

SADBERGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at 6 p.m. on Thursday 16th August 2018 in Sadberge Village Hall

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

In attendance: Councillor Brian Jones Alastair Mackenzie – Clerk

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

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

3. Village garden beside Darlington Road

3.1 The Parish Council considered a request from Margie Thompson for financial support to regenerate the village garden beside Darlington Road near the village hall.

3.2 The following points were made during the discussion:-

- Why was an extra Parish Council meeting called to discuss this subject? Could it not have waited until the meeting on 11-Sep-2018?
Response: The landscaper is available in early September. Missing that opportunity could lead to a long delay.
- At Margie Thompson's request, the Clerk deferred sending out the flyer asking Sadberge residents for donations towards the garden regeneration.
- Darlington Borough Council, which owns the land, has indicated that if the garden regeneration does not go ahead then the area will be laid to grass.
- Millie Scaife, who used to co-ordinate Sadberge's entries for the Northumbria in Bloom competition, supports the regeneration of the garden.
- The Parish Council has sufficient funds to support this project. The question is whether this is an appropriate way to use the money.
- The Parish Council spent £3,450 on the new bench around the tree in the centre of the village.
- Margie Thompson had taken a petition around one part of the village and, in less than an hour, had collected 21 names in support of regenerating the garden.
- Is there a need for a picnic area in that location?
- Would funding the regeneration of this village garden set a precedent for people wishing to create gardens at the other entrances to the village?
- The Parish Council should consider alternative approaches to regenerating the garden. It should be possible to do a great deal for a lot less money.
Response: It is better to do a proper job.
- The Parish Council should have a five-year strategy for improving the village environment rather than considering proposals in isolation.

3.3 The following motion was proposed:-

This Parish Council will provide £3,000 of funding for the regeneration of the village garden at the Darlington Road entrance to the village.

The following amendment was proposed:-

Delete the entire wording and replace it with "This Parish Council will defer a decision on providing funding for the village garden pending a review of the plans for this project and consideration of alternative options for improving the village environment".

/ continued

In a vote, the amendment was defeated by 4 votes to 3. Therefore, the original motion remained on the table.

In a vote, the motion was passed by 4 votes to 3.

The Parish Council will therefore provide £3,000 of funding for the regeneration of the village garden at the Darlington Road entrance to the village.

- 3.4 Margie Thompson will give the Clerk the invoices (made out to "Sadberge Parish Council") and will reimburse the Parish Council for the amount by which the total (including VAT) exceeds £3,000.

ACTION: Margie Thompson

Alastair Mackenzie
Clerk to Sadberge Parish Council

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16th 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.