SUTTON-ON-TRENT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Methodist Community Centre on Tuesday, 11th February 2025 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillor M Allen
Councillor B Blanchard
Councillor S Hadley
Councillor J Keeton (Chair)
Councillor P Marshall
Councillor M Moody
Councillor S Tyers

In Attendance 5 members of the public and County Councillor Laughton

24/134 Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest
Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Hibberd, Sloan and Walker and District Councillor Mrs Michael.

24/135 Public 10 Minute Forum
The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.31pm for the public session.

A resident queried why the Parish Council was looking at using the Section 106 funds to improve the access at the Sports Club when they considered there were other areas within the village where the Parish Council could perhaps apply pressure for improvements.

The Chair advised that no formal conversation had yet been held with any parties.

The Chair thanked residents for their participation and reconvened the meeting at 7.33pm.

24/136 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22nd January 2025
The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd January 2025 were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

24/137 District Councillor Report
No report was given as District Councillor Mrs Michael had given her apologies.

24/138 Newark & Sherwood District Council
There were no matters to consider.

24/139 County Councillor Report
The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.34pm for County Councillor Laughton's report.

Councillor Laughton referred to the Local Government Reform that the Secretary of State had advised the County Council of in December 2024. Price, Waterhouse & Cooper had been appointed to assist with the proposals. Proposals have to be submitted to the Secretary of State by 21st March 2025, a definitive plan by 28th November 2025 and unification going live in 2027. All District and Borough Councils will be abolished. There will be no public consultation, the only statutory consultees are the Police and Fire Authority and the NHS.

An additional £8.5m funding had been received for highways in the next financial year, rising to £22m in the 2026-27 financial year.

Councillor Laughton advised that Crow Park Avenue had been put forward as a priority for resurfacing works.

Councillor Laughton advised that, with the County Council elections in May, he would be entering 'purdah' from late March. Apologies were given for the March meeting due to annual leave.

The Chair thanked Councillor Laughton for his report and reconvened the meeting.

24/140 Nottinghamshire County Council

There were no matters to consider.

24/141 Planning

(a) Applications

There were no applications to consider.

(b) Decision Notices

24/02045/LDCP - White Cottage, 47 Main Street, Sutton On Trent - Lawful Development Certificate for the installation of up to 14 roof mounted solar panels

Members received and noted the decision notice outlining the development was lawful.

(c) Tree Works

24/02240/TWCA - Land Off Palmer Road, Sutton On Trent - Reduce 1 Ash tree

Members received and noted the application for tree works.

24/142 Financial Issues

(a) To record Receipts -

- E Gill & Sons - £135
- Newark & Sherwood District Council – Neighbourhood Fund - £2,580.39

(b)

The following invoices were approved for payment:

- Clerk's Wages – January - £316.80
- HMRC – January PAYE - £79.20
- Sage - £12
- Hugo Fox – Website Renewal - £143.86
- Smith of Derby – Clock Service - £423.60
- Newark & Sherwood District Council – Aqua Sacs - £453.60

(c) **Financial Report as at 31st January 2025**

Members noted the financial report which showed a balance on the current account of £46,350.80 and £105,138.01 in the deposit account.

24/143 Parish Council Matters

(a) To note the advertising of a Casual Vacancy.

The Clerk advised that a notice had been placed in the noticeboard, and on the Parish Council's website.

(b) To consider organising an event to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of V E Day

After discussion, it was AGREED that the Clerk liaise with Councillor Blanchard to investigate a village event to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of V E Day and bring a report back to the March meeting.

(c) To receive the minutes of the Trentside Parishes Meeting held on 15th January 2025

The minutes of the Trentside Parishes Meeting held on 15th January 2025 were received and noted.

(d) To consider a request from the Clerk to change the date of the April 2025 meeting

The Clerk asked if the date of the April 2025 meeting could be moved from the 8th April due to annual leave. It was AGREED that the meeting be brought forward to Tuesday, 1st April 2025.

(e) To note the dates for the 2025 Annual Grass Letting Auction of the Sutton Gaits

Members noted that the date for the 2025 Annual Grass Letting Auction of the Sutton Gaits would be held on Wednesday, 19th February at 6.30pm in the Methodist Chapel.

24/144 To receive updates and agree actions on the following matters:

- **Playing Field**
  - To note progress on the installation of new signage

    The Clerk advised that the sign had been ordered and was in production.

    Councillor Allen advised that Bingham Ground Services were investigating what changes could be made to the gates.

- **Cemetery**

  Councillor Marshall advised that evidence of drinking in the Cemetery had been found. The Clerk was asked to put a message out in the community to advise this was disrespectful and not acceptable.

  Councillor Marshall advised that the bench had now been moved into the Garden of Remembrance. The dead tree will be removed shortly.

  The Chair was pleased to note that the Commonwealth War Graves signage was now in place.

- **Highways**

  The resurfacing of Crow Park Avenue had been referred to in Councillor Laughton's report.

- **Community Speed Watch**

  There was nothing to report.

- **Public Footpaths**

  The Clerk referred to the email received from the Rights of Way team regarding FP5.

- **Churchyard**

  Councillor Blanchard asked the Clerk to determine what work had been undertaken to the clock during its service to feed back to the PCC.

- **Village Hall**

  The Chair referred to the delegated authority given at the January meeting to approach the Methodist Church. That approach had been made, with Councillor Hibberd outlining the request by the Parish Council to Persimmon and Newark & Sherwood District Council to decouple the Section 106 funding.

  Councillor Hibberd now sought approval to hold a further conversation with the Methodist 'panel' and for an additional Member to be delegated to work with him and the Clerk on the project.

  It was AGREED that Councillor Hibberd pursue this and that Councillor Tyers be appointed to work with him.

- **Sports Club**

  Councillor Blanchard advised that the installation of the cladding was progressing well. Four new trustees had come forward to join the Committee.
- **Library Support Group**

  There was nothing to report.
- **War Memorial**

  The Clerk advised that the determination of the pre-application was expected imminently.
- **Allotments**

A site meeting was still required.

- **Any other reports**
  There were none.

24/145 Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils

(a) February Newsletter

A copy of the February Newsletter had been circulated to Members for information.

(b) To consider a response to the Consultation 'Strengthening the standards and conduct framework for local authorities in England' as a Parish Council

It was AGREED that the Clerk liaise with the Chair to submit a response to the consultation on behalf of the Parish Council. Individual Members were encouraged to also complete the survey.

24/146 Correspondence

(a) There was none to consider.

24/147 Items for Notification

(a) Councillor Tyers asked if consideration could be given to participating in 'No Mow May'. A report to be brought to the March meeting.

Close: There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.08pm.

Next Meeting will be on Tuesday, 11th March 2025 at 7.30pm in the Methodist Community Centre.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A SUMMARY OF THE DRAFT MINUTES WHICH HAVE NOT YET BEEN APPROVED.