

SADBERGE PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the meeting of on Tuesday 3rd November 2020 commencing at 7 pm, held via Zoom video conference.

Councillors attending: L. Tate (Chairman), R Murphy (Vice-Chairman), Councillors Hurst, Best, Heywood, Schott and Lazenby. T Delderfield – Clerk. Plus, four residents

1. Apologies for absence –

None.

2. Declarations of interest on items on the Agenda

Councillor Murphy declared an interest in Item 20 Planning Ref 20/00891/FUL
Council decided his input would be valid.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

- To approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on the 6th October 2020.
Agreed to be a true record of the meeting.

4. Matters arising from the previous meeting:

- 4.1 VARS sign – Supplier to provide software for control and data collection for use on Windows 10.
- 4.2 Scarlet Band & Tees Flex bus service. Carried forward
- 4.3 New Dog signs – carried forward
- 4.4 Sadberge Village seats – now ordered amount amended to include VAT-see payments.
- 4.5 Construction site-staff parking
Parking grass verges still occurring-will request DBC assistance.
- 4.6 Cherry Tree Farm – no planning application submitted. Confirmed alterations are renewing flat roof and windows. No further action.
- 4.7 Planning -Prospect House – see agenda item 20
- 4.8 Planning- Hill House Lane – see agenda item 20

5. Climate Change & Biodiversity

Update provided by Councillor Hurst:

- It is proposed to increase planting in grass verges and selected grassed areas around the village. It will require contractors to prepare areas for seeding. The group will seek quotes for this project. Once the quotes are received it is planned to apply to Banks Group for a grant to fund the work.
- The quote for the ground works in connection with land associated with Bob Hall memorial seat has been revised to £1,330 to be released in stages.
Council agreed funding the project.

6. Hampass-permission to replace cover over polytunnel

The Parish Council agreed to the request. Clerk to write to leader of the project.

Action: Clerk

7. Structure-outside of cottage next to Tuns Public House

This has been removed – no further action.

8. Fly-tipping CCTV cameras

The camera installed by Darlington Borough Council Civic Enforcement Team was set up in the A66 layby close to Newton Grange Farm, unfortunately the camera was dislodged by a dog walker, the team attended but no activity of fly-tipping was recorded. As the team have limited resources the camera was required in another location. It will be deployed in future but dates are difficult to secure. Reece Williams, senior officer suggested collaborating with other close Parish Councils to purchase cameras that can be shared but could be monitored by his team.

The Parish Council agreed to contact other Parish Councils with this suggestion once costs are known, the Clerk will identify camera and operating costs with Reece Williams.

Action: Clerk

9. Village Christmas Tree

An offer to donate a suitable tree has been made by Mal Heath. The Council agreed this is a generous offer, The Chairman and Councillor Schott will inspect the tree for suitability and advise. If suitable will arrange collection and erection for 1st December and dressing by volunteers by 5th December.

Action: Chairman and Councillor Schott

10. Remembrance Day Wreaths

Councillor Lazenby has secured two wreaths as requested by the Chairman and will secure invoice payment. It is intended the Chairman will lay one at the WWI Airfield Memorial Stone and the other at the village Memorial Garden. Councillor Lazenby, usually reads The Role of Honour during the Church Service, will liaise with St Andrews Church Associate Minister regarding arrangements to lay the second wreath. Residents are welcome to attend these outside events by following COVID-19 rules.

Action: Councillor Lazenby

11. Training/Clerks Review

The Clerk updated the Council on the training undertaken. Completed ILCA ran by SLCC and achieved the certificate. Over the last 3 weeks enrolled on the virtual learning modules presented by CDALC. These modules were very well presented and contained useful and practicable information. Some 12+ Clerks attended from Parishes in Durham and Teesside. He will continue, subject to Parish Council approval, by enrolling in selected learning to increase understanding of the role.

The Chairman then reviewed the Clerks progress deeming this satisfactory and recommended a salary increase £5,000 per annum, which was agreed at the appointment stage. The Parish approved the increase. New scale commences from December 2020.

12. Public participation at Council Meetings

It has been suggested this is adopted as regular agenda Item. This will encourage residents and others to become involved in the decisions and topics that impact them directly and promotes openness and transparency. A 15-minute period should be allocated. The Parish Council agreed to it being added to the monthly agenda.

13. Social Media – Fireworks

The proposed fireworks display to be held by the proprietor of The Buck Inn has been highlighted on “Sadberge goes on page”. Some for and against the display. One resident has written to Ward Councillor Jones expressing opposition. Councillor Jones commented that it is outside his and the Parish Council’s remit to get involved. However, recent developments around COVID-19 restrictions it unlikely the event will take place.

14. Correction. Omission from minutes of 1st September 2020. Cheque for £700 omitted from Item 14-payments. Payment agreed in July 7th 2020 Minutes, Item 16.

15. Goodwood Close – Blocked culvert.

Councillor Best arranged for the thicket to be cleared to allow access. Councillor Schott will contact Harpers, contractors, to give an estimate to install a long-term solution to this perennial problem. It was suggested the height of the trees could be trimmed a little. A working party consisting of Chairman, Councillor Schott and the Clerk will survey a possible short-term solution.

Action: Chairman, Councillor Schott and Clerk

16. Wood Carvings.

Councillor Schott has completed the repair to “princess” carving. Commenting on the condition on all three carvings, all are showing advanced wear & tear.

17. Damaged Traffic Bollard in centre of village

Mr Lowther has reinstated following the road traffic accident; the cost was £11.98. Council approved the cost and thanked Mr Lowther.

18. Appeal from G N Air Ambulance for a donation.

Parish Council is unable to support such appeals due to its limited budget.

19. Approve repair to Bollard that has been dislodged in Goodwood Close area.

Mr Lowther will subject to approval complete the repair and invoice when completed. Council approved repair.

20. Planning: to comment on the following applications:

20/00918/LU – Former Beacon Hill works, off the A66 west bound. Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use as a storage and distribution (Use Class B8) with ancillary vehicle maintenance.

Following discussion, Council will object to this application for the following reasons:

- Concern approval will increase HGV traffic passing through Village to access business. Increasing congestion and safety to residents.
- Only access is off a very congested A66 highway, into and exit from the business poses a major accident risk.

20/00154/FUL – Re-submission to erect 25 dwellings with associated landscaping, hard surfacing, drainage and boundary treatment works. Land at Newton Grange Farm.

Following discussion, the Parish Council are to object to this application for the following reasons:

- The opening statement is incorrect. There are no shops, Pharmacy and the village has little in the way of public transport.
- The design of the development has changed a little moving the access short distance east of the original proposal.
- The proposal would be outside the Sadberge limits to development.
- The development would be contrary to the wishes of the Sadberge community, as expressed in the Sadberge Plan.
- Sadberge is not a suitable location for sustainable development.

Updates & Decision Notices

- 20/00154/FUL – Prospect House – At its meeting on 28/10/2020, DBC Planning Committee decided to **Grant** permission for this development.
- St Andrews Church Cemetery. DBC planning authority have **no objections** to fell 2 trees.

This decision has disappointed several residents and Sadberge CC&B group along with the Parish Council. It is proposed to write to Darlington Planning for an explanation of this decision, following this, to St Andrews PCC.

Action: Clerk

- 19/00434/FUL - Hill House Lane. No revised application to date. Regarding the burning of waste on the site. The Environmental Health Officer, following up after the Chairman provided video footage of a recent fire, has issued a written warning to the owners of the site.
- 20/00607/FUL – The revised plan to provide an alternative crossing on Middleton Road is awaiting Highways department review.
- Old Reservoir Site – Councillor Hurst raised the potential development of this site. Noted the sale price is £1.7M with outline planning for 46 dwellings and that there are several interested parties. He wanted confirmation if this is within the Sadberge conservation area, the Clerk confirmed it is.

21. Payments

To approve the following payments:

- 21.1 Clerks Salary for October 2020 for £300
- 21.2 Repair to traffic bollard by Mr Lowther £11.98
- 21.3 Zoom Meeting invoice October 2020 £14.39 paid by Clerk
- 22.4 NBB Recycled Furniture, agreed item 8 SPC meeting revised to include VAT of £238, £1,428

22. Media Tablets

The two media tablets purchase via the COVID-19 support period are now held by the Clerk. One is loaned to Councillor Schott to enable him to join the Council Zoom meetings. If any residents should wish to loan a tablet, contact the Clerk

23. Items for the next Meeting

Agree Parish Council Budget for 2021 – 2022
To set Precept for 2021-2022
Parish Council Banking

24. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 1st December 2020.

Tony Delderfield – Clerk to Sadberge Parish Council

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE ON
TUESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2020

Signed - Chairman of Sadberge Parish Council

Mr Lee Tate

Date