

SADBERGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday 7th August 2018 in Sadberge Village Hall

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

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 Best, Lazenby, 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 Smith, 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 5-Jun-2018 were agreed to be a true record of the meeting.

5. Matters arising from previous meetings

- 5.1 The Sadberge Village Hall lease agreement has been printed and is awaiting signature.
- 5.2 There was no news about the request for Darlington Borough Council to establish an off-road footpath / cycle path / bridleway between Sadberge and Middleton St. George. The Clerk will contact the Borough Council's Public Rights of Way Officer again.
ACTION: A Mackenzie
- 5.3 The Clerk will contact Openreach again about the new telephone pole on the village green near Mayfield House.
ACTION: A Mackenzie
- 5.4 It was noted that a "For Sale" sign has gone up on the site of the proposed development on the east side of Middleton Road on the southern edge of Sadberge.
- 5.5 Social media posts have suggested that a resident of East View is planning to erect a gazebo on the village green for a young child's birthday party. It was agreed that the Clerk will contact the resident to remind her to leave the village green in a clean and tidy condition.
ACTION: A Mackenzie

6. Moor House Wind Farm Community Fund

- 6.1 Three possible grant applications were discussed:-
 - (1) A solar panel to provide power for the existing vehicle activated speed sign when it has to be left out for an extended period; e.g. when the Clerk is away on holiday over the summer. This would cost approximately £500 + VAT.
 - (2) An additional vehicle activated speed sign to be permanently mounted on Darlington Road near the village hall. This would cost approximately £2,700.
 - (3) An air pollution measuring instrument to monitor the levels of nitrogen oxides (NOx) in the village, particularly on Middleton Road during rush hours. This would cost approximately £2,500 + VAT.
- 6.2 After discussion, it was decided to submit all three grant applications. The Clerk will prepare the applications for the solar panel and the air pollution instrument. Ray Murphy will prepare the application for the additional speed sign.
ACTION: A Mackenzie / Ray Murphy

/ continued

- 6.3 The Clerk will send Durham Constabulary's Traffic Management Officer, Paul Emerson, a copy of the analysis of "speeding hotspots" in Sadberge. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

7. Bird boxes

The Parish Council gave permission for bird boxes to be installed on trees in Hampass and on the village green.

8. Hampass

- 8.1 The Parish Council noted that the Anglo Saxon Farm has been tidied up and is now looking good. It was suggested that the water container should be moved to a less visible position.
- 8.2 The Anglo Saxon Farmers have erected a fence around the raised beds. The Parish Council agreed that this fence can remain for the time being.
- 8.3 Pat Lloyd thanked the Parish Council for the grant for the raised beds and gave an assurance that the Anglo Saxon Farm will not get any bigger.

9. Community composting facility

- 9.1 Over the summer, a mini-digger was used to tidy up the composting facility, including removing material that had been left outside the bays. The Parish Council approved a payment of £250 for the work.
Will this be a recurring expense every year?
- 9.2 It was noted that people from outside Sadberge have been bringing material to the composting facility.
- 9.3 The Parish Council will review the future of the composting facility during its December meeting.

10. Benches

Some of the benches need some attention. Ernie Lowther will do the necessary work. The Parish Council agreed a budget of up to £150 for materials.

11. Bollards

Some of the bollards near the entrance to East Close are damaged or missing. Ernie Lowther will repair / replace them. The Parish Council agreed a budget of up to £100 for materials.

12. Request for a grant

- 12.1 A local resident has been working to tidy up the garden near the village entrance on Darlington Road. The work has included removing a significant quantity of builder's rubble that had been tipped down the slope down to the field below the garden
- 12.2 The resident would now like to get the area landscaped to create an improved, wheelchair-accessible village garden.
- 12.3 The following points were made during the discussion:-
- The land is owned by Darlington Borough Council.
 - Darlington Borough Council's Head Gardner and his team have offered to do the planting (but not to provide the plants).
 - It's a lovely idea, but it's a lot of money.
- 12.4 It was agreed to send out a flyer asking villagers for offers of donations in cash and/or effort, and to review the responses before making a decision on providing funding. The Clerk will organise the flyer, and Councillor Schott will be the contact for replies. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

13. Street cleaning

Discussion of this subject was deferred until the next meeting.

14. Land near Pleasant View

Discussion of this subject was deferred until the next meeting.

15. Children's play area

The children's play area between Abbey Road and Stockton Road is in a very poor condition. Some areas are waterlogged. In other areas, the ground is dry and hard. There is a broken bench.

The Parish Council agreed that in its present condition the play area is dangerous.

Councillor Brian Jones will raise this with the relevant officers in Darlington Borough Council.

ACTION: Councillor Brian Jones

16. Grit bin

Discussion of this subject was deferred until the next meeting.

17. Hedges obstructing pavements

Wheelchair access along Stockton Road is being obstructed by hedges and parts of the verge extending across the footpath.

It was agreed to ask Darlington Borough Council to clear the footpath along Stockton Road and to install a drop kerb where the footpath ends at the layby near Stockton Road's junction with the A66.

ACTION: A Mackenzie

18. Blocked drains

Discussion of this subject was deferred until the next meeting.

19. Bollard at the edge of the section of village green at Chapel Row

Ernie Lowther has repaired the wooden bollard on the triangle of village green at the southern end of Chapel Row. The Parish Council approved a payment of £5.17 for materials.

20. World War I airfield monument

20.1 The Clerk reported that the monument will be a 35 kilogram granite plaque rather than a 1.4 tonne granite block. It should arrive within the next week.

20.2 Once the plaque has arrived, the Parish Council will consider where and how to display it; e.g. on a wall or on a purpose-built steel frame.

21. Skip on the village green

21.1 Alastair Mackenzie apologised for a skip that had been put on the village green in front of Mayfield House. The skip was supposed to have been put behind the garage rather than the village green.

21.2 At a future meeting the Parish Council will consider whether to draw up guidelines on what can be put on the village green when work is being done to adjoining properties.

22. Darlington Local Plan

The Parish Council made the following comments on the draft Darlington Borough Local Plan 2016 – 2036:

- Chapter 4 – The Settlement Hierarchy

The Parish Council agrees that Sadberge should be categorised as a Rural Village, and that development in and around Sadberge should be limited to (i) infill and the conversion of existing buildings within the Development Limits and (ii) the delivery of housing to meet clearly defined local needs (as described in paragraph 4.0.12 of the draft Local Plan).

- Chapter 6 – Housing

The Parish Council agrees that development should normally be within the defined Development Limits, and that the Sadberge Development Limits (Map 14) are appropriate.

The Parish Council agrees that Policy H 6 (Rural Exception Sites) is appropriate, and suggests that any survey to identify a need for additional affordable homes in the Parish of Sadberge should be either carried out by the Parish Council or be subject to approval by the Parish Council.

The Parish Council agrees that Policy H 7 (Residential Development in the Countryside) is appropriate.

The Parish Council supports the proposal to construct a new Northern Link Road connecting the A66 east of Darlington to the A1(M) north of Darlington.

23. Planning

The Parish Council approved the following planning applications:-

- 18/00579/ADV Display of a free-standing, non-illuminated advertising hoarding at Penny Petroleum, A66 eastbound.
- 18/00655/FUL Demolition of an existing detached garage, erection of a new garage and replacement of fencing at 12 Beacon Hill Bungalows.

24. Parish Council land and property

Discussion of this subject was deferred until the next meeting.

25. Cleveland Local Councils Association (CLCA)

Discussion of this subject was deferred until the next meeting.

26. Darlington Association of Parish Councils (DAPC)

Discussion of this subject was deferred until the next meeting.

27. Agenda items for the next meeting

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

- Bonfire Night event
- Litter bins

28. 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 11-Sep-2018.

Alastair Mackenzie
Clerk to Sadberge Parish Council

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7th AUGUST 2018.

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	7th August 2018
Inspection carried out by	Councillors Best, Lazenby, Schott 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		✓		Note 2.
Planters beside Hill House Lane		✓		Note 3.
Bollards at the bottom of the bank at the northern edge	✓			
Any other issues		✓		Notes 4, 5.

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	✓			
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	✓			
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		✓		Note 6.
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 7.
Trees	✓			
Hanging basket stand	✓			
Bench near the phone box	✓			
Any other issues				

8. VILLAGE GREEN – TRIANGLE ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF DARLINGTON ROAD	Okay	Problem	Urgent	Note number
Condition of the land	✓			
Tree		✓		Note 8.
Jubilee stone	✓			
Public access defibrillator (and cabinet)	✓			
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. In the fixing at the base of the flagpole, the pins and tubes are worn.

- Note 3. The planters need to have their wood treated, and soil needs to be packed around their bases.
- Note 4. It would be possible for a small child to fall down the gap at the back of the garages opposite Pleasant View.
- Note 5: Along the road leading to Spring Garth, one of the wooden bollards is damaged, two are leaning over and one is loose.
- Note 6. Two of the wooden bars are rotting slightly.
- Note 7. The chainsaw carvings are continuing to deteriorate. There are now large cracks in the wood.
- Note 8. There are some low hanging branches.