

SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Tuesday 28th November 2023 (1900hrs)

In the Bowls Pavilion, Sutton.

Present: Mary-Jane King, Alan McManus (Chair), Jacki Schafer, Ingrid Franks, George Franks, Nigel Albertini, David Gunson

In attendance: Mike Peates (Clerk), Six members of the public.

1. Welcome by the Chairman,
2. Apologies - Sue Collins
3. **MEETINGS – DEBATE, RULES & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT.**

Sutton Parish Council have adopted on 28th March 2023 Model Standing Orders as amended in April 2022 by The National Association of Local Councils.

Accordingly, the following are relevant to this meeting:

- 3 (e). Members of the Public may make representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of business on the agenda.
- 3 (f). Public participation at the meeting shall not exceed 15 minutes, unless the Chairman directs otherwise.
- 3 (h). A question shall not require a response at the meeting, nor start a debate, and the Chairman may direct that a written or oral response may be given.
- 3 (j). A person who speaks at the meeting shall direct their comments to the Chairman.
- 3 (k). Only one person is permitted to speak at a time, and if more than one wish to speak, then the Chairman shall direct the order of speaking.

Notwithstanding the above, I hope the following will not apply to this meeting:

- 2 (a). No person shall obstruct the transaction of business at a meeting, or behave offensively or improperly. Should this be ignored the Chairman shall request such person to moderate or improve their conduct.
- 2 (b). If the person disregards the Chairman to improve or moderate their conduct, a motion may be moved by the Chairman that the person be no longer heard or excluded from the meeting. The motion if seconded, shall be put to the vote without discussion.
- 2 (c). If any motion under 2 (b) above is ignored then the Chairman may take further reasonable steps to restore order or to progress the meeting. This may include temporarily suspending or closing the meeting.

A member of the public who wished to remain anonymous gave a passionate speech supporting the work carried out at Hare House by Paws For Thought. They also wanted to express their concern at the use of pictures of vehicles 'without consent' on the Suffolk Council Planning Portal by a member of the Parish Council, which they believe presented a safeguarding risk to them and their child. They ended by asking what is the 'end goal'? They went on to explain the nature of the work at Paws For Thought and how beneficial it has been for their child and others.

MJ explained she had not been part of previous Parish Council discussions regarding the planning application at Hare House and had posted a personal objection on the Planning Portal which was 'dispassionate and factual'. She stated the picture used had no identifying features for the vehicle or any person. The picture was taken legally by a member of the public on a public road.

AM – stated there was a genuine reason for the taking of the photograph as one of the objections to the planning application is the amount of traffic in the vicinity.

NA – expressed the Parish Council is not for or against Paws For Thought but simply has input on planning applications.

Mrs Stopes from Hare House asked what training the Parish Council receive on Planning Applications?

AM – The Parish Council is consulted on Planning Applications and is requested to provide the views of the parishioners, it does not have any decision making ability, this solely is the power of East Suffolk Council.

Mrs Linda Gunson raised the issue of speeding within the village which is addressed later in the minutes under item 12.

4. Declaration Of Interest - none
5. Report Councillor Reid - none.
6. Report from district Cllr James Mallinder - none
7. Minutes of Meeting 25 July 2023 agreed as a true record. Proposed NA, Seconded IG.
8. Matters Arising-None.
9. Planning-**DC/23/4240/FUL** technical change to previous application, change in colour of cladding - recorded as no objections.
10. Finance-DG gave an overview, please see below.

Review of Accounts as at 28th November 2023 (previously circulated)

Current Account	£653.82
Business Premium Account	£4993.42
Common Rights Account	£1,326.99
Total Funds	£6974.23

Comprises.	
General Fund	£5,538.45
Common Rights Fund	£1,326.99
CIL Fund	£108.79

Accounts were approved: proposed NA seconded MK.

Bank transactions 27th September – 28th November 2023

29th September Cheque 100537 D Gunson Re Insurance £214.00.
 28th September & 30th October £174.00 L Candy Clerks Wages September & October
 28th November M Peates Clerks Wages for November
 19th October Transfer from Common Rights for sign and Defibrillator £647.00

Review of actual against budget for year 2022/23

No material differences recorded against that budgeted in accounts.

Cheques and Invoices outstanding for payment

No cheques have been issued following the meeting of 26rd September 2023, other than those recorded above which were approved for payment at that meeting.

Outstanding invoices/amounts

None

Proposed NA, Seconded MK

DG reminded the council it has 3 years to spend the remaining balance of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

Barclays Bank have now closed their local office, and DG advised he had not applied for a Business Deposit Card as all income is received electronically.

2024/25 Precept – The Clerk has received the 2024/25 Council Tax base from East Suffolk Council (previously circulated). The current year figure was £3500 and the choice is to either maintain this figure for another year which would represent a 0.26% decrease on the 2023/24 council tax bill or increase the precept to £3508.76 which represents 0% increase on 2023/24 Council Tax bill. The decision was taken to keep the Council Tax Bill at the same level with a precept of £3508.76.

Proposed: NA Seconded: JS

11. Correspondence – None

12. Speeding – Speeding remains an issue within the village with a recent camera detecting over 50% of cars travelling in excess of 30mph. AM said he would contact Andrew Reid and Speedcam to see if we can have the cameras more frequently.

13. Flooding – The recent storms brought significant flooding to the area which resulted in the main road becoming a single lane by Sutton Heath, with drivers opting to drive in the middle of the road for the whole stretch. The drains do not appear to be being cleared causing the roads to flood. AM thanked Mr Clarke whose Land Manager, Rod, dug a ditch by the bus stop to alleviate the flooding in that area. AM recommended we keep reporting the issue on the East Suffolk Council website and lobbying Andrew Reid.

14. Love Woodbridge – MK has received a 115 page document outlining the plans under the 'Love Woodbridge' scheme proposed by Woodbridge and Melton Councils. MK has undertaken to provide a one page synopsis of the highlights which presently include;

20mph speed limit around Woodbridge
Road closures effectively directing traffic to Woods Lane
Giving cyclists priority at Melton crossroads

15. Climate and Ecology Bill – the time for consultation had passed and no further discussion was needed.

16. AOB – none

17. Date of next meeting 23rd January 2024, 7pm Sutton Bowls Pavilion.