

SADBERGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday 15th September 2015 in Sadberge Village Hall

Present: Councillors Tate, Best, Heath, Heywood, Schott and Smith.

In attendance: Ward Councillor Brian Jones Alastair Mackenzie – Clerk

1. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Councillor Lazenby, and the reason for his absence was approved. There were apologies from Ward Councillors Doris Jones and Steve York.

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

- 3.1 The minutes of the meeting on 14-Jul-2015 were agreed to be a true record of the meeting.
- 3.2 The minutes of the meeting on 21-Jul-2015 were agreed to be a true record of the meeting.

4. Matters arising from previous meetings

- 4.1 Neither Councillor Best nor the Clerk has yet received a letter from Phil Haynes about the trees between Town Farm Field and Hampass. Councillor Brian Jones will contact Phil Haynes again.
ACTION: Councillor Brian Jones

- 4.2 There was no news about proposed developments in and around Middleton St. George.

- 4.3 There was no news about Northumbrian Water's proposal to apply for planning permission to build houses on the site of the old reservoir adjacent to Sadberge.

- 4.4 Darlington Borough Council is carrying out Community Governance Reviews of some parishes within Darlington Borough, but Sadberge is not affected.

- 4.5 The Clerk has obtained the materials needed to provide safe footing for the ladder at the speed sign mounting pole on Hill House Lane, but the footing arrangements have still to be installed.
ACTION: A Mackenzie / Councillor Schott

There have been comments on social media about the speeding problem in Sadberge, and some participants have suggested that the speed sign is not proving effective in reducing speeds.

Speeding issues will be on the agenda for the Darlington Association of Parish Councils (DAPC) meeting on Wednesday 14-Oct-2015.

The Clerk will write to Durham Constabulary to ask for speed enforcement activity in Sadberge.
ACTION: A Mackenzie

- 4.6 The community composting facility is under control.

- 4.7 The Clerk has still to investigate the costs and styles of benches that could be installed in recognition of retired parish councillors.
ACTION: A Mackenzie

5. Sadberge Summer Festival

- 5.1 The Parish Council acknowledged the receipt of £606.97 of Sadberge Summer Festival income from Millie Scaife and approved the following payment:-

- Miscellaneous festival expenses £719.82

- 5.2 The Friends of Sadberge Festival have agreed to make a donation of £260 to bring the Parish Council's net expenditure on the festival to within the agreed budget of £500.

- 5.3 The Parish Council approved the accounts of the 2015 Sadberge Summer Festival.

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6. Bonfire Night fireworks display

- 6.1 After discussion, the Parish Council approved the remit for the Bonfire Night Organiser.
- 6.2 The Parish Council appointed David Elmer as an Officer of the Council in the role of Bonfire Night Organiser and delegated to him the authority to organise the Bonfire Night event in accordance with the agreed remit.
- 6.3 The Bonfire Night event will take place on Thursday 5-Nov-2015 and will include a bonfire and a fireworks display.
The Clerk will ask Darlington Borough Council's permission to hold the event in Town Farm Field.
ACTION: A Mackenzie
- The Bonfire Night Organiser will obtain any necessary safety equipment; e.g. chainsaw masks.
ACTION: D Elmer
- The Clerk will arrange to send out a flyer to let Sadberge residents know about the event.
ACTION: A Mackenzie

7. Northumbria in Bloom competition

- 7.1 The main Northumbria in Bloom Awards Ceremony took place on the morning of Tuesday 15-Sep-2015.
- Sadberge received a Silver Award in the Villages category.
 - 7 Abbey Road received a Silver Gilt Award in the Private Gardens category.
 - 3 East View received a Silver Award in the Private Gardens category.
- 7.2 The Clerk will write letters of congratulation to the residents of 7 Abbey Road and 3 East View.
ACTION: A Mackenzie
- 7.3 The model train has been stolen from the central community garden.

8. Defibrillators

- 8.1 One defibrillator is in place in the centre of the village.
Councillor Schott will install the other defibrillator cabinet on the outside of the front wall of the village hall.
ACTION: Councillor Schott
- 8.2 Defibrillator Awareness and CPR Training sessions will take place in the village hall on the evenings of Thursday 1-Oct-2015, Wednesday 7-Oct-2015 and Thursday 15-Oct-2015.
The Sadberge Village Hall Association is providing the rooms free of charge.
The Clerk will obtain tea, coffee and biscuits for the sessions.
ACTION: A Mackenzie

9. Bronze sculptures

- 9.1 A local resident – who wishes to remain anonymous – has expressed interest in providing funding for sculptures to be placed in public areas in Sadberge; e.g. on the village green.
The donor's preference is for life size bronze castings of people and/or animals, in realistic rather than abstract style. Original one-off sculpture(s) would be nice, but copies of existing sculptures would be an option.
The Clerk has been investigating options, and has made contact with two foundries – one in Birmingham and one in China. He has also contacted Cleveland College of Art and Design (CCAD) to ask whether their students might be interested in accepting a commission to design suitable sculpture(s).
Another local resident has suggested a life-size sculpture of an elderly man sitting under on the bench under the large tree in the centre of the village.
- 9.2 The following points were made during the discussion:-
- The sculptures would need to be fixed in place to prevent them from being stolen.
 - The implications for insurance – including public liability insurance – would need to be investigated.

- The donor could give the sculptures to the Parish Council or could retain ownership of them, at least initially. However, it would not be helpful if the donor or whoever inherited ownership of the sculptures decided to remove them at a later date.
- Interesting sculptures have been displayed in front of the new Police Headquarters in Durham. It might be worth finding out where these have come from.
- Is this the best way to spend money when, for example, the area around the side of the village hall needs to be tidied up and improved?
It is the donor's choice how he spends his money. He could buy bronze sculptures and install them in his own garden, but he is offering to make them available for public enjoyment.
- Has the donor lived in Sadberge for some time, or has he moved into the village recently?
The donor has lived in Sadberge for at least 15 – 20 years.
- The bench around the tree in the centre of the village will need to be replaced within the next few years, as the tree is growing out into it.

9.3 It was agreed that the Clerk should go ahead with his investigation of the options.

10. Footpath near St. Andrew's Church

A local resident has expressed concern about the condition of the footpath near St. Andrew's Church. The Clerk will take photographs of the relevant stretch of footpath.

ACTION: A Mackenzie

Councillor Brian Jones will contact the relevant Darlington Borough Council officer.

ACTION: Councillor Brian Jones

11. Facilities on the playing field adjacent to St. Andrew's Park

11.1 A local resident has asked for new nets to be installed on the goal posts on the playing field adjacent to St. Andrew's Park and for line markings to be provided on the pitch. Councillor Brian Jones will pass on the request to the appropriate Darlington Borough Council officer.

ACTION: Councillor Brian Jones

11.2 It has been reported that someone has been camping on the playing field and using part of the fence to build a fire. Councillor Brian Jones will check.

ACTION: Councillor Brian Jones

12. Appeal against revocation of land spreading permit

The Parish Council had been invited to comment on an appeal by AWSM Recycling Ltd. against the Environment Agency's decision to revoke a land spreading permit. Councillor Brian Jones will pass on the paperwork to the East & West Newbiggin Parish Meeting.

ACTION: Councillor Brian Jones

13. Maintenance of Parish Council property

13.1 Ernie Lowther has refurbished the benches in and around Sadberge and replaced the wooden post on the edge of the village green in front of the Old Post Office.

13.2 Malcolm Short has varnished the notice board near the brick bus shelter and refreshed the gold lettering to be refreshed.

13.3 Councillor Schott has still to give the chainsaw carvings another coat of decking oil.

ACTION: Councillor Schott

13.4 Malcolm Short had provided an estimate for the refurbishment of the "Sadberge" plaque. It was agreed to ask him to go ahead with the work.

14. Parish Council land and property

Discussion of the issues identified during the inspection tour of Parish Council land and property was deferred until the next meeting.

15. Darlington Association of Parish Councils (DAPC)

The next DAPC meeting will take place in the Darlington Fire Station at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday 14-Oct-2015.

16. North Villages PACT

- 16.1 The PACT priorities remain (i) large vehicles attempting to cross the bridge at Bishopton Mill, (ii) speeding in Great Stainton and (iii) parking in Norton Crescent / St. Andrew's Park, Sadberge.
- 16.2 The next PACT meeting will take place in Sadberge Village Hall at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday 17-Sep-2015.

17. Publication scheme

The review of the Parish Council's publication scheme was deferred until the next meeting.

18. Planning

The Parish Council noted the outcome of the following planning application:-

- Granted 15/00690/FUL Erection of additional kennels and an exercise area at Sadberge Boarding Kennels, Middleton Road.

19. Payments

The Parish Council approved the following payments:-

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|---|---------|
| • Materials for repairs to benches | £79.68 |
| • Materials for replacement of wooden post | £17.32 |
| • Notice board refurbishment | £75.00 |
| • First aid cover for the 2015 Sadberge Summer Festival | £105.60 |
| • Printing for the 2015 Sadberge Summer Festival | £53.50 |

20. Correspondence

The Parish Council noted the following correspondence:-

- Letter from Darlington Borough Council about residential proposals for the former Blackwell Grange golf course.
- Letter from Barclays Bank about changes to cheque processing.
- Invitation to the Tees Valley Rural Community Council (TVRCC) Annual General Meeting in Redcar at 2:30 p.m. on Monday 14-Sep-2015.
- August edition of TVRCC's Rural News.

21. Agenda items for the next meeting

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

- Revision of the Parish Council's Annual Return for 2014-15.

22. Date of the next meeting

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

Alastair Mackenzie
Clerk to Sadberge Parish Council

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15th SEPTEMBER 2015.

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

Signed: Councillor L Tate _____ Date _____