annual Audit - to **approve** Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2024/25. *(May)*
- To **agree** Co-option of new Councillor.

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- To discuss supply of bird seed for bird feeders installed by Regen.

Councillor Fosbrook mentioned that Sutton Ex Servicemen's Club were planning an event to celebrate the VE80 day celebrations and were asking whether there were any funds available. **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to agree to request more information.

106/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to agree the date for next meeting as **Thursday 8th May 2025 commencing at 7.30 p.m.**

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.26 p.m.

Minutes agreed by Sutton Parish Council as a true record

..... Chairman

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Appendices

Appendix 1 - Report from the Cheshire East Ward Member.

- Seddons dumping – met with Officers on Monday. Agreement being reached on area next to the pond, other areas still under discussion.
- Reported a lot of potholes and blocked drains.
- Collapsed road opposite King’s Head – promised investigations, have not been conducted and chasing.
- Cllr Barber reported that along with Cllrs Bhatia, they had met with a representative of highways focusing on how diversion was managed etc. They were told that if Cadent had not been this week they would take on the work.

Appendix 2 - Report the Macclesfield Neighbourhood Policing Team

Speed gun in the area to deter speeding vehicles.
Hollinhey Primary School patrols and visits.

Police Surgery dates for this month are:

- Saturday 19th April 10-11am Sutton General Store Café
- Sunday 20th April 2-3pm Lyme Green Park Robin Lane
- Wednesday 30th April 10:30-11:30pm Langley Methodist Church

Incidents of note:

- 15/03/25 - Damage to vehicle- wing mirror knocked off - Oakenclough Road Sutton.
- 16/03/25 - Off road bikers damaging gate at Stakes Farm New Buxton Road.
- 21/03/25 - Electric bike stolen Macclesfield Forest.
- 24/03/25 - Reports of car parked near Forest Drive for 2 months. All in order.
- 28/03/25 - House party Brighton Crescent - Noise issues - advice given.
- 31/03/25 - Man attempting theft of steel Lyme Green Business park.
- 01/04/25 - Burglary Langley Road.

Appendix 3 - Report of Climate Emergency Working Group

The group met on the 31st March 2025

Update on Langley Community Orchard.

There was a very successful meeting between our partners Macclesfield Wild Network, the Chair of the Orchard Action Group, Cllr Fosbrook and a concerned resident with property next to the Orchard; about the boundaries of the Orchard and how privacy could be assured. It was agreed that the parcel of land the PC would seek for transfer would be slightly reduced, which would have no effect on the overall plans for the Orchard. Fencing is being erected to ensure appropriate demarcation. Sarah has sent an email to Paul Carter at CEC asking for matters to proceed and the PC’s appointed solicitor will now take this forward. As yet there is still no timescale for the transfer to be completed.

There was a very successful mini event on the 9th March to plant the first of the fruit trees. A number of residents who had expressed interest helped with the planting. No further action can be taken now until the land transfer is confirmed, after which MWN can apply for appropriate grants. A new logo, which incorporates a pear, rather than a turnip is now on the Facebook page for the Community Orchard.

Activities for “Fete” days

The PC has previously agreed the theme of promoting wildlife and biodiversity in gardens, for the coming year. Events within the village where the PC can possibly have a gazebo are:

- School Fete 17th May
- Langley Fete July 6th
- Sutton Show 7th September.

Lyme Green are likely to have a summer event but no date as yet.

It was agreed that the adult “activity” would be Build a Birdbox, Bee Bricks and Hedgehog house. There would be information available as to how to make or source these through the availability of a QR code. There will be posters on local bird and insect life and a Wormery. The QR code for accessing the WWW Carbon footprint calculator would also be available.

For the children the activity will be making a Birdfeeder, using pine cones, lard and seeds. There will also be a suggestion box for other ideas about how the PC might support a “Greener” parish.

To promote Earth Day on the 22nd April some copy will be written for the Website, promoting sustainable energy, which is the theme for Earth Day this year.

There will be costs associated with putting on these events. **The CEWG would like to propose** that the PC agree to the discretionary use of £100 of the CEWG budget (£250) earmarked for 2025/6 for the purchase of materials, the cost of a pitch (where this is applicable) and for limited publicity materials.

The group note that a gazebo at village events is also an opportunity for the wider PC to promote the other projects and work it does. The CEWG would therefore invite other PC Members to join them at these events.

Next meeting of the CEWG will be 12th May 2025

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