

# SADBERGE PARISH COUNCIL

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## **Minutes of the Annual Meeting held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017 in Sadberge Village Hall**

**Present:** Councillors Tate, Best, Heath and Lazenby.

**In attendance:** Alastair Mackenzie – Clerk

### **1. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair**

- 1.1 Councillor Tate was elected as Chair of the Parish Council for the coming year.
- 1.2 Councillor Heath was elected as Vice-Chair.
- 1.3 Councillors Tate and Heath signed their Declarations of Acceptance of Office.

### **2. Apologies**

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

Apologies were received from Ward Councillors Brian Jones and Doris Jones.

### **3. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda**

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

### **4. Minutes of the previous meetings**

- 4.1 The minutes of the meeting on 4-Apr-2017 were agreed to be a true record of the meeting.
- 4.2 The minutes of the meeting on 21-Apr-2017 should have recorded that the Councillors present were, Tate, Heath, Lazenby and Smith. Also, item 3.7 should have said that “the Parish Council has no objection to the Sedberge Anglo Saxon Farmers attaching signs to the fences at the north and south ends of Hampass”. With these corrections, the minutes were agreed to be a true record of the meeting.

### **5. Sadberge Parish Meeting**

The Parish Council noted the discussions on the following subjects that had taken place during the Sadberge Parish Meeting:-

- 5.1 Potential development in and near Sadberge.
- 5.2 Wind farms near Sadberge.
- 5.3 Sadberge Summer Festival.
- 5.4 Community events.

### **6. Matters arising from previous meetings**

- 6.1 The Clerk has obtained paint for the bus shelter on Middleton Road.
- 6.2 The Parish Council noted the plans to install plaques to mark points of interest along the proposed new History Trail.
- 6.3 It was reported that Darlington Borough Council is making slow progress on the new Darlington Local Plan.
- 6.4 There was no news about the churchyard wall along West Row.
- 6.5 There was no news about road sweeping in Sadberge.
- 6.6 The Clerk has obtained a stencil and paint for the “Clean it up” signs on pavements.

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6.7 It was agreed that the relevant section of pavement should be brushed before each sign is applied.

**ACTION:** A Mackenzie

6.8 Darlington Borough Council's Environmental Protection Officer has served a Community Protection Warning notice on the person who is operating a dog breeding facility adjacent to Hill House Lane to the north of Sadberge.

6.9 There was no news about the new village hall lease.

6.10 The Farm Watch meeting on Thursday 6-Apr-2017 was well attended.

6.11 There was no news about social media.

## **7. Hampass – Lease, self-seeded trees and polytunnel**

7.1 The lease agreement is being drawn up.

7.2 The Clerk is getting quotes for the tree works.

7.3 The Parish Council delegated to the Clerk the authority to get the trees work done provided that the cost is within the specified budget.

**ACTION:** A Mackenzie

7.4 The Parish Council delegated to the Clerk to the authority to grant the Sedberg Anglo Saxon Farmers the previously-discussed Tenancy at Will once the tree works are complete.

**ACTION:** A Mackenzie

## **8. Grass cutting**

8.1 The Parish Council discussed the possibility of buying a grass cutting machine that volunteers could use on the various parts of the village green. The following points were made during the discussion:-

- The practicalities would need to be thought through. Training of the volunteers. Legal liabilities.
- An alternative to using volunteers would be to employ an odd job person.

8.2 It was agreed to consider the options and discuss the idea again at a future meeting.

## **9. Village of the Year competition**

It was decided not to enter Sadberge for the Village of the Year competition being organised by Channel 4 Television.

## **10. Community composting facility**

Councillor Schott had submitted a quote for repairing and improving the community composting facility. It was decided to accept the quote and ask him to go ahead with the work.

**ACTION:** A Mackenzie

## **11. Seat around the oak tree in the centre of the village**

Councillor Schott and the Clerk have inspected the tree and concluded that the bench needs to have an internal diameter of 135 cm. The Clerk will contact Treebench to find out if it is possible to obtain a wooden bench of this size.

**ACTION:** A Mackenzie

It was agreed that this matter needs to be progressed as a matter of urgency.

## **12. Collaboration between village organisations**

It was agreed to defer discussion of this subject until a future meeting.

## **13. Fly tipping**

There was no news about fly tipping in or near Sadberge.

## **14. Accounts and Annual Report for 2015-16**

14.1 The Parish Council approved the updated Register of Assets (dated 3-May-2017).



**20. Date of the next meeting**

The next meeting of Sadberge Parish Council will be held at in Sadberge Village Hall at 7 p.m. on Tuesday 27-Jun-2016.

**Alastair Mackenzie**  
**Clerk to Sadberge Parish Council**

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> MAY 2017.

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

Signed: Councillor L Tate \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_