SUTTON-ON-TRENT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Methodist Community Centre on Tuesday, 10th March 2026 at 7.30 pm.

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

In Attendance 5 members of the public and District Councillor Mrs Michael

25/136 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sloan and Walker and County Councillor Laughton.

25/137 To receive and note any declarations of interest

There were none.

25/138 Public 10 Minute Forum

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.31pm for the public session.

A resident asked whether the Parish Council would be commenting on the Internal Drainage Board's proposals in relation to changes required to change a field to accommodate their current work.

No further questions were raised and the meeting was reconvened.

25/139 To receive and approve the Minutes from the meeting held on 10th February 2026

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10th February 2026 were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The Chair thanked Councillor Keeton for standing in during his absence over the last couple of meetings.

25/140 District Councillor Report

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.33pm for District Councillor Mrs Michael's report.

The District Council had agreed not to increase council tax for the 2026-27 financial year. Food waste collection will now start in October 2027 as all District and Borough Councils needed to agree on the colour of the bin to be used. There will be changes to what can be deposited in the silver recycling bins from 1st April 2026. Leaflets will be circulated to highlight the changes and stickers placed on bins.

The Chair referred to correspondence Councillor Mrs Michael had received from the Internal Drainage Board. The Chair advised there was an item later on the agenda for consideration and would include this within that item.

25/141 Newark & Sherwood District Council

<u>To note a statutory consultation in relation to Local Government Re-Organisation</u>

Members noted correspondence received from Newark & Sherwood District Council advising of the present position with Local Government Re-Organisation. A link to a survey was contained within the correspondence should Members wish to complete it.

25/142 County Councillor Report

There was no report as Councillor Laughton had given his apologies.

25/143 Nottinghamshire County Council

To note correspondence received in relation to the Boots & Berets Award 2026

Members received and noted correspondence received in relation to the County Council's Boots & Berets Awards.

25/144 Planning

(a) **Applications**

26/0082/HOUSE – 11 Hounsfield Way, Sutton-on-Trent – Demolition of conservatory and construction of a single storey rear extension

Members noted the comments on the portal from the Conservation Officer at Newark & Sherwood District Council. After discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Keeton, seconded by Councillor Allen, that while the application was supported in principle the design materials should reflect those recommended in the Conservation Officer's comments. This was AGREED.

Decision Notices

There were none to receive.

Tree Works

There were none to receive.

The Clerk referred to complaints received recently in relation to tree works being undertaken in the Conservation Area that did not appear to have had permission granted by Newark & Sherwood District Council. Members asked the Clerk to include a reminder in the Unity article and on the Council's Facebook page outlining the steps that needed to be taken if people were wanting to undertake tree works in the Conservation Area.

25/146 Financials

To record receipts:

- Cemetery Fees – Memorial - £100
- Cemetery Fees – Interment - £405
- Cemetery Fees – Interment - £100
- Cemetery Fees – Interment - £716

To approve invoices for payment:

The following invoices were approved for payment:

- Future Farming - £1,136.50
- Clerk's Wages - February - £327.15
- HRMC – February PAYE - £81.60
- Smiths of Derby – Clock Service & Repair - £562.80
- Future Farming – Cemetery Works - £2,520

Financial Report as at 28th February 2026

Members noted that the balance of the current account as at 28th February 2026 was £52,545.71 and £106,352.38 in the deposit account.

To note the requirement to appoint a new Internal Auditor

The Clerk advised that the Council's Internal Auditor had retired and would not be able to undertake the Internal Audit of the 2025/26 accounts. After discussion it was AGREED that the Clerk seek quotations from appropriate internal auditors and appoint as appropriate.

25/147 Parish Council Matters

To consider a response to the consultation launched for Cadent's H2East Pipeline: Humber to Nottinghamshire

Members noted that the Parish Council were considered a consultation body in the proposed H2East Pipeline: Humber to Nottinghamshire Project by Cadent and were invited to take part in the Scoping Opinion, with a deadline of 3rd April 2026.

Members noted that the initial consultation would be running from 3rd March to 14th April 2026. Information sessions had been arranged with three being held locally:

- Saturday, 21st March – 9am to 12 Noon – Egmanton Village Hall
- Wednesday, 25th March – 12 Noon to 3pm – Norwell Village Hall
- Wednesday, 25th March – 5pm to 8pm – South Muskham & Little Carlton Village Hall

To discuss concerns in relation to the operation of the Internal Drainage Board pumps

The Chair referred to correspondence received by District Councillor Mrs Michael from the Internal Drainage Board (IDB). This updated Members on the work that was part of phase 2 to improve the flow through the village and alleviate flooding. Work had commenced to dig the burms behind Floral Villas and in the filed adjacent to Mill Close. The plan was still to dig a large holding pond next to the A1 but this had been delayed due to ground saturation.

Councillor Marshall referred to a discussion with the IDB regarding use of a field alongside First Holme Lane that had been earmarked for the dyke to be widened to 6m. The IDB were asked to review this as the amendments to the field would preclude it from being used for village events.

The IDB undertook a survey of land on the Holmes between the original field and the floodbank. A survey had been completed and the IDB had confirmed it would be an ideal area for flood storage. The area would be used to store water so that the pumps would have a better flow of water to prevent them from tripping out. This change was now subject to a 28 day consultation period.

After discussion, it was AGREED that the IDB be advised that the Parish Council had no objection to this change in land usage.

Discussion then took place regarding the issues with the pumps not kicking in correctly. Councillor Marshall had raised this direct with the IDB, and was aware that residents had also contacted the IDB with their concerns.

Members acknowledged the importance of the pumps and that it was imperative they worked correctly. It was also considered imperative that there was a robust system in place that alerted the IDB when there was any problem with the pumps which triggered a call out. There should be no reliance on members of the public contacting the IDB to alert them to a problem.

After discussion, it was AGREED that the IDB be asked to confirm what processes they had in place for the pumps in the event of any failure, in order that the Parish Council could be reassured that action would be taken.

25/132 To receive updates and agree actions:

a) Playing Field

To note completion of the annual play area inspection

The Clerk advised that the annual inspection had been undertaken and, while the report was awaited, notification had been given of an item that needed immediate attention. After discussion, it was AGREED that Councillor Hadley would make a site visit as soon as possible and determine if a repair could be made.

b) Cemetery

To note documentation received in relation to the trade waste collection

The Clerk advised that documentation had been received in relation to the renewal of the trade waste collection at the Cemetery. No notice had been received in relation to the brown bin so the Clerk would chase.

c) Highways

To receive an update from the Clerk following a meeting with Via

The Clerk advised that a number of issues relating to Sutton-on-Trent had been raised at a meeting with Via. An request had been made for an Inspector to visit. Councillor Moody advised he would be available to attend a site meeting if required.

d) Community Speed Watch

There was no report to make.

e) Public Footpaths

To note a request for maintenance of FP19 (zig zag path)

The Clerk advised that the Rights of Way Team had been asked to undertake maintenance of FP19 (zig zag path) due to it being overgrown.

Councillor Allen asked the Clerk to seek confirmation from the Rights of Way team on when the balance of works at Strawberry Fields would be completed.

f) Churchyard

The Clerk confirmed had been booked for 19th January 2026. The Clerk advised that a letter had been received requesting grant support which would be included on the April agenda.

g) Village Hall

To receive a verbal update in relation to any progress

The Clerk confirmed that a Deed of Variation was expected to be submitted to Newark & Sherwood District Council in April.

h) Sports Club

To note the recent desktop rebuild valuation

i) Library Support Group

There was no report to make.

j) War Memorial

There was no report to make.

k) Allotments

To receive an update on the present position

The Clerk advised that sadly two of the former allotment holders had now passed away. An extension of time to 31st March 2026 had been given to the family to clear any items from the site.

l) Biodiversity

There was no report to make.

The Chair thanked Members for their reports.

25/133 Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils

The Clerk confirmed that a new CEO had been appointed. Details had been circulated to Members for information.

25/134 **Correspondence**

Members noted the correspondence from Carlton-on-Trent Parish Council in response to concerns raised during the GNR Solar Examination Hearing in relation to flooding. After discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Allen, seconded by Councillor Marshall and AGREED that delegated authority be given to the Clerk and Chair to review and respond if necessary prior to the deadline of 18th February 2026.

25/135 **To receive items for notification**

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Close: There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.24pm

Next Meeting will be on Tuesday, 14th April 2026 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.