

SADBERGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday 3rd March 2015 in Sadberge Village Hall

Present: Councillors Tate, Best, Heath, Heywood and Vickers

In attendance: Councillor Brian Jones Alastair Mackenzie – Clerk

1. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Councillors Glew and Schott, and the reasons for their absence were approved.

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

Section 13.2 of the minutes of the meeting on 3-Feb-2015 should have said that the first PACT priority is speeding in Great Stainton. With this correction, the minutes were agreed to be a true record of the meeting.

4. Matters arising from previous meetings

- 4.1 Phil Haynes has still not been in touch with Councillor Best to discuss the safety of the self-seeded trees between Hampass and Town Farm Field. Councillor Brian Jones will contact Phil Haynes again. **ACTION:** Councillor Brian Jones

- 4.2 The Clerk gave an overview of the data that has been collected by the vehicle-activated speed sign.

The Clerk will analyse the data to identify “speeding hotspots” that the police can use to target enforcement activity. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

The Clerk has still to arrange safe footing for the ladder at the mounting pole on Hill House Lane. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

The Clerk has still to arrange a brief ceremony to mark the deployment of the speed sign. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

The speed sign is currently on Middleton Road (inbound). Its next two locations will be Norton Road (outbound) and Darlington Road (inbound).

The Parish Council thanked Dave Lazenby for his help with the deployment of the speed sign.

- 4.3 The application to the British Heart Foundation for two subsidised public access defibrillators has been successful.

The Parish Council approved the payment of the £800 contribution to the British Heart Foundation.

The Clerk will obtain two defibrillator cabinets and arrange for them to be installed.

ACTION: A Mackenzie

The Clerk will add the defibrillators and the cabinets to the Parish Council’s insurance.

ACTION: A Mackenzie

The Clerk will arrange defibrillator awareness and CPR training sessions with help from the NE Ambulance Service. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

The Parish Council thanked the local resident who is giving a donation of £1,500 towards the cost of the defibrillators and cabinets.

- 4.4 Councillor Brian Jones has contacted Darlington Borough Council’s Highways Inspector about the footpath beside Middleton Road between Sadberge Village and the A66 underpass. Some patching work will be done.

It was agreed to write to Darlington Borough Council’s Director for Highways asking him to do he can to improve the state of the footpath. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

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- 4.5 There has not been a recent planning application relating to Little Burdon farm, although the owner has had pre-application discussions with Darlington Borough Council. The work that is currently under way is "tidying up".

5. Bonfire Night fireworks display

- 5.1 The Friends of Sadberge Festival have agreed to pay the costs of the Bonfire Night event apart from the insurance cost.
- 5.2 It was agreed that the Parish Council will organise the Bonfire Night event, including a bonfire and a fireworks display. The arrangement will be the same as is used to organise the Sadberge Summer Festival. The Parish Council will appoint a Bonfire Night Organiser as an unpaid officer of the Parish Council, and will delegate to the Bonfire Night Organiser the authority and responsibility to organise the event on behalf of the Parish Council.
- The Clerk will draw up a remit for the Bonfire Night Organiser and present it to the Parish Council for approval.
ACTION: A Mackenzie
- Councillor Tate will consult local residents to identify candidate(s) for the role of Bonfire Night Organiser.
ACTION: Councillor Tate
- 5.3 The Clerk will add the Bonfire Night event to the Parish Council's insurance.
ACTION: A Mackenzie
- 5.4 The Clerk will apply to Darlington Borough Council for a licence to use Town Farm Field for the Bonfire Night event.
ACTION: A Mackenzie

6. Proposed development on the old reservoir site

- 6.1 Northumbrian Water is proposing to apply for planning permission to build up to 34 houses on the site of the disused reservoir south-west of Sadberge Village.
- 6.2 Most of the Sadberge Parish Councillors and the Clerk met representatives of Northumbrian Water and its planning consultants in Sadberge Village Hall on Wednesday 25-Feb-2015.
- 6.3 Northumbrian Water has said that OFWAT regulations require it to achieve best value for the old reservoir site, and this is why it is proposing to apply for planning permission.
- 6.4 Development on the old reservoir site would be contrary to both the Darlington Local Plan and the wishes of Sadberge residents, as expressed in the Sadberge Parish Plan and confirmed by the review of the Parish Plan in 2013. However, Northumbrian Water's planning consultants believe that these local issues can be over-ruled by the National Planning Policy Framework, in particular its presumption in favour of sustainable development.
- 6.5 The Clerk reported that Darlington Borough Council's Planning Policy Manager has admitted that Gladman's successful appeal against the refusal of planning permission for a large development adjacent to Middleton St. George has weakened aspects of the Borough Council's planning policy. The problem is that the Borough Council has been unable to demonstrate that it has a five-year supply of sites to meet objectively assessed housing needs. The Borough Council is starting work to shore up its planning policy framework.
- 6.6 It was agreed that:-
- The Clerk will contact OFWAT to check whether its regulations really require Northumbrian Water to apply for planning permission to enhance the value of the site.
ACTION: A Mackenzie
 - The Clerk will write to Darlington Borough Council asking it to act as quickly as possible to re-establish a proper planning policy framework to support the Darlington Local Plan.
ACTION: A Mackenzie

7. Maintenance of the St. Andrew's churchyard

The Parish Council considered a request from the Sadberge Parochial Church Council (PCC) for a contribution towards the cost of maintaining the St. Andrew's Churchyard. It was agreed in principle to make a donation, but a final decision was deferred until the 2015-16 financial year, which starts in April.

8. Planning

8.1 Darlington Borough Council has apologised for its failure to consult Sadberge Parish Council about planning application 14/01155/FUL.

8.2 The following planning application was approved without comment.

- 15/00018/FUL Renovation works at Cleveland House, Middleton Road, incorporating a new roof, additional windows and door in the gable wall, replacement windows and partial rebuilding of an outhouse to the rear.

9. Maintenance of the railings around the main part of the village green

The Clerk will ask Councillor Schott for a cost for painting the railings around the main part of the village green.

ACTION: A Mackenzie

10. Parking near the Tuns at Sadberge

The Parish Council noted that residents of Laurel Terrace and Hillside Terrace sometimes have problems driving into and out of the access road at the back of their properties due to vehicles parked near where the bus stop used to be opposite the Tuns at Sadberge.

11. Traffic flow around the triangle of village green in the centre of Sadberge

11.1 During busy periods, some drivers are avoiding the queue on the Middleton Road approach to the central crossroads by driving down the small road along the left hand side of the triangle of village green and then turning right to approach the central crossroads from the west. The Parish Council is concerned that this could create a hazard, particularly as some drivers are executing the right turn without slowing down sufficiently.

11.2 It was agreed that the Clerk will write to Darlington Borough Council's Traffic Management & Road Safety Manager asking him to consider prohibiting right turns from the north-west end of the small road along the left hand side of the triangle of village green. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

12. Repair of wooden posts

The Parish Council thanked Ernie Lowther for repairing two wooden posts near Pleasant View and Chapel Row.

13. Election arrangements

Nomination papers for the Parish Council election in May will be available from 16-Mar-2015. The Clerk will obtain 10 nomination packs.

ACTION: A Mackenzie

14. North East Regional Event

The Parish Council noted that the Cleveland, County Durham and Northumberland County Associations are holding a Regional Event in Durham on Saturday 28-Mar-2015.

15. Closing the Business Saver Account

The Clerk and Councillor Vickers have contacted Barclays Bank to try to get the Business Saver account closed, but have not been successful. Barclays is saying that all three signatories will have to go in to a bank branch with identification. The Clerk will contact a local resident who works for Barclays to see if she can give any advice on how to get the account closed.

ACTION: A Mackenzie

16. Cleveland Local Councils Association (CLCA)

There was no Sadberge Parish Council representation at the CLCA meeting in Saltburn on Monday 23-Feb-2015. The CLCA has said that it will try to hold future meetings closer to Darlington.

17. North Villages PACT

17.1 There was no report on the PACT meeting held in Brafferton Village Hall on Wednesday 25-Feb-2015.

17.2 The next PACT meeting will be held in Sadberge Village Hall at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday 25-Mar-2015.

18. Payments

The Parish Council approved the following payment:-

- Clerk's salary £1,200.00

19. Agenda items for the next meeting

The following agenda item was proposed for the next meeting:-

- Update on wind farms near Sadberge.
- Flag on the village green.
- Blocked drain on Stockton Road.
- Damaged concrete post opposite the Buck Inn.

20. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting of Sadberge Parish Council will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday 7-Apr-2015.

Alastair Mackenzie
Clerk to Sadberge Parish Council

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3rd MARCH 2015.

I hereby certify that these minutes are a true record of the meeting.

Signed: Councillor L Tate _____ Date _____