

SADBERGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday 8th August 2017

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

In attendance: Councillor Brian Jones Alastair Mackenzie – Clerk

1. Inspection tour of Sadberge Parish Council land and property

- 1.1 The inspection tour was carried out by Councillors Heath, Schott and Tate, accompanied by the Clerk.
- 1.2 See the checklist attached as Appendix 1 to these minutes.

2. Apologies

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

3. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

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

4. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 27-Jun-2017 were agreed to be a true record of the meeting.

5. Matters arising from previous meetings

- 5.1 There was no news about the painting of the bus shelter on Middleton Road.
- 5.2 There was no news about the proposed Sadberge history trail.
- 5.3 There was no news about the Darlington Local Plan.
- 5.4 The large components of the Moor House wind turbines will arrive in September. A “dry run” has been done to check the route.
- 5.5 The Clerk has still to the Parochial Church Council again about the churchyard wall along West Row. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie
- 5.6 The Clerk has still to contact the owners of the garages opposite Pleasant View to check that they have no objection to the Parish Council fitting a barrier to prevent children falling down the gap between the garages. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie
- 5.7 The work to repair and strengthen the community composting facility has started.
- 5.8 The Clerk has still to contact Darlington Borough Council's Street Scene team about the overflowing drain on Middleton Road near the Rectory. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie
- 5.9 The Clerk has still to paint more “Clean it up” signs on pavements in the eastern half of the village. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie
- 5.10 Hanging baskets have been installed on the village green and filled with plants. It was agreed that they look very good.
Councillor Lazenby has investigated the possibility of arranging for a nursery to fill the hanging baskets on an annual contract, but the costs are rather high. It was agreed to continue with the present arrangements.
- 5.11 The Clerk has still to analyse the air quality data. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie
- 5.12 There was no news about the Village Hall lease.
- 5.13 The Clerk will continue to investigate the implications of a co-opted parish councillor no longer being a resident of the parish. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie
- 5.14 There have been complaints on social media about the condition of the children's play area off Abbey Road. In particular, the ground gets waterlogged and there is a problem with dog fouling. Darlington Borough Council is going to move the “No dogs allowed” sign.

/ continued

It was decided to write to Darlington Borough Council to express the Parish Council's concern about dogs using the children's play area.

ACTION: A Mackenzie

Councillor Heath will arrange for an article to be put into the next issue of Roundabout.

ACTION: Councillor Heath

6. Planning

5.15 There was no news about the proposal to build 25 houses on the east side of Middleton Road on the southern edge of Sadberge.

5.16 There was no news about the proposed dog training facility at The Willows, Hill House Lane..

7. Polytunnel on Hampass

7.1 The tree works are scheduled to be carried out on Thursday 17-Aug-2017.

7.2 The Clerk will arrange for the Sedberg Anglo Saxon Farmers' Tenancy at Will agreement to be implemented once the tree works are complete.

ACTION: A Mackenzie

8. Old reservoir near Sadberge

There have been reports that people have been camping in the old reservoir south-west of Sadberge. Councillor Brian Jones made the police and Northumbrian Water aware of the issue. There have not been any recent reports of activity in the reservoir.

9. Proposed new bypass around the north of Darlington

The Parish Council noted a request from the "No Darlington Link Road" group for support for a campaign against the proposed new bypass round the north of Darlington.

10. Parish Council post boxes

The Parish Council approved the Clerk's decision to allow the Friends of Sadberge Festival to use the Parish Council post boxes to collect pre-entries for their Great Bake Off event

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

11.1 A quote has been received for installing paving around the bottom of the tree. As the total cost of the bench and groundworks is within the budget set by the Parish Council, the Clerk has given the go-ahead for the construction of the bench.

11.2 A second quote will be obtained for the paving. Once the second quote has been received the Clerk will place the order for the paving after consulting Councillor Scott.

ACTION: Councillor Schott

12. Bronze sculpture

An original life-size bronze sculpture would cost about £45,000 plus VAT. This is considerably more than the donor was willing to contribute to the project.

It would be possible to obtain a copy of an existing bronze sculpture, but when the Clerk canvassed the opinion of some Sadberge residents the general feeling was that it was not worth spending a still considerable sum of money on a copy of an existing sculpture.

In the light of this, the donor has decided not to go ahead with the project.

13. Darlington Association of Parish Councils (DAPC)

13.1 Councillor Heath attended the DAPC meeting on 19-Jul-2017.

13.2 Darlington Borough Council does not have any record of Councillor Smith. The Clerk will contact the Borough Council to give them the necessary information. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

13.3 The DAPC is considering having a special meeting to discuss how Darlington Borough Council has been using money arising from Section 106 agreements. In particular, should more of that money have been used to benefit the parishes where developments have taken place? Councillor Tate will contact the DAPC to express a willingness to attend an extra meeting.

ACTION: Councillor Tate

14. Agenda items for the next meeting

The following agenda items were proposed for the next meeting:-

- Bonfire Night event.
- The future of the community composting facility.
- Hedges.
- Parking on footpaths.

15. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting of Sadberge Parish Council will be held in Sadberge Village Hall at 7 p.m. on Tuesday 12-Sep-2017.

Alastair Mackenzie
Clerk to Sadberge Parish Council

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8th AUGUST 2017.

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

Signed: Councillor L Tate _____ Date _____

SADBERGE PARISH COUNCIL

INSPECTION CHECKLIST

This is the checklist for the inspection of land and property owned by Sadberge Parish Council.

Date	8th August 2017
Inspection carried out by	Councillors Best, Lazenby, Schott, Smith and Tate. Alastair Mackenzie, Clerk to the Council.

1. VILLAGE GREEN – MAIN PART	Okay	Problem	Urgent	Note number
Condition of the land	✓			
Trees		✓		Note 1.
Railings	✓			
Plaque	✓			
Notice board	✓			
Benches beside the bus shelter	✓			
Flag pole	✓			
Planters beside Hill House Lane	✓			
Bollards at the bottom of the bank at the northern edge	✓			
Any other issues			✓	Notes 2, 3.

2. VILLAGE GREEN AT SPRING GARTH	Okay	Problem	Urgent	Note number
Condition of the land	✓			
Trees	✓			
Ditch / stream (including the debris trap)				
Any other issues				

3. TRIANGLE OF VILLAGE GREEN AT THE SOUTH END OF CHAPEL ROW	Okay	Problem	Urgent	Note number
Condition of the land	✓			
Bollards		✓		Note 4.
Any other issues				

4. SECTION OF VILLAGE GREEN IN FRONT OF THE OLD POST OFFICE	Okay	Problem	Urgent	Note number
Condition of the land	✓			
Trees	✓			
Bollards		✓		Note 5.
Any other issues				

5. PARISH COUNCIL LAND SOUTH OF GALLINAS	Okay	Problem	Urgent	Note number
Condition of the land	✓			
Trees	✓			
Any other issues				

6. SECTION OF VILLAGE GREEN ON THE EAST SIDE OF MIDDLETON ROAD (in front of Mayfield House)	Okay	Problem	Urgent	Note number
Condition of the land	✓			
Cherry trees	✓			
"No Parking" sign in front of Mayfield House	✓			
Hanging basket stand	✓			
Christmas tree base	✓			
Bench in front of Mayfield House South	✓			
Any other issues				

6. COMMUNITY COMPOSTING FACILITY
<p>The structure of the composting facility needs to be repaired and strengthened.</p> <p>There is a large pile of woody material adjacent to bay #4.</p> <p>Quite a lot of material has been left outside the composting facility rather than deposited in bay #1.</p> <p>There is no padlock on the post in the entrance to Town Farm Field.</p>

7. VILLAGE GREEN – ON THE WEST SIDE OF MIDDLETON ROAD (in front of Tithe House)	Okay	Problem	Urgent	Note number
Condition of the land	✓			
Chainsaw carvings		✓		Note 6.
Trees	✓			
Hanging basket stand	✓			
Bench near the phone box		✓		Note 7.
Any other issues				

8. VILLAGE GREEN – TRIANGLE ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF DARLINGTON ROAD	Okay	Problem	Urgent	Note number
Condition of the land	✓			
Tree	✓			
Jubilee stone	✓			
Public access defibrillator (and cabinet)		✓		Note 8.
Bench on the north edge of the triangle	✓			
Bench around the central tree	✓			
Any other issues				

9. VILLAGE GREEN AT HAMPASS	Okay	Problem	Urgent	Note number
Condition of the land	✓			
Trees	✓			
Fence at the front (including the lockable post)	✓			
Fence at the back	✓			
Any other issues				

10. SMALL PATCH OF OPEN LAND ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF DARLINGTON ROAD BESIDE ROSE COTTAGE	Okay	Problem	Urgent	Note number
Condition of the land	✓			
Any other issues				

11. OTHER BENCHES	Okay	Problem	Urgent	Note number
Bench on Darlington Road near Beacon Hill				
Bench on Darlington Road near the Village Hall	✓			
Bench on Middleton Road near the A66 underpass	✓			
Bench on Stockton Road near the lane to the children's play area	✓			
Bench at the Newton Grange lay-by	✓			

11. MISCELLANEOUS	Okay	Problem	Urgent	Note number
Beacon				
Public access defibrillator (and cabinet) at the village hall	✓			

Notes

Note 1: "Suckers" are growing at the base of the tree near the northern edge of the main part of the village green.

Note 2. It would be possible for a small child to fall down the gap at the back of the garages opposite Pleasant View.

- Note 3. There is a self-seeded sycamore sapling growing up beside one of the garages opposite Pleasant View.
- Note 4. The bollard at the end of the triangle of land at the south end of Chapel Row is leaning over.
- Note 5: One of the bollards at the edge of the village green in front of the Old Post Office is missing.
- Note 6. Fungus is growing on the chainsaw carvings.
- Note 7. The bench near the phone box has a broken backrest.
- Note 8. The contact switch that turns on the light and siren in the defibrillator cabinet in the centre of the village is sticking, and the light is not working.