

SUTTON UPON TERN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Sutton upon Tern Parish Council Meetings held at 7.30pm on Wednesday the 26th July 2023, at the Festival Drayton Centre.

Present: Cllr Michael Dams (Chair) , Cllr Terence Hodge, Cllr James Danks, Cllr Lauren Carey, Cllr Esta Jane Middling, Cllr Catherine Morgan and Cllr John Tomkinson .

Clerk: Graham Bould.

In attendance: Warrant Officer Kevin Morley, RAF Shawbury and Shropshire Councillor Rob Gittins

Fourteen Parishioners present

43/23. Welcome, Public and Partner Session: The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting and invited any comments. Every Parishioners who spoke raised a number of valued planning objections to the Gypsy/Travellers planning application later on the agenda. After standing orders had been extended and suspended for a short period the objections were captured and agreed at minute 51/23 set out below. Councillor Rob Gittins also addressed many of the points raised by Parishioners with reference to the application on the A529 and indicated as local member that a request has been made to call the application in. Warrant Officer Kevin Morley then updated the Parish Council on activity from the Station. Night-flying would commence again on the 7th August 2023, details of the Hi-Viz for horse riders campaign can be found at ; and Aries Magazine can be found on the following links SHY-BeseenBeSafer@mod.gov.uk, <https://www.rafmags.co.uk>. The Station will also be organising a day for families of personnel who work at RAF Shawbury on the 10th August 2023 including jets. The email report would be circulated to members. There being no further items the Chairman thanked the Parishioners present and partners for their input and moved onto the next item of business.

44/23. To formally co-opt any members to the Parish Council: Members agreed to co-opt Mr John Lugg as a Parish Councillor and Cllr T Hodge agreed to stand for the position of Vice Chair with unanimous support by members.

45/23. Apologies:Cllr Allison Jackson (agreed a further 3 months leave of absence due to illness).

46/23. Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary or any other Interests and Dispensations: None

47/23. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on the Wednesday 24th May 2023: Cllr E J Middling proposed and Cllr C Morgan seconded the minutes of the 24th May 2023 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.

48/23. Clerks Report: The Clerk highlighted a number of items from their report. The risk assessment for third party venue hire was agreed. In terms of the bench and second linear long meadow verge pilot, the site between the new footpath and hedge line through Woodeaves on the A529 was agreed as a potential site. The fabricators based in Market Drayton would be follow up for a firm quote for a metal bench dedicated to Queen Elizabeth II 1926 – 2022, also to include the EIIR crown motif at either end of the lettering. In terms of the new online system for Neighbourhood Projects and Place Plans an updated extensive list would be submitted on line and presented to the next meeting. The next stage for the Community led Housing working group is to visit other sites within Shropshire prior to the next meeting later in the year.

49/23. Rights of Way Working Groups report: Cllr M Dams updated the members on the progress of the working group. Two additional gates have been provided, the plan is to develop further gates on the network. Several Parishioners at the meeting signed up to become involved in the working group.

50/23. Web site/social media updates: Cllr L Carey highlighted that meeting reminders are published on both the web site and social media platforms

51/23. Planning Applications.

23//02227/FUL: 6, Sandy Lane, Pell Wall – local needs dwelling – Very Strong Support.

23/02620/CPE: The Old Barn, Buningsdale. (for information only)

23/02652/FUL: Land East of A529: change of use of land to Gypsy/Traveller site for 3 family pitches to include the erection of amenity building improvement of access and installation of bio-disc sewage treatment plant. That Sutton upon Tern Parish Council therefore formally OBJECTS to the above planning application on the following grounds:

- 1. National Policy - Planning Policy for Travellers sites: Policy C:14 (p4)** When assessing the suitability of sites in rural or semi-rural settings, local planning authorities should ensure that the scale of such sites does not dominate the nearest settled community. The Parish Council is concerned that the application site breaches this policy as the footprint of a Gypsy/Travellers site in the proposed location would dominate Woodseaves.

2. Shropshire Local Development Framework: Policy CS12 Gypsy and Traveller Provision

(p89) Supporting suitable development proposals for small exception sites (under 5 pitches) in accordance with Policy CS5, where a strong local connection is demonstrated; Ensuring that all sites are reasonably accessible to services and facilities The Parish Council has seen no evidence of local connection or local need in terms of the application and consider that there are vacancies within other sites in close proximity to Woodseaves that could accommodate the number required within this application. The Parish Council would also argue that Woodseaves does not have reasonable access to services and facilities as required by the policy.

3. **Scale:** The scale of the accommodation block has more or less the same footprint of the previous bungalow application refusal (22/05367/FUL). Where the refusal reasoning detailed as follows. "6.3.4 In view of the above the size of the dwelling and the layout of the site is not considered appropriate and will have an unacceptable impact on the character and appearance of the area. As such this is contrary to policies CS5, CS6, CS11, MD2 and The SPD on the Type and Affordability of Housing of the Shropshire LDF and the NPPF." Therefore the Parish Council believe the size of the amenity building plus an additional 6 caravans and 8 parking spaces will remain inappropriate and will have a more detrimental impact on the character and appearance on the area.
4. **Access:** The Parish Council remains very concerned about the access point onto a busy road with a number of 'near misses' not reported through to the Police and Highway Authority by local Parishioners. This is also compounded by the potential number of cars, commercial vehicles, caravans and horse drawn vehicles parked on and accessing/egressing the site onto a busy road. On balance the Parish Council considers that there are no social, economic or environmental benefits specific to this development which outweigh either the harm associated with the incursion of this built development into the rural hinterland unnecessarily impacting on the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside.
5. **Ecology:** The Parish Council are concerned that no Ecology Report has been commissioned for this application to establish any migratory routes or other colonies in terms of the great created newt at the site. Which we believe are present in nearby ponds, as confirmed by Parishioners.
6. **Drainage:** The Parish Council are also concerned that the results of trial holes to establish that the proposed drainage field will be above standing water are not available as Parishioners have informed the Parish Council of local flooding and have highlighted the 'camber' on the field that will aggravate future flooding patterns as Climate Change conditions continue to produce highs and lows in terms of rain patterns that will start to become more the 'norm' in the near future.
7. **Calling in the Application:** The Parish Council supports the local Shropshire Councillor Rob Gittins request that this application is called in for a committee discussion/decision and would be available to send representation from the Parish Council to speak at any said planning meeting against the application.

52/23. Street Lights/Maintenance/repairs; opportunity to report any items requiring attention: None to report, members agreed to re-locate this item into the Clerks report.

53/23. Outside bodies and any courses attended: Nothing to report.

54/23. Finance and Audit Matters.

1. The following payments were agreed and cheques signed for the following Parish Council commitments.

Number	Name	Amount
100457	Buntingsdale Primary School (environmental project grant)	£500.00
100458	Festival Drayton (room hire x 2)	£37.50
100459	DM Payroll Services Ltd (payroll)	£50.00
100460	Clerks expenses (expenses)	£58.50
DD	SWALEC (June)	£47.19
DD	SWALEC (July)	£48.16

55/23. Highways & Footpaths: Concern was expressed that curbs and signs had been thrown into hedges along the A529, the Parishioners raising the concerns was advised to report the concerns through fix my street.

Items for inclusion on future agendas. Police Speed checks and flooding on Sutton Lane (golf course) and Colehurst.

The meeting then closed at 21.00pm

Signed:

Chairman.

Date: 27th September 2023