

Sutton upon Derwent Parish Council

Chair: Stuart Mowbray Deputy Chair: Alex Patient

Minutes of the meeting of Sutton upon Derwent Parish Council held on Monday 12th May 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Sutton upon Derwent.

Present:

Parish Councillors Cllrs S Mowbray (Chair), A Patient, D Marini

Ward Councillors No Ward Cllrs in attendance

Clerk Andrew Crabbe

Date of Meeting Monday, 12th May 2025

Time of Meeting 1930

Part 1 Procedural Matters

1 Present and Apologies (Chair to confirm quorum)

Chair noted an apology from Cllr Davison

Resolved Chair opened meeting, confirmed meeting was quorate and welcomed all in attendance.

2 Declarations of Interest – any new or concerning matters on this month’s agenda (*Chair*)

Resolved No declarations were made relevant to the meeting

3 Approval of the previous months minutes (*Chair*)

Chair asked Cllrs if they had read and agreed with the minutes / summary notes for the March meeting and if so, could these be approved as agreed.

Ongoing Clerk noted and apologised that the minutes had been delayed and Chair agreed to give Cllrs a few days to review this.

4 Report from Ward Cllrs (If in attendance)

Resolved Cllrs noted that no Ward Cllrs were present and Chair expressed disappointment with this as it was hoped they could have helped with any updates

5 To hear any matters raised by attending Parishioners (10 minutes maximum)

Chair noted two members of public in attendance who they were in attendance to speak on flooding issues in the village- the key points are as follows:

- Resident(s) noted that they had received a copy of the report from Nathan, but were disappointed at a lot of the content... felt that the report suggested the recent flooding was a ‘one off’, not realising that this has been regular event previously and also that the report did not suggest any solutions / way forwards
- All agreed that water was pooling in the fields and without measures to deal with this, it would eventually come down into the village
- Resident was asked “what would you want the Parish Council to do... resident responded that he had originally thought that the Parish Council had some influence over Harborough Hall, however he accepted that the Parish Council had done all it could and was not to blame in this matter..... resident continued that it was evident to him that it was the farmer who was responsible for the flood water coming into the village from his field, and question why had ERYC not dealt with this. Chair noted that the Parish Council had no remit to enforce anything – however the land was actually owned by the Crown and he felt that they should be involved going forwards. They were the body most likely to get the farmer to put in anti-flooding measures on the field.

- The other factor was improving the pipework to be able to cope with the flood water – Opening the pipework at Harborough Hall was likely to improve the capacity of the system to cope with flood water as at the moment water cannot get thro the current system due to the size of the pipes.... it was still hoped that both the drainage board and ERYC may help with this cost – Cllrs noted that a funding meeting was to be held in June... Nathan will speak to the meeting but there was no guarantees and it was noted that any financial support would be a matter of ‘goodwill payments’
- Resident(s) asked why wasn’t the farmer funding the pipes and his concerns were that the insurance company would no longer provide cover... the insurance wanted some reassurance that flooding would not happened again and with this in mind the resident understood the insurers were proposing to approach the farmer.
- All agreed that the fact the insurers were now involved could be a good thing.... the matter now had to be taken up by someone with a legal background and it was felt that the insurance company were the ones who had the resources to apply legal considerations – there was a question if there were fault under laws of nuisance.
- Chair advised that he wanted the resident to take away from the meeting that this was not a matter just affecting a few people.... the flooding could potentially impact on everyone if the village gained a reputation of flooding... it was also agreed that the Parish Council would speak to Nathan to see if he will speak to farmer
- Also, Cllrs noted that at least one other resident had mentioned that his insurance as increased due to the recent floods three times increase and this was due to the flooding – potentially this was a much bigger problem which would affect many villagers, even if their properties had not suffered flooding in the next few years

As a point of procedure the residents left the meeting at this point

6. Financial Report and Accounts (Clerk)

Clerk noted he had submitted the amended mandate, but had not heard back from Barclays so not able to produce a monthly report

7. Planning applications (All)

Resolved Clerk noted no applications had been received

To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting that are not elsewhere on the Agenda:

2.1 Ongoing Matters

Drainage and Flooding – *Cllrs to be updated on any developments with regard to concerns for flooding the village and any remedial measures being taken*

Resolved Cllrs noted that this matter had been fully discussed earlier in the meeting

Parish Councillor Vacancies – *following the confirmation from ERYC of no requirement for an election, Cllrs to be updated on co-option process and how the Parish Council can attract new Cllrs.*

Ongoing Cllrs discussed at length, noting there had been no interest from the notices posted. It was felt that best approach would be for Cllrs themselves to approach individuals who they considered were suitable

VE Day 80th Anniversary – *Cllrs to be debriefed on the VE Commemorations in the village*

Resolved Cllrs noted that the celebrations had been a success and Cllrs Marini was thanked for all her work with this.

Road Safety issues at the school – *Cllrs to be updated on concerns for safety at the school*

Resolved Cllrs noted there was no further update on this matter – new markings were planned for outside of the school

Speeding – Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) – *Cllrs to be updated on proposed introduction of SIDs in the village*

Ongoing Cllrs noted no update on this item as meetings of the Group had not been held due to sickness - matter deferred to the June meeting.

Children's Playing Field – *Cllrs to discuss any updates or news on the maintenance and grant funding relating to the field including request from the Chair of the Village Hall to hold events on the field – see email 15 April 2025*

Ongoing Cllrs noted that the work was due to commence the week of the meeting. Cllrs agreed that a formal opening of the site should be organised and the school should be invited. Clerk suggested that he should contact the school and introduce himself – going forwards he would expect Cllrs to hand over more work as his approach was as paid official he should do the work whilst Cllrs made the decisions

Cllrs also noted correspondence from the Village hall asking for permission for Beacon Field to be used for two events, as below

- Sunday 6th July permission for the Village Hall, School, PTA and the Friends of Sutton School to hold the Village Fete on Beacon Green.
- Sunday August 17th Classic Car show organised by Sutton Upon Derwent Village Hall on Beacon Green

Resolved Cllrs approved the request for both events and the Clerk should contact the Village Hall Committee to confirm this.

2.2 New Matters

Logo or Motif for the Parish Council – *Cllrs to consider a recommendation that the Parish Council introduces an unique, identifying logo for the Parish Council to be used on all official documentation*

Ongoing Cllrs discussed the introduction of a logo or emblem for the Parish Council – many Councils had these and they were of benefit to as they offered a identifying feature for the Parish. Cllrs to consider over next few weeks and look at any local aspects which might be included in the logo – ie the river.

Year-end Financial Reports and Audit Submissions – *Clerk to confirm details of the year end accounts and submission to the internal auditor – Cllrs to approve exemption from AGAR process due to spend below the threshold*

Resolved The financial report for the year 2024-25 had been sent to Cllrs previously and no comments were received from Cllrs. It was noted that as the spend and income of the Parish Council fell below the statutory minimum, there was no requirement for an external audit – the Clerk would submit the accounts to the internal auditor

74/25 Fire Work Display – *Cllrs to commence discussions on arrangements for any firework display in November*

Cllrs discussed arrangements for a proposed fire work display in November – key points are:

- Volunteers were needed to go around collecting money - it was hoped the village hall would do this and Cllr Marini would raise this at the next Village Hall Committee meeting
- Cllrs would have to be responsible for the actual setting off the fireworks
- There was a designated field, however consideration had to be given to an alternative in case this was not available.
- Car parking – previous years had seen parking problems in the village from volumes of those attending – Cllrs agreed that marketing should make point that there was no parking and where possible people should walk but if using a vehicle, to be considerate with parking
- The event would be free, and consideration would be given to organising by Event Brite (issuing ticket)

Date of next meeting

Resolved Noting that the decision had been taken to hold the meetings every six weeks, it was agreed that the next meeting should be Monday, 23rd June

There being no other business, the Chair closed the meeting at 2025

Signed as a true and accurate record

..... *Stuart Mowbray* *June 2025*

Cllr Stuart Mowbray (Chairman)

Date of signing and approval