

MINUTES OF SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN
THE READING ROOM ON MONDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2008 AT 8.00 PM

Members of the Council Present: Peter Lee (Chairman), Melvyn Hill, Alison Maddigan, Dan Rose, Patricia Stuart-Mogg (Clerk)

Member of the Public: 18 **Also in attendance:** Cllrs. John Holdich and Diane Lamb

Apologies: Robbie Reid, Mr & Mrs Gardener

	Action
<p>1. Declaration of Interest: None</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of the Last Meeting – 10 December 2007 These were circulated, agreed to be a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
<p>3. Matters arising from those Minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dog Litter Bins</i> – The Chairman advised that an objection had been noted to the siting of a dog bin on the footpath leading to the Recreation area. It was strongly viewed by members of the Council that the aim of the bins is to encourage people to remove their dog litter. It was noted that some residents are guilty of not clearing up after their dogs. It was agreed that this initiative should be pursued. 	Clerk
<p>4. Matters arising from the Parish Meeting: The Parish Council reviewed the proposals considered at the Parish Meeting. Discussion ensued and it was unanimously resolved to pursue the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A request for a Special Speed Order for 20mph within the village. • 'Access Unsuitable for HGV' sign • Repositioning 30mph sign before houses are reached. • Repositioning 'No through road' sign before houses are reached. <p>The improvements at Manor Road and Nene Way were discussed. It was viewed that the level of priority at this junction should be increased by PCC Highways before a fatality occurred. Three way resourcing should be investigated with funding provision from Ward Councillors, PCC Highways and Parish Council. DR agreed to offer a quotation for consideration. Members agreed to support and pursue the initiative of three way funding.</p>	Clerk
<p>5. Parish Council Vacancy: The Chairman advised that Mrs. Alison Maddigan had tendered her resignation, after a noble stint of 10 years, to concentrate on family and other community commitments. The Parish Council thanked her for all the valuable time and effort as a former Parish Clerk which was greatly appreciated. A notice regarding the vacancy has been posted on the Notice Board. Following the closure date the Parish Council will consider the necessary steps to fill the vacancy .</p>	Clerk
<p>6. Burial Ground Maintenance Responsibility: AM – declared a prejudicial interest as member of the Parochial Church Council and took no part in the decision. MH reported that the Burial Ground has been the responsibility of the Parochial Church Council since the land was conveyed to them some 80 years ago. Following a request by the Parochial Church Council, the Parish Council agreed to assume responsibility for the cost of grass cutting, of which it recovered 75% from the City Council included within the precept. The Parish Council was then asked whether it could include additional funds towards hedge cutting twice a year. A further request was made by the Parochial Church Council for the Parish Council to meet the cost of repairs to the post and gate entrance to the burial ground, at a cost of £243.43. No grant assistance is available to the Parish Council towards this cost and would have to be met from Parish Council Reserves under the provision of Sec. 137 of the LGA 1972. It was believed the Parochial Church Council may be seeking yet more financial assistance towards costs incurred in removing a fallen tree from the burial ground, which again would need to be met from Reserves under Sec. 137. A meeting was held with the Vicar on 1 February to discuss the position in general and attempt to formalise an agreement regarding future maintenance of the burial ground. The Parish Council discussed the proposals and agreed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To pay the cost to pay the 'one off' cost of repairs to the gate post at £243.43. 	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a request for assistance is received from the Parochial Church Council towards the clearance of the fallen tree then MH is authorised to pay a maximum contribution of £50. • The Parish Council will include in its future Budget under Burial Ground Maintenance the anticipated cost for grass cutting, hedge and tree trimming. The Parish Council would NOT, however, accept responsibility for the cost(s) of any major tree surgery or any felling work. 	MH
<p>7. Future Community use of the Church: Designs are being pursued with the architect. Peterborough City Council has been approached in respect of the change of use. Various fund raising events are scheduled during June and a coordinator is being sought to organise the functions. Public liability insurance and licensing will need to be arranged for these events.</p>	
<p>8. Planning Applications & Tree Surgery a. <i>Conservatory at Willowhayne, The Drift</i> – (DR declared a personal interest). The conservatory is not visible from The Drift and the design is in keeping with the house. The Parish Council raised no objections.</p>	Clerk
<p>9. Finance: a. <i>Hire of Parish lands 2008 / 2009</i> Two tenders had been received in respect of the North and South Allotments – South Allotment tender of £410 and North Allotment tender £190.00. The Chairman proposed the acceptance of the bids submitted which was seconded by DR and agreed. All agreements will be finalised by March. b. <i>Financial Statement</i> MH presented the Financial Report as at 31 January 2008 to the Council which was noted and accepted. c. <i>Accounts for Payments:</i> Anglian Water £27.84 P. Stuart-Mogg (Clerk's Salary) £110.28 & £169.74 Post Office (Tax) £31.02 Newflame (Maintenance) £63.44 P Gatheral (Rec. Ground) £587.50 K. Garrett (maintenance) £5.99 The above payments were agreed and approved.</p>	MH MH
<p>10. Correspondence Received: a. <i>Rural Neighbourhood Police Constable</i> expressed a wish to attend a future Parish Council meeting. b. <i>CPALC Bulletin</i> with details of new email addresses</p>	
<p>11. Matters for consideration: a. <i>Utility Bills:</i> MH stated that the standing charge for an electricity supply to the Reading Room represented over 90% of the total annual cost. The actual electricity consumed was therefore less than 10% and efforts were being directed towards gaining a reduction in the standing charge. The report was noted.</p>	
<p>12. Date of the Next Meeting: Monday 21 April 2008</p>	