

SADBERGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday 20th September 2016 in Sadberge Village Hall

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

In attendance: Alastair Mackenzie – Clerk
David Elmer – Bonfire Night Organiser

1. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Councillor Lazenby, and the reason for his absence was approved.

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

The Clerk declared an interest in Item 10 – Request for a grant.

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

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 16-Aug-2016 were agreed to be a true record of the meeting.

4. Matters arising from previous meetings

4.1 There has been on communication from Phil Haynes about the self-seeded tree between Town Farm Field and Hampass. The Clerk will phone him. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

4.2 Councillor Tate will help the Clerk to bring in and put out the speed sign while Councillor Lazenby is away on holiday.

4.3 There has been no communication from Darlington Borough Council about the Parish Council's request for the bus stop markings to be refreshed. The Clerk will contact the Borough Council's Traffic Management Engineer again. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

4.4 There was no news about the proposed new parking restrictions in Sadberge.

4.5 The Clerk will write to the residents of The Rectory and 1 East View to ask them to trim their hedges, which are growing out over the adjacent pavements.

ACTION: A Mackenzie

The Clerk will ask Darlington Borough Council to trim the hedge along the northern edge of Town Farm Field. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

4.6 There was no news about a local resident's proposal to install a fence around part of the village green near Oaklands House.

4.7 The Clerk has still to ask Darlington Borough Council for an update on the plans for maintaining the public footpaths in the area around Sadberge. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

4.8 There was no news about the new Darlington Local Plan.

4.9 The Clerk reported that the damage to the composting facility is rather worse than he had first realised.

It was agreed that the large pile of branches adjacent to the composting facility will be added to the bonfire for the Bonfire Night event.

The Clerk has still to renew the notices on the composting facility.

ACTION: A Mackenzie

4.10 The Clerk had a meeting with a Newcastle University researcher on Friday 19-Aug-2016 to discuss air quality monitoring. The University should be able to obtain funding for a community air quality monitoring project in Sadberge. The monitoring devices could be mounted on the speed sign poles, and data from the speed sign could be used to investigate the link between traffic volume and air pollution.

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4.11 Nothing of interest has appeared on the Sadberge social media sites since the last meeting.

5. External Audit and Annual Return

- 5.1 The external audit is complete. In the External Auditor's opinion, the information in the Annual Return is in accordance with proper practices and the External Auditor has not raised any matters relating to lack of compliance with relevant legislation or regulatory requirements.
- 5.2 The External Auditor draws the Parish Council's attention to the Internal Auditor's recommendations and recommends that the Parish Council implements those recommendations as soon as possible or in any event before the end of the current financial year. Apart from that, the External Auditor did not raise any issues for the Parish Council's attention.
- 5.3 The Parish Council approved the audited Annual Return for 2015-16.

6. Sadberge Summer Festival accounts

- 6.1 The Parish Council acknowledged the receipt of £647.57 of Sadberge Summer Festival income from Millie Scaife and approved the following payments:-
- Miscellaneous festival expenses £443.16
 - Market licence £50.00
 - Printing costs £61.80
- 6.2 The Parish Council approved the accounts of the 2016 Sadberge Summer Festival.
- 6.3 As the Parish Council's net expenditure on the festival to within the agreed budget of £500 there is no need for the Friends of Sadberge Festival to make a donation towards the cost of the festival.
- 6.4 Cynthia Pinnock is resigning from the role of Festival Organiser.
- 6.5 The Friends of Sadberge Festival are holding an open meeting in Sadberge Village Hall at 7 p.m. on Wednesday 19-Oct-2016 to discuss the future of the Sadberge Summer Festival and other community events.

Councillor Heywood joined the meeting.

7. Bonfire Night fireworks display

- 7.1 It was agreed to organise a Bonfire Night event, including a bonfire and a fireworks display on Saturday 5-Nov-2016.
- 7.2 Taking into account the Friends of Sadberge Festival's offer to make a donation of £1,000 towards the cost of buying fireworks for the event, the Parish Council set the budget for the event at £1,500.
- 7.3 The Parish Council re-confirmed David Elmer's appointment 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 and budget.
- 7.4 The Bonfire Night Organiser will order the fireworks. **ACTION:** David Elmer
The Parish Council authorised the Clerk to make the payment for the fireworks. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie
- 7.5 The Clerk will check that the Parish Council's insurance will cover the Bonfire Night event. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie
- 7.6 The Parish Council gave its permission for the Friends of Sadberge Festival to carry out fundraising activities at and in association with the Bonfire Night event.

8. Northumbria in Bloom

- 8.1 Sadberge received a Silver Award in the Villages category of the 2016 Northumbria in Bloom competition.
- 8.2 Ernie Lowther received a special Northumbria in Bloom award for exceptional effort.
- 8.3 Millie Scaife, who has been co-ordinating Sadberge's efforts in the Northumbria in Bloom competitions, will not have time to continue this work next year.
The Parish Council decided not to enter Sadberge for the 2017 Northumbria in Bloom competition.

9. Benches

Ernie Lowther has completed the refurbishment of the benches in Sadberge.
The Parish Council thanked Ernie for his sterling work.

10. Request for a grant

Sadberge Renewable Energy Limited has given the Friends of Sadberge Festival a grant of £170 towards the cost of equipment to maintain the verges and small pieces of open land in Sadberge. The Friends of Sadberge Festival asked the Parish Council to consider giving a matching grant.

The Parish Council decided to give the Friends of Sadberge Festival a grant of £170 towards the cost of equipment to maintain the verges and small pieces of open land in Sadberge, and approved the relevant payment.

11. Litter bins

A local resident has reported that the litter bins in the layby beside Darlington Road near Beacon Hill Bungalows have been overflowing, and that rubbish has been allowed to build up in the bottoms of the litter bins in the village. (The rubbish is below the bin bags, so it remains in the bottoms of the bins when the bin bags are replaced.)

12. Seat around the oak tree in the centre of the village

The company that could make a new seat to go round the oak tree in the centre of the village has asked the Parish Council to suggest a design. Councillor Schott will produce a sketch for the Parish Council's consideration.

ACTION: Councillor Schott

13. Parish Council land and property

The Parish Council reviewed the issues identified during the inspection tour of Parish Council land and property on 16-Aug-2016.

13.1 The Clerk will remove the suckers from the foot of the tree on the main part of the village green.

ACTION: A Mackenzie

13.2 The Clerk will ask Rowland Glew if he is willing to creosote the planters on the main part of the village green adjacent to Hill House Lane. The Parish Council will pay for the materials.

ACTION: A Mackenzie

13.3 Councillor Schott will paint the fences at the front and back of Hampass.

ACTION: Councillor Schott

14. Village hall lease

There was no news of any progress with the negotiations about a new lease for the village hall.

15. Insurance

There was nothing new to report about the Parish Council's insurance arrangements.

16. Moor House wind farm

The Parish Council appointed Councillor Heath as its representative on the Moor House Wind Farm Liaison Committee.

The inaugural meeting of the committee will be held in Sadberge Village Hall at 6 p.m. on Wednesday 26-Oct-2016.

17. Planning

The Parish Council noted that an application has been made for prior approval for the erection of a single storey extension at the rear of 8 Norton Crescent.

18. Cleveland Local Councils Association (CLCA)

The Parish Council will not be represented at the CLCA meeting in Stillington Village Hall on the evening of Wednesday 21-Sep-2016.

19. North Villages PACT

It was noted that the next PACT meeting will be held in Bishopton Village Hall at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday 22-Sep-2016.

20. Payments

The Parish Council approved the following payments:-

- External audit fee £48.00
- Materials for refurbishing benches £14.59

21. Agenda items for the next meeting

The following agenda items were proposed for the next meeting:

- The state of pavements in the village.
- The condition of the church wall.
- The Bonfire Night event on Saturday 5-Nov-2016.

22. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting of Sadberge Parish Council will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday 11-Oct-2016.

Note from the Clerk: Due to the unavailability of a meeting room in Sadberge Village Hall on 11-Oct-2016, the date of the next meeting has been changed to Tuesday 18-Oct-2016.

Alastair Mackenzie
Clerk to Sadberge Parish Council

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20th SEPTEMBER 2016.

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

Signed: Councillor M Heath _____ Date _____