

**SUTTON WALDRON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 - held at The Village Hall.**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Chairman: David Smith  
Councillors: John Ellis, Iain McNeil & Claire Aartsen  
Dorset Councillor: Jane Somper  
Clerk: Sam Smith  
Residents: Gill Samways, Christl Pearson, Martin Jelbart, Ian Pinder,  
Jonathan Pinder, Jane McNeil, Ann England, Dick Hood.

**08/09/01 Apologies for absence:** Cllr Sandy Millard and Alan Masher sent their apologies ahead of the meeting.

**08/09/02 Declarations of Interest:** there were no declarations of interest.

**08/09/03 Approval of Minutes:** the minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May 2021 were unanimously approved.

**08/09/04 Matters Arising:**

- a. **Highways** – Cllr Jane Somper is currently carrying out a survey across the Ward with regards to the condition of the local roads & any maintenance that is required. Cllr Somper has also videoed the village drainage issues in ready for her meeting with the DC Highways team. The video was made before it rained to indicate that the flood water is not a rain issue. The drains themselves seem to be working well (when the water reaches them) as DC Highways have recently flushed them out. Sutton Hill has recently been resurfaced and it was noted that the potholes are already re appearing, even although they have now been filled twice. DC Highways has been contacted about the verge creep on village road, the tarmac area is getting smaller and smaller. Cllr Somper stated that a lot of local lanes are like this, many worse than in Sutton Waldron.
- b. **Community Speed Watch** – this was put on pause due to Covid, but the project is now moving forward again. Gill Samways the co ordinator has had 7 volunteers come forward and they are now waiting for their training. The PC agreed to fund the £320 needed for the SW kit speed gun & hi viz jackets etc. Cllr Smith thanked Gill for all her hard work to date.

**08/09/05 Correspondence/Other Parish Matters:**

- a. **Report from Dorset Councillor** – Cllr Somper has circulated a report in advance to Cllrs by email. DC have not yet resumed face to face council meetings. The council information centre in Blandford has now re opened. DC Planning are currently under immense pressure with many land searches, enforcement & planning applications awaiting decisions. This is mainly due to an increase in building works after the Covid lockdown. There is a Consultation currently ongoing with regards to future bus services, this can be found on the DC website. Waste services are under strain due to staff shortages, illness & the HGV driver shortage. General waste & recycling collections will be given priority. The garden waste collection maybe be suspended if needed but payments will be re imbursed if there is a disruption to the service. The dog bin at Collyers Brook is overflowing and the general waste bin now has dog waste in it too. The Clerk will report this matter to DC. There is a meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September in Fontmell Magna with the new Police Crime Commissioner, the PC Chairman will attend along with the Speed Watch coordinator.
- b. **Inspection of The Spinney, Bus Shelter & Telephone Box** - in accordance with the Risk Management Policy the Chairman confirmed The Spinney, the Bus Shelter and the Telephone Box had been inspected. The Spinney needs some work, the overgrowth needs cutting back and weeds removed, volunteers are needed. The bus shelter now has a signage up after a man was seen urinating in it. The telephone box has recently been renovated by Cllr McNeil and David Macdonald. Cllr McNeil has also repaired the noticeboard at the Village Hall.

- c. **Code of Conduct** – DC have adopted a new Code of Conduct. DAPTC have recommended that PCs should also adopt the DC Code of Conduct. All Cllrs agreed to adopt this. The 'Register of Interest' process for Cllrs is going digital, links will be sent out soon via email for Cllrs to complete the forms.
- d. **PC meeting dates for 2022** – it was agreed to try to stick to same pattern of Wednesdays as 2021. The December 2022 meeting will be on the 7<sup>th</sup> to avoid an Xmas lunch clash.
- e. **Defibrillator** – progress had been delayed due to the Covid lockdown. A small committee had been set up but 2 of its members are now unable to carry on so new volunteers are needed. It has already been agreed to purchase 1 defibrillator for the village. The PC will take responsibility for the equipment and the associated maintenance costs. The funds for the purchase need to be raised.
- f. **Road speed signs** – the problem of cars speeding on the narrow bend at end of village continues. As well as the risk of an accident this is also dangerous to pedestrians walking in the road. In the past, DC Highways has been approached with regards to extending the village speed limit, but at a cost to the PC of over £3,000 this was deemed too expensive a cost to bear. It was agreed to erect some unofficial warning signs of our own. The landowner has agreed for the signs to go on private land. A sign stating 'oncoming traffic' was favoured. The PC agreed the £250 approx cost which will come from reserves.

**08/09/06 Planning Applications:**

- a. **P/CLE/2021/00771 Cleale House, The Street, DT11 8NZ** – certificate of lawfulness to regularise discrepancies between the built development & the approved development. 2/2009/0716/PNG - No objection from the PC
- b. **P/HOU/2021/01980 Waldron, The Street DT11 8NZ** – Install dormer to rear of property. The issue of the potential overlooking of a neighbouring garden/property was raised by a member of the public. It was highlighted that DC Planning are no longer sending out letters to inform neighbours of nearby works. The lack of a site notice was also noted. It was agreed that the PC would express concern re the overlooking issue and the lack of a site notice.

**08/09/07 Finance:**

- a. **Bank and Cash Balance** – the reconciled bank and cash balance as of 8<sup>th</sup> Sept 2021 was **£3,550.69**
- b. **Bills to be paid** – it was agreed that the following should be paid:  
S Smith **£365.34** (June, July, August salary & expenses)  
**Bills paid since the last meeting** –  
Vision ICT **£150.00** website hosting & support 2021/22
- c. **Precept planning for 2022** – Cllrs were asked to think ahead, do we need to make any changes to the precept amount for 2022/23? It was agreed that £100 would put set a side in the budget for the community speed watch on going costs & £200 for road safety matters.

**08/09/08 AOB:** in FM the footpath at Parsons Hollow by the bungalow needs some attention, especially the nettles. The Clerk will report to Dorset Countryside.

**08/09/09 Reports:**

- a. **Church** – estimates are being sought for church roof repairs. A christening and funeral are coming up. The Church is now fully open after the Covid closure.
- b. **Village Hall** – Jane McNeil reported that the Village Hall is now fully open. The hall has been re decorated and the building repaired. The village Xmas lunch is on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2021
- c. **Footpaths** – Dick Hood stated that a stile was broken by the stream, but it was fixed by the landowner within 24hrs of being reported.

**Date of next meeting:** the next meeting will be at 7.30pm on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December 2021.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm.

Signed by the Chairman ..... Date.....