

SUTTON UPON TERN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Sutton upon Tern Parish Council Annual Meetings held at 7.30pm on Wednesday the 27th May 2026, at the Festival Drayton Centre.

Present: Cllr Michael Dams, Cllr Terry Hodge, Cllr Lauren Carey, Cllr John Lugg, Cllr Deborah Sambrook, Cllr Rachel Kilgallon and Cllr Iana Jacobson.

Clerk: Graham Bould.

Partners: Shropshire Councillor Neil Bentley

Annual Parish Meeting.

30/26. 1. Welcome, Public and Partner Session: The Chairman welcomed Members and Shropshire Councillor Neil Bentley to the meeting there being no Parishioners present moved onto the next item of business.

30/26.2. Report from the Chair 25/26: "The last 12 months have been another busy year, and I would like to thank our councillors for all their hard work. We were also pleased to welcome Iana as a new councillor this year, giving Buntingsdale representation and bringing the council to its full complement. Our projects have included the continuation of our litter-picking events. This year, we cleared the A529 from the Four Alls towards Market Drayton, removing more than 13 bags of litter. We aim to revisit this stretch at least twice a year. With the Shropshire Local Plan restarting, and with Graham's support, we have made progress in updating the joint parish councils' submission for the redevelopment of Clive Barracks, working alongside Stoke upon Tern Parish Council. We have also become members of the Market Drayton and Rural Parishes Community Covenant, which is helping to strengthen the submission by focusing on the wider area and ensuring the site is properly integrated into its setting. The community-led housing working group has also made progress, with Shropshire Town and Rural Housing Association now narrowing down the options for the most suitable site. We also saw the successful training and establishment of our Community Speed Watch group. The group will monitor two locations on the A529: at Hillside near the top of Sutton Lane, and at the Cheswardine Haywood Lane junction. One event has been carried out so far, during which five vehicles were recorded travelling in excess of 45 mph. More regular sessions will be held in the coming year. Finally, I would like to extend my thanks to our clerk, Graham, particularly for all his hard work in bringing together the Clive Barracks proposal document. I would also like to thank our partners for their ongoing help and support over the last 12 months."

30/26.3. Partner Reports: Shropshire Councillor Neil Bentley updated members on activity at Shropshire Council with a particular focus on the appointment of the new Chief Officer and their willingness to visit every division across the county. In terms of Cheswardine the Chairman from each of the Parish Councils would be invited to attend. The speed cameras on the A41 still remain under active discussions with all the parties to try and find a solution. The emptying of bins remains a concern along with some of the misleading information generated via fix my street. Members raised the motorcycling at Buntingsdale and overnight stays. The Councillor also indicated that a number of the highway functions have been taken back in house by Shropshire Council in order to deliver a better service which included the introduction of pot hole inspectors. An additional question was also raised as to regularity of verges cutting during the year. The Chairman thanked Shropshire Councillor Neil Bentley for his update and moved onto the next item of business for which the Vice Chairman took the chair.

31/26: Election of Chairperson: Cllr Carey proposed and Cllr Lugg seconded Cllr Dams to serve as as Chairman for 26/27 and members unanimously supported the proposal.

32/26: Election of Vice Chairperson: Cllr Sambrook proposed and Cllr Carey seconded Cllr Hodge to serve as as Vice Chairman for 26/27 and members unanimously supported the proposal.

33/26: To confirm membership of working groups: Members agreed the continuation of the membership for the following workshops. Rights of Way, Cllrs Dams, Hodge and Lugg. Community led Housing: Cllrs Dams, Danks, Lugg and Tomkinson.

34/26: Election of other offices: Members agreed Cllrs Dams and Jacobson to represent the Parish Council on the Area Committee of SALC and the Market Drayton and Rural Parishes Covenant.

35/26. Apologies: Cllr Tomkinson and Steve Fulcher - Market Drayton Golf Club (work commitments), RAF Shawbury-Flying Officer Sam Pickett (leave). Members also agree to a six months leave of absence for Cllr Danks to allow the Chairman and Clerk to make direct contact and report back on attendance.

36/26. Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary or any other Interests and Dispensations: None and two members indicated they are updating their declarations directly with Shropshire Council.

37/26. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on the Wednesday 27th March 2026: Cllr Sambrook proposed and Cllr Jacobson seconded the minutes of the 27th March 2026 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.

38/26. Clerks Report: The Clerk updated members on the contents of their report as there remains a number of carry forward items related to actions for others. It was noted that the Environmental Maintenance Grant (EMG) 26/27 had been successful. There have been no applications for a replacement Clerk. The next steps forward are for the Officers of each Parish Council to raise the provision of a potential locum clerk with SALC.

39/26. Local Plan – Strategic Development Site Tern Hill: The Chairman updated the Parish Council on the consultation underway through the Market Drayton and Rural Parishes Covenant to help improve the plan. The session has been organised for the 3rd June 2026 1pm to 3pm at Festival Drayton. The meeting then focused an extensive discussion upon the new population and their needs once created at Tern Hill.

40/26. Devolved Services: Members noted the report and highlighted that much would depend on how Market Drayton Town Council engage with the activity in the future. The next meeting for further discussions with the surrounding Parish Councils is scheduled for the 17th June 2026 7.30pm at Stoke on Tern Parish Hall, Langley Dale for which a separate agenda would be circulated.

41/26. Nature Recovery Booklet: The Chairman is awaiting input from Cllr Danks in terms of the cubs/scouts to then complete the a profile of potential projects to reach out the Grove School in Market Drayton and the local Cubs and Scouts. This action is therefore carried forward.

42/26: Community Speed Watch: Those members involved report a very successful session at the A529 with a rota being established for different times and locations along the road.

43/26. Web site/social media updates - including updates on emails: Cllr Carey indicated that there are no concerns at present , two members still need to register their gov.uk email address.

44/25. Planning Applications.

26/01093/PMBPA: Proposed residential barn conversion Hall Farm Tern Hill. **No Objections**

25/01161/OUT: Reserved matters plot 1 proposed residential development Tern Hill Hall. **No Comments**

26/01625/FUL: 9, Crickmerry, Market Drayton two storey extension. **No Objections**

26/01728/CPE: Land South of Hollins Lane, Woodseaves Lawful Certificate, commencement of granted permission 23/00223/FUL for Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) compound. **For Information Only.**

45/26. Finance and Audit Matters:

1. Members approved the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2025/26 as set out by the Clerk for external audit submission.

2. The payments set out below were agreed and cheques signed for the following Parish Council commitments. The bank statement stands at £16,545.70 prior to the commitments set out below. The setting up of internet banking is still being pursued by the Chairman with HSBC. It was further agreed that Cllr T Hodge becomes a signature for the account.

Number	Name	Amount	Acts
100539	Susan Hartland (internal audit)	£50.00	LGA 1972
100540	Zurich Municipal (insurance)	£383.26	LGA 1972
100541	David Probert (A529 footpath clearance x2)	£3,374.00	LGA 1972

100542	Festival Drayton (room hire)	£22.50	LGA 1972
100543	HMRC (PAYE)	£202.80	LGA 1972
100544	Clerks Salary Q1 (salary)	£899.60	LGA 1972
100545	SALC (fees)	£576.74	LGA 1972
DD	HSBC (March charges)	£3.00	LGA 1972
DD	HugoFox (April charges)	£23.99	LGA 1972
DD	HugoFox (10 emails account April)	£20.99	LGA 1972

46/26. Highways & Footpaths.

1. Rights of Way (ROW) Working Group updates. Dates to be arranged.
2. Bottle/rubbish clean up A529 & Sutton: 13 bags of litter collected.

47/26. Items for inclusion on future agendas: None.

The meeting then closed at 20.40pm

Signed:

Chairman.

Date: 29th July 2026