

SUTTON UPON TERN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Sutton upon Tern Parish Council Annual Parish and Annual Meetings held at 7.30pm on Wednesday the 27th November 2024, at the Festival Drayton Centre.

Present: Cllr Michael Dams (Chair), Cllr Terry Hodge, Cllr James Danks , Cllr Lauren Carey, Cllr Deborah Sambrook and Cllr John Lugg.

Clerk: Graham Bould.

Shropshire Council: Councillor Rob Gittins.

West Mercia Police: Inspector Claire Greenaway and PC Iain McIntosh

RAF Shawbury: Louise Wallace.

One Parishioner

77/24. Welcome, Public and Partner Session.

The Chairman welcomed Members, Parishioners and Partners to the meeting and invited any comments. Louise Wallace from RAF Shawbury highlighted the news from the Station covering night flying, noise complaints,, the free Carol Concert at Shrewsbury, drones and model aircraft and agreed to confirm the availability of RAF trainees at weekends for community projects. Indicating that the list of community projects will be reviewed for 2025.

Inspector Claire Greenaway who headed Policing in North Shropshire indicated that Policing was going through some tough times at present with the public's trust and confidence in Policing under severe strain. West Mercia are therefore working to promote more in the community to address the imbalances. The Inspector took members through a variety of strategic planning and delivery activities across the area including the 'DART' operation targeted on rural theft, operation 'SNAP' targeting vehicles and roads with particular issues. Local concerns around the accommodation at the Four Alls has also been addressed and is being monitored by the Safer Communities Team at Market Drayton including other concerns raised by members at the meeting. One of these concerns focused around the 'Nottingham Knockers' who are door to door sales people and although not a criminal offence if Parishioners are concerned they to ring the operational call centre and to report the activity that some times can be a bit aggressive. In conclusion Inspector Greenaway also recommended that the Parish Council view the 'You Tube' coverage of 'ARKE' and how that particular project address the issues of drugs within the area.

Councillor Rob Gittins highlighted the 'very challenging' finances Shropshire Council continues to grapple with, the continuing contact with Government about the situation as to the likely overspend of 35.1m leaving only a 3.7m for emergencies. There is no further support from the Government and most of the additional grant will need to be used to cover the increase in NI contributions, this also leaves a problem in terms of external providers particularly in Social Care who are likely to increase fees to address their own increases in the living wage and NI contributions. Shropshire Council also remains a mood of 'shock' since the announcement by the Planning Inspector to suspend the local planning process with no indication as to why. The Shirehall is due to be closed with the authority moving it's base to the vacated Guild Hall in Shrewsbury owned by Shropshire Council and vacated by the University. The A529 works are progressing well.

The Chairman thanked the Partners present for their updates and then moved onto the next item of business.

78/24. Apologies: Cllr John Tomkinson (work commitments), Cllr Esta Jane Middling has resigned due to family commitments creating a casual vacancy that would be passed to Shropshire Council, the Parish Council placed on record their appreciation of all the input into matter across the area over several years.

79/24. Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary or any other Interests and Dispensations: None

80/24. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on the Wednesday 25th September 2024.: Cllr Lauren Carey proposed and Cllr Deborah Sambrook seconded the minutes of the 25th September 2024 as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Members agreed the minutes unanimously and the Chair signed the minutes in the presents of Councillors.

81/24. Co-options: The Parish Council have not received any potential candidates for co-option. Members were reminded that there will be Parish Council Elections in May 2025.

82/24. Clerks Report: The Clerk highlighted a number of items from their report. Members agreed to monitor the situation in terms of bank and any debris that may fall and build up around the Victorian bench on Sutton Lane. This to be report back at the future meetings and potential works to overcome the problems. Two different leaflets were then circulated for delivery across the parish covering the topics of 'community resilience' , 'recruitment for the Community led Housing Project with STAR' and 'the Community Transport Project under development with North Salop Wheelers'.

83/24. Additional bins: Members agreed, subject to discussions with the Golf Club that an additional bin be placed close to the new bench and adjoining right of way.

84/24. Community Resilience updates: Cllr John Lugg took members through a recent online briefing update by the authorities around community resilience. In doing so members raised some series concerns about what may be expected of volunteers involved in Parish Councils if the full range of initiative were adopted. Members agreed that the 'light weight' package of 'do-able' projects should be continued like the information campaigns already underway through leaflets and the social media sites with built in reviews of the campaigns. Cllr John Lugg agreed to take a look at some community risk assessments that relate to 'flooding', 'snow' and 'mud on the roads' to contribute further to the Parish Councils understanding of local issues. The Clerk will also request the 'Strategic Plan' from Angela Hollaway the Emergency Planning Officer who attended the last meeting and Councillor Rob Gittins would raise the whole subject at Shropshire Council level.

85/24. Defibrillators update: The Clerk updated the Parish Council on progress with the new defibrillator. The unit has been delivered and a site meeting with the proprietor of the Adastra is in the process of being arranged.

86/24. Web site/social media updates: Cllr Lauren Carey updated the Parish Council on the variety of uploads that have been undertaken onto the sites. Members placed on record their thanks for the work undertaken on their behalf.

87/24. Planning Applications:

24/03087/EIA: Mineral extraction of sand and gravel to form a Northwest extension of the former Tern Hill Quarry with phased restoration using imported inert material to reinstate agricultural land after operations with solar development. **Object.**

24/04278/FUL: Greenaway, Sandy Lane, Pell Wall, single storey extension rear/side, demolition of existing outbuildings.

No Objections.

24/04417/VAR: 18, Garden City, Tern Hill, extension replacement/removal of boundary fence variation of conditions 2 & 3.

No Objections.

88/24. Outside bodies and any courses attended – reports: A replacement for the Northern Area SALC committee is still required, Community Resilience – development of a leaflet, see above and RAF Shawbury are undertaking to circulated a newsletter covering noise complaints.

89/24. Finance and Audit Matters: The following payments were agreed and cheques signed for the following Parish Council commitments.

Number	Name	Amount
100497	Festival Drayton (room hire)	£30.00
100498	David Probert (cleaning bus shelter)	£65.00
100499	North Salop Wheelers Community Bus Project (grant)	£250.00
100500	HMRC (PAYE)	£245.60
100501	Q3 Clerks Salary (salary)	£1,332.34
100502	SP Services reimbursement (AED starter kit)	£22.01
100503	Clerks expenses (expenses)	£158.90
100504	DM Payroll Services Ltd (payroll)	£50.00
DD	SSE (September)	£22.10
DD	SSE (October)	£22.82

90/24. Highways & Footpaths.

1. Update on VAS signs data in Woodseaves: Councillor Rob Gittins agreed to follow up in terms of the data delay.
2. A41 joint working group: Councillor Rob Gittins indicated that the resources to fund the number plate cameras is still available just awaiting the completion of the design works being undertaken by Telford and Wrekin Council on behalf of all partners.
3. Colehurst: Disappointment was expressed at the delay to the improvements to Colehurst scheduled for works this year due to Shropshire Council cut backs. Councillor Rob Gittins indicated he would press for the project to be reinstated in future years.
4. Rights of Way Working Groups report back: Cllr Michael Dams is following up with the local Scouts to help with practical actions and litter picking.
5. Fly tipping campaigns: Members to monitor the locations.
6. Signs 'Not Suitable for HGV's' progress: Signs have been constructed awaiting for the return of Cllr J Tomkinson for a working party to erect the signs within the parish.

91/24. Items for inclusion on future agendas: Update on planned verge and hedge maintenance at Shropshire Council within the parish, Councillor Rob Gittins. Canal towpath blocked and flooding. Members are also able to contact the Clerk a fortnight before the next meeting with any items for the agenda prior to circulation.

The meeting then closed at 21.06pm

Signed:

Chairman.

Date: 22nd January 2025