

SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2023 COMMENCING at 7.30 P.M.

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

PRESENT

Councillors: G Barber (Chairman), M Bhatia, D Fosbrook, B Griffiths, E Hall, T Priestman, J Sinclair Smith (Vice Chairman), K Stepien-Bialy and A Waller.

Also present: The Parish Clerk. There were no members of the public (MOP) present.

264/23 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive and accept apologies for absence from PSCO J Newns, Councillors M Horrox, R Chamberlain, T Whiskard and Ward Councillor C O’Leary.

265/23 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive Dispensations and Declarations of Interest: Cllr Stepien-Bialy declared an interest in Item 282/23 (as Editor of the Grapevine) and Cllrs Sinclair Smith and Barber Item 271/23 (as members of the PCC).

266/23 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to agree and sign the Minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 12th October 2023.

267/23 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

268/23 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive report from the Cheshire East Ward Member. (See Appendix 1)

269/23 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive report from Macclesfield Neighbourhood Policing Team. (See Appendix 2)

270/23 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive report of the Climate Emergency working group. A meeting is arranged for 8th January, and they should have received an initial response regarding the Orchard Langley asset transfer enquiry.

271/23 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive report from Graveyard working group. The group have now reached the point of seeking donations and are contacting residents who have replied to their questionnaire and were prepared to make a contribution.

272/23 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive report from the Lyme Green Community Hall working group and **agree** appointment of Lyme Green resident to the working group as set out in the Terms of Reference.

FINANCE

273/23 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to approve schedule of receipts and payments for November 2023.

Receipts From:

BACS	AM Bell Prop Ltd	Donation towards defibrillator at Sutton Reservoir.	£ 250.00
------	------------------	---	----------

Payments To:

BACS	Sarah Giller	Clerks’ net salary £700.63 and expenses £39.70 OCTOBER	£740.33
------	--------------	--	---------

Spending power: GPOC

CHQ	G Barber	Sunflower Competition – purchase of vouchers	£35.00
-----	----------	--	--------

Spending power: GPOC

DD	SSE	Account for September 2023 (collected by DD 20 October 2023)	£94.00
----	-----	--	--------

Spending power: GPOC

BACS	F Davies & Son Ltd	Order 288 – footpath adjacent to Hollinhey primary school.	£97.80
------	--------------------	--	--------

Spending power: GPOC

DD	Spoton.Net Ltd (It’seeze website)	Months subscription October 2023 (collected 16 th October 2023)	£54.00
----	-----------------------------------	--	--------

Spending power: GPOC

BACS	Park 4All Lyme Green	Contribution towards community Christmas event 22 nd December.	£50.00
------	----------------------	---	--------

Spending power: GPOC

Additional Payments

BACS	St James Church Sutton PCC	Hall hire 11 meetings (Dec 2022, Jan, Feb, March, Apr, June, July, Sept, Oct, Nov and Dec 2023)	£385.00
Spending power: GPOC			
BACS	Cheshire Association of Local Councils	Chairmanship for Local Councils – G Barber 7 th March 2023 – Invoice 2022/23	£25.00
Spending power: GPOC			

Pension Contributions

DD	NEST (National Employment Savings Trust)	OCTOBER contribution Employee pension contribution - 5% - £36.88 Employer pension contribution - 3% - £6.53	£43.40
Spending power: GPOC			

274/23 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to approve bank reconciliation up to 31st October and verify figures against bank statements.

275/23 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to review draft budget/precept for 2024/25 and to make amendments including showing 4% increase in precept, include element for notice boards, check lighting costs, salary, and to separate out defibrillators as an element on its own. Members wondered what the effect of the new housing would have on the precept.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

276/23 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive reports on highways issues and **agree** the following actions:

- Two potholes, Sutton side of aqueduct, filled in but have already sunk. To complain about workmanship.
- Plough House tree is taking over footpath – to issue letter to resident.
- Lyme Green – at the crossing point on Lindrum Avenue there is a raised ridge on the pathway which could be tripping issue.
- Langley - the pavement from opposite Lavender Fields entrance to Langley Institute is disintegrating. The kerb is coming away in places and a utility repair running the length is becoming uneven.
- Langley - Kerb by the lamp post (number missing) opposite the Langley end of Hall Terrace/Gas House which is collapsing into the road causing a pothole in the pavement.
- Clarke Lane – past Bottoms Reservoir on right hand side just before treatment works car has gone into wall. Wall in dangerous condition.
- Langley Road – bulb gone on Langley Road (third lamp on left on bend).
- Sutton – light outside St James House still not working.
- To report to PCSO traffic issues from Chapel through the village (usually when not raining and on Sunday).
- Langley - dog dirt on pathways is a particular issue at the moment.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COUNCIL

277/23 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to agree to install notice boards at the following sites:

Allotments – small aluminium notice board allotments. (Either options 4.1.2 (not magnetic) to request pictures for option 4.2.2 if available.

Rural Ward – Rural Councillors to investigate where best to place notice board.

Lyme Green – agreed in principle and for Lyme Green Councillors to investigate best position for notice board potentially at Lyme Green Park. (4 Councillors in favour 5 abstained).

278/23 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to agree the following response to Cheshire East Council – Maintenance of green spaces consultation Public Consultation (deadline 24th November):

Typology/Zones

Typology “C” - Cop Meadow, Lyme Green and Langley playing fields.

Amenity Level “M” - Cop Meadow, Lyme Green and Langley playing fields.

Typology “E” - Rural open spaces - all grass verges through parish.

The proposals have a large number of expressions such as “where appropriate” and “subject to prioritisation.” The document should avoid such subjective statements and instead state minimum standards, which can always be exceeded, and to which the local authority can be held to account. Not a “maximum” figure with no stated minimum. E.g. Urban Green Spaces – Borders/planted areas “Ad hoc as required – maximum of 8 visits annually” Rural Open Space – Hedges “Ad hoc as required subject to prioritisation of resource availability.”

There is no specific mention of Green Space user’s safety needing to be a priority in establishing the level of maintenance required in an area. Keeping creating safe spaces for people to enjoy. E.g. Walking through a park at dusk surrounded by large borders with overgrown shrubs can be very unsettling in case someone is hiding in them.

The borders and verges, which are planted with spring bulbs, should not be cut until after they have flowered. In our parish we also have some areas that have been planted with spring bulbs and English bluebells by our residents and verges and banks where wild bluebells growing. These areas should not be cut until the end of May (the banks on Judy Lane, Sutton and Coalpit Lane in Langley. The track leading through from Cop Meadow to the Children’s Play area & playing field has also been planted with snowdrops and bluebells by volunteers).

- 279/23 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to agree** to reserve two pews (10 people) for seating for the Remembrance Sunday service (12th November 10 a.m. Church, 10.50 War Memorial)
- 280/23 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to discuss** Parish Christmas switch-on (Sutton (Friday 1st December) and Langley (10th December) installation (27/11), lights, sound and gazebo).
- 281/23 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to discuss** allotments and removal of carpet on plot 13.

THE GRAPEVINE

- 282/23 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to agree to discuss** ideas for inclusion in the next Grapevine magazine (January/February deadline 15th December).
 - Happy New Year from Parish Council
 - Any additional items to be forwarded to Clerk.

PLAYGROUNDS

- 283/23 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to receive** report from Park4All on drainage and Christmas event.

PLANNING

- 284/23 **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to agree** comments for return to the relevant authority for these new applications:

Application No:	23/3921M
Proposal:	Land Off, WOODHOUSE END ROAD, GAWSWORTH
Location:	Temporary agricultural workers dwelling.
Deadline	22nd November 2023

THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to agree the following comments to send to Cheshire East Council: ***“Sutton Parish Council object to this application and support Gawsworth Parish Council in their objections to this proposal.”***

Application No:	23/4003M
Proposal:	Proposed change of use from existing stables to Class C2 facility. Internal refurbishment and remodelling along with new windows and doors and restoration works to existing walls and roof (as approved under LBC - 23/3359M)
Location:	Broughton Lodge Stables, LONDON ROAD, SUTTON, CHESHIRE, SK11 0JG
Deadline	29 th November 2023

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

Application No:	23/4099D - DISCHARGE OF CONDITION
Proposal:	Discharge of condition 3 on approval 23/0519M: Change of use to extend existing graveyard, formation of a "quiet area" and service access and pathway
Location:	Part of field adjoining and south of St. James Church
Deadline	23-Nov-2023

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

285/23 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED Noted; Decisions and withdrawals this month:

Application No:	22/2188M
Proposal:	Application for two storey side extension to the existing dwelling, the demolition of an existing store and the erection of a single storey store / car port
Location:	ASHOLM FARM, WETTON WAY, SUTTON, CHESHIRE, SK11 0NR
Decision	approved with conditions

CORRESPONDENCE

286/23 Cheshire East Council – parish precept and taxbase arrangements for 2024/25 (deadline 12th January 2024)

287/23 Final Draft Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document ('BNG SPD') – (deadline 31/10/23 12:00 PM and 01/12/23 12:00 AM.

<https://cheshireeast-consult.objective.co.uk/kse/event/37707>

288/23 MATTERS FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AND FUTURE MEETING AGENDA

- Maintenance of Meg Lane phone kiosk.
- To **agree** draft budget and precept for 2024/25. (*Deadline 12th January 2024*)
- To **agree** implementation of 2023/23 Local Government services pay agreement (1st April to 31st March 2024)
- Apologies: Cllr Bhatia and Hall.

289/23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - THE COUNCIL RESOLVED to agree the date for next meeting as Thursday 14th December 2023 commencing at 7.30 p.m.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.43 p.m.

Minutes agreed by Sutton Parish Council as a true record

..... Chairman

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Ward Councillors report

Finances

Some of you will have seen that the Council's financial position has further deteriorated, with a current position of an overspend of around £18m against reserves of around £14m. Rising costs of both adults and children's social care are the two primary reasons given for this, but it is also the case that the Council has not implemented many of the savings it identified for this financial year when the budget was set in February. The Corporate Policy Committee last month delegated a number of budget decisions to officers, and we will be seeing more consultations coming forward to increase fees and charges. The next few months are going to be difficult.

Gaw End Lane

I have yet to have a response to my enquiries about the new island for the uncontrolled crossing, about the s106 monies for Lyme Green Park, or my request for the variation of condition application (about the controlled pedestrian crossing being in place before any houses are occupied). Chasing each of these.

Langley playing fields

I have submitted an enquiry about the s106 monies from Lavender Fields for the Langley playing fields, as the first payment should have been made when works started. You may know that the Council's internal audit team recently gave a 'no assurance' finding in relation to the Council's management of s106, which is the lowest audit rating possible. I understand that several millions have been collected but not allocated to individual schemes, and suspect this includes the playing fields. I will let you know what happens.

Traffic calming

I have been contacted by a resident concerning traffic calming, especially along Walker Lane but also on other roads across the three villages. I think this resident has contacted the parish council directly and happy to discuss.

14 bus

I understand that Cheshire East has been allocated additional funds for bus routes by the Government, and am trying to find out how these monies will be spent and whether there is any room for further subsidy for the 14 bus.

Appendix 2 – Macclesfield Neighbourhood Policing Team

Continued work with Hollinhey Primary School. I conducted a Road Safety talk and numerous high visibility patrols at school drop off/ pick up times.

Police surgeries. I am trying something different at Langley and met with the Wednesday coffee morning at the Methodist Church. The Sutton Café Surgery and Lyme Green Park surgery's continue to go well.

Dates are:

Saturday 11th November Sutton General Store Café 10-11am

Sunday 12th November Lyme Green Park 2-3pm

Wednesday 22nd November Langley Methodist Church 10:30-11:30am

TRUCAM SPEEDING ENFORCEMENT

GREAT NEWS Got sites for JARMAN and LANGLEY ROAD to accompany BYRONS LANE, HALL LANE AND LONDON ROAD LYME GREEN.

INCIDENTS OF NOTE

13/10/23 Theft from Pundland Lyme Green Business Park

15/10/23 Theft from The Food Warehouse Lyme Green Business Park

22/10/23 Theft of number plate Ryles Arms Car Park

23/10/23 ASB Fireworks at Sutton Reservoir

29/10/23 Abandoned Motorscooter Trentabank Rangers Office

1/11/23 Damage to Trees Cock Hall Lane

6/11/23 Man trying car doors 3am Gonville Avenue Sutton