SUTTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SUTTERTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 7.00pm IN THE COMMUNITY LOUNGE AT SUTTERTON VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr D Sands - Chair
Cllr M Bateman – Vice Chair
Cllr J Maltby
Cllr K Wood
Cllr S Bates
Cllr V Allen
Cllr J Rushworth
Cllr L Ingham
Cllr J Cantwell

Apologies:

Also Present: Sarah Smith – Clerk
10 Members of the public

MOST PLEASING GARDEN COMPETITION:
Cllr's Ingham and Rushworth toured the village and selected four gardens they considered the most pleasing.

1st Place: Mr & Mrs Armstrong of Ropers Lane
2nd Place: Mrs Holland of Blows Lane
3rd Place: Mrs Nichols of Churchgate
4th Place: Mr Snook & Mrs Ward of Monarchs Road

Well done to all.

4 Members of the public left.

166/26. CHAIR'S REMARKS:
Chair read out the welcome statement and thanked Cllr Ingham for standing in as Chair at the July meeting.

167/26. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:
Speeding – Wigtoft Road
A resident spoke regarding speeding on Wigtoft Road. Contact had been made to the Parish Council regarding ongoing speeding concerns on Wigtoft Road and requested that representatives from Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership (LRSP) attend a meeting. LRSP confirmed they no longer attend Parish Council meetings due to capacity constraints.

LRSP advised that data from parish-owned speed indicator devices is not used for enforcement purposes and that their own calibrated surveys are relied upon to determine whether action is required. A summary of a 2023 LRSP survey was provided, showing an average speed of 36.7mph and a SAW (Speed Above Threshold) figure of 5.6%.

The resident expressed dissatisfaction with LRSP's response, raising concerns about vehicles recorded at excessive speeds, including incidents exceeding 100mph, and questioned what action had been taken. The resident did not feel that Community Speed

Watch was an appropriate solution due to the potential risks to volunteers, particularly older or vulnerable individuals.

Councillors discussed the matter. It was noted that Fosdyke Parish has recently re-established a Community Speed Watch group and early indications suggest it has had a positive impact. However, Councillors acknowledged that volunteer availability varies between parishes and that previous attempts to run a group in Sutterton had not been sustained.

The Council agreed that while it cannot compel drivers to slow down, it will contact LRSP again to relay the residents' concerns, request further support, and seek clarification on what additional measures may be available. Councillors noted that the Parish Council has limited powers beyond raising issues with LRSP and the Police.

Footpath – Station Road
Residents raised strong concerns regarding the obstruction and proposed diversion of Public Footpath No. 5 by the Gleesons development. It was stated that construction proceeded without a valid diversion order, with the TTRO lapsing between January 2025 and April 2026. Residents reported that LCC had advised the developer and BBC prior to construction that the issue needed resolving, but this was not acted upon.

Residents highlighted the historic nature of the original grass footpath, ecological value, and its long-standing route to the church. Concerns were raised that the replacement tarmac route through the estate is not comparable, and that parts of the development appear to extend beyond land within the developer's ownership.

Residents noted support from the Ramblers' Association and ongoing contact with the Planning Inspectorate. They urged the Parish Council and residents to submit objections to the current diversion proposal.

6 Members of the Public left.

168/26. APOLOGIES:
No apologies received although the PC are aware that Cllr Lock is unable to attend Wednesday meetings.

169/26. POLICE MATTERS:
12 crimes were reported in the Sutterton area in May 2026
6 crimes were reported in the Sutterton area in June 2026
Boston Rural West | Your Area | Lincolnshire Police | Lincolnshire Police (lincs.police.uk)

170/26. LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS AND BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL:
Cllr Cantwell:

- Streetlight repairs in the village remain ongoing. S/L 8 on Park Avenue should now be repaired – Clerk confirmed an invoice for the works has been received.
- The LHP footpath behind Park Lodge is still ongoing – waiting to hear back from their legal representatives
- Residents have raised issues with dust from the Gleesons site – they have been advised to take photos and note the impact this can be taken forward.
- This month's surgery will be held at Bicker on the 26th September.
- Speed data has already been discussed

- It was noted that Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) has now been confirmed. Boston Borough Council will cease in April 2028, with elections to the new Unitary authority scheduled for May 2027. The parish will fall under the new Lincolnshire Council structure, with the county divided between the City of Lincoln unit and the wider Lincolnshire area.
- To consider contacting BBC to put our name down for the community skip scheme if this is to be repeated.

171/26. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY OR NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST:

- To receive Member's declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest
  Cllr Rushworth advised that he has been appointed Trustee of the Fosdyke Playing Field committee and he will submit new forms.
- To receive and consider any written requests for dispensation
  - Cllr Ingham – Most Pleasing Garden Competition £34.43

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the request for dispensation.

172/26. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING:

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd July 2026 be approved as a true record.
No matters arising.

173/26. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Speeding – Wigtoft Road

Cllr's discussed ongoing concerns raised by the resident regarding speeding on Wigtoft Road. Suggestions included sharing SID data with Lincolnshire Police to assist with targeted patrols, although it was noted that enforcement vans have already attended on several occasions. The Cllr's acknowledged that some drivers will continue to speed regardless of signage or monitoring.

Concerns were raised about the safety of volunteers undertaking Community Speed Watch, particularly given past experiences where volunteers felt uncomfortable during interactions with drivers. It was noted that a previous group in the parish had disbanded due to lack of volunteers and concerns about confrontation. Fosdyke Parish has recently re-established a Speed Watch group, but Cllr's recognised that volunteer availability varies between communities.

The Clerk reported that SID data shows the majority of vehicles entering the village travel below 40mph, with only a small number of high-end speeds recorded out of more than 17,000 vehicle movements. The Cllr's discussed whether speeding may be linked to a small number of repeat offenders.

The Cllr's considered whether Wigtoft Parish Council may also wish to address the issue, given that part of the affected stretch lies within their boundary. It was noted that drivers tend to slow as they approach the 30mph zone.

Members agreed that residents who feel strongly about the issue may wish to lobby higher authorities, with the Parish Council offering support where possible. It was suggested that the Clerk contact LRSP again to ask what further actions are available, and to write to Lincolnshire Police to enquire whether SID data could assist in targeting patrols. The Cllr's agreed that reinstating a volunteer Speed Watch group is not currently feasible due to safety concerns and lack of volunteers.

E-mail sent to LRSP 08/09/26

E-mail sent to Lincs Police 16/09/26

Public footpath to be discussed under Planning.

174/26. PLANNING:

- **B/26/0264** – Philip Cowan Interiors, Endeavour Way, Sutterton, Boston, PE20 2JA - Proposed extension **– dealt with via e-mail – comments submitted 30/07/26**
- **B/26/0295 –** Budgens, A17 From East Drain To Station Road Roundabout, Sutterton, PE20 2LN – Retrospective application for installation of an ATM machine (works already comp – **dealt with via e-mail – comments submitted 22/08/26**
- **B/26/0296** – Budgens, A17 From East Drain To Station Road Roundabout, Sutterton, Boston, Lincolnshire, PE20 2LN – Retrospective application for advertisement consent for ATM illuminated surround – **dealt with via e-mail – comments submitted 22/08/26)**
- **B/26/0252 – Land at Station Road/Spalding Road, Sutterton, Boston, PE20 2EU** – Application under s257 for the diversion of Public Right Of Way Sutt/5/1 to facilitate the reserved matters application B/19/0383 (Residential development of 256 no. two, three and four bed, two storey dwellings with associated access and infrastructure)

Cllr Cantwell requested his comments regarding the above application be minuted accurately. He stated that the application was approved in 2021 and, of the seven objectors at that time, Sutterton Parish Council was not one of them. The Borough Councillors and County Councillor in place then are not the same as those in office now. As far as he can tell, no one raised the issue of the public right of way running through the site during that earlier process.

He stated that Gleesons should have formally applied to divert the footpath before obtaining planning permission, as that is the correct sequence of procedure. Although they are permitted to apply in the way they are doing now, the sequencing is, in his view, very strange and has worked against them. The application was approved in 2021, and only years later was the footpath closed and a house built over it, at a time when the diversion order was not current. A further extension was then granted despite the order having lapsed, as far as he can tell. This led to residents contacting him at the time.

He believes the history suggests that Lincolnshire County Council made a mistake by not carrying out a public consultation on the re-routing of the footpath. He also believes Boston Borough Council made a mistake by not being diligent enough in raising the matter with the applicant and ensuring the diversion application was submitted at the correct time. He suspects the issue lies more with the County Council, as they did not consult on the footpath and did not appear concerned when construction took place over it. He does not think the County Council will use their enforcement powers, and discussions with Cllr Lock suggest they are unlikely to do so at present.

He noted that the current application has attracted numerous objections and stated that he believes Sutterton Parish Council should object, and that he will be submitting an objection personally. He expects the diversion order will ultimately be approved because the Borough Council approved the site layout in 2021, and the change to the footpath forms part of that approved plan. He is separately looking into boundary matters.

He explained that the diversion order, once issued, can be challenged, and residents and the Parish Council may object to its issuing. He commented that if objections are lodged, the matter may be referred for further consideration, though he is not familiar with whether this

would be determined by a single inspector or through a public inquiry. He believes the key issue will be the sequencing of events and is unsure whether the historic nature of the footpath prior to the development will be taken into account. He suggested that, should the Parish Council make representations at any later stage, specialist advice may be needed on what should or should not be said.

He also noted that some residents living adjacent to the site have contacted him to say they do not view the matter as a major issue and see it more as a series of unfortunate events. He commented that it is unfortunate the matter was not resolved in 2021, as it would have avoided significant aggravation. He believes Gleesons have acted recklessly by leaving the purchasers of the house built over the footpath in a vulnerable position. He stated that it is unknown how any inspector would judge the situation or what consequences might follow if the decision went against Gleesons, including whether the County Council or another body would have to enforce action. He added that he would certainly be contesting his searches had he purchased such a property.

Following discussion, it was agreed to send an objection which can be viewed on the planning portal – **submitted 06/09/26**

175/26. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

Request for donation to St Mary's Church Harvest Festival – Clerk will discuss in Clerk's report.

176/26. HIGHWAY MATTERS:

To discuss the data collected from the Speed detectors and response from LRSP (13/07/26) following concerns received from a resident with respect to moving forward with a Community Speed Watch

Discussed in 173/26 and 174/26.

177/26. CEMETERY COMMITTEE:

- Cllr Maltby was welcomed to the Cemetery Committee and will undertake Sexton training next year to bring him in line with the rest of the committee.
- It was noted that there are approximately 25–30 unsafe memorials with no traceable owners. Following a detailed discussion and acknowledging that the lack of owner records and historic missed inspections have contributed to the current situation, the Committee agreed that, as a one-off arrangement, the Parish Council will fund repairs in stages. The first phase will cover the newer section, with up to £3,000 allocated. The estimated total cost for all repairs is around £6,000-£8,000, and a further request for the remainder is expected in April for works in the older section. This approach was considered preferable to laying down a large number of memorials, which could lead to public concern. Phase 2 tidying works will be delayed to avoid undertaking too many projects simultaneously.
- The Faculty for repairing the five headstones in the consecrated section has been extended to the 20th October 2027.
- Cemetery running costs were reviewed. Expenditure has been high due to catching up on historic neglect, with annual costs estimated between £5,000-£6,000. Current income is approximately £500 (previous year £2,870). It was acknowledged that the cemetery will not be self-funding, but costs should reduce once a regular maintenance programme is established.
- The Chair agreed, noting that years of under-investment have led to the current situation, but future costs should be more manageable once works are brought up to standard.

178/26. REPORT ON PARISH MATTERS:

Ongoing – Electricity on Roundabout

The Parish Council would be required to install its own dedicated power supply to the roundabout, which would be a costly undertaking. Solar lighting has been suggested as a more affordable, low-maintenance option with no ongoing energy costs.

Clerk to investigate suitable solar lighting options.

Ongoing – Memorial plaque for the late Cllr Cyril Baker

It was **RESOLVED** to go with the slate at a quote of £15.00.

Clerk to query a stand – emailed 16/09/26.

179/26. FOOTPATH BEHIND PARK LODGE:

An update is awaited from LHP legal team.

180/26. CHECKLIST FOR RECREATION GROUND/CEMETERY/DEFIB (at Vets):

Cllr Woods held the checklist for August – noted the basketball net had gone to the back of the hoop.

Cllr Rushworth to hold the checklist for September.

- **RoSPA report 2026** – to discuss and action
  The surfacing under the play equipment needs attention. Clerk is in the process of obtaining quotes for the surfacing to be replaced with the possibility of applying for grants to help towards the cost. Chair suggested possibly updating the swings, again with the help of grants. Chair requested Cllr Cantwell to see what grants are available.
  The replacement parts for the climbing frame have arrived.
  Cllr Bates offered to replace the parts and also look at the basketball net.
- The 2 new picnic benches have delivered.
- **Cllr Cantwell –** Rec Committee
  Cllr Cantwell proposed the creation of a Recreation Committee, with Terms of Reference to be drafted. The purpose of the Committee will be to develop and implement a work programme for the Recreation Ground, identify and apply for grant funding, and oversee the updating and maintenance of the site.
  It was unanimously **RESOLVED** for the creation of a Recreation Committee with implementation at the next Annual Meeting in May 2027.
- **Cllr Cantwell –** Bench by bus stop
  Residents have commented that the bench would benefit from being re-painted.
  Clerk to obtain a quote from Mr Dent.

181/26. RESILIENCE COMMITTEE:

No further updates at present.

182/26. VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE:

Cllr Ingham gave a report. A new Secretary and Treasurer have been appointed. The table top sale is coming up with more events planned for October and November. Bingo is going well.

183/26. PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE:

No report received.

- To discuss a request for signage similar to the Rec – not discussed.

184/26. FINANCE:

Payments List - Sutterton Parish Council
Invoices received prior to August

Outgoings Received/Purchased	Payment Date	Payee	Invoice No.	Description	Total	Mode of Payment	
	13/07/2026	EE		Mobile Phone Contract	£20.40	D/D	
	13/07/2026	HP Instant Ink		Instant Ink	£13.49	D/D	
	23/07/2026	HMRC		PAYE Month 1 £214.78, Month 2 £179.57, Month 3 £163.20	£557.55	D/D	
	23/07/2026	SLCC	MEM259303-1	Clerk's Membership Fee	£156.00	D/C	included in previous payment sheet - noted as transaction completed 23/07/26 - not included in total
	28/07/2026	BBC	40009398	1100L General Waste Fortnightly collection - Cemetery £514.80	£51.48	D/D	10x installments
	28/07/2026	BBC	40009769	240l General Waste Fortnightly collection - Rec £436.80	£48.53	D/D	9x installments
	28/07/2026	Staff Costs		Litterpicker (June 2026)	£275.39	S/O	
08/07/2026	07/08/2026	Malc Firth Landscapes	INV-04052	Grounds Maintenance - June 2026	£811.66	I/B	
22/07/2026	07/08/2026	Sutterton Village Hall	154	Hire of Lounge	£67.50	I/B	
24/07/2026	07/08/2026	ICCM	21804	Onsite Memorial Testing	£1,320.00	I/B	
03/08/2026	07/08/2026	Mr Dent	258	5th Cut of Cemetery Old Section plus weedkiller - July 2026	£370.00	I/B	
03/08/2026	07/08/2026	Mr Dent	259	Repair and Pain of Noticeboard - One Way Street	£160.00	I/B	
03/08/2026	07/08/2026	Mr Dent	260	Lowering of flag pole to release stuck flag and clean	£40.00	I/B	
05/08/2026	07/08/2026	Staff Costs	2026/08/01	Clerk Salary including Cemetery work & expenses (July 2026)	£509.67	I/B	
				Total Payable:	**£4,245.67**		

Expenses	June 2026
Home Office	£27.50
Total Payable:	**£27.50**

Incoming Date	Received From	Details	Invoice No.	Total
30/07/2026	Carr Funeral Services	1x Interment of Ashes	2026/05/03	£150.00
			Total:	**£150.00**

Payments List - Sutterton Parish Council
Invoices received prior to September meeting

Outgoings Received/Purchased	Payment Date	Payee	Invoice No.	Description	Total	Mode of Payment	
	13/08/2026	EE		Mobile Phone Contract	£20.40	D/D	
	13/08/2026	HP Instant Ink		Instant Ink	£13.49	D/D	
	24/08/2026	Wave	16903733	Water at Cemetery	£22.22	D/D	
26/08/2026	27/08/2026	Amazon	GB600P50LIHMVI	Red and White Barrier Tape	£13.28	D/C	
	28/08/2026	BBC	40009398	1100L General Waste Fortnightly collection - Cemetery £514.80	£51.48	D/D	10x installments
	28/08/2026	BBC	40009769	240l General Waste Fortnightly collection - Rec £436.80	£48.53	D/D	9x installments
	28/08/2026	Staff Costs		Litterpicker (August 2026)	£275.39	S/O	
05/08/2026	02/09/2026	Mr Dent	265	Hinges and Labour for Noticeboard	£30.00	I/B	
06/08/2026	02/09/2026	Malc Firth Landscapes	INV-04052	Grounds Maintenance - July 2026	£811.66	I/B	
06/08/2026	02/09/2026	Kopman	271446	PCN Climbing Frame - replacement parts	£92.40	I/B	
11/08/2026	02/09/2026	PKF Littlejohn	SB20260549	AGAR year end 31/03/26	£378.00	I/B	
11/08/2026	02/09/2026	Glasdon	S1943751	Clifton Picnic Table x2	£1,648.66	I/B	
21/08/2026	02/09/2026	RoSPA Playsafety	101318	Annual Inspection - Recreational Ground	£123.60	I/B	
25/08/2026	02/09/2026	Cllr Ingham		Most Pleasing Garden Competition	£34.43	I/B	
27/08/2026	02/09/2026	BBC	40010028	Recharge of Footway Lights Work - S/L 8 Park Avenue	£420.00	I/B	
01/09/2026	02/09/2026	Mr Dent	281	6th Cut of Cemetery	£350.00	I/B	
01/09/2026	02/09/2026	Staff Costs	2026/09/01	Clerk Salary including Cemetery work & expenses (August 2026)	£530.02	I/B	
01/09/2026	02/09/2026	Malc Firth Landscapes	INV-04627	Grounds Maintenance - August 2026	£811.66	I/B	
				Total Payable:	**£5,675.22**		

Expenses	June 2026
Home Office	£27.50
Total Payable:	**£27.50**

Incoming Date	Received From	Details	Invoice No.	Total
18/08/2026	Parker Masonary	1x Memorial plus Kerbing	2026/05/05	£65.00
			Total:	**£65.00**

- To consider and approve invoices as per the payment sheet – July and August 2026
  It was **RESOLVED** to approve all invoices for payment.
- To approve the bank rec for July and August 2026 for the current account
  Approved.

185/26. ANNUAL RETURN 2025/2026:

- Conclusion of the AGAR 2025/2026
  The external auditor has signed off the AGAR for 2025/26 and this has been put on the PC website to view. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit has also been placed on the Parish noticeboard and website.
- To note the external auditors comments;
  - Information received from the smaller authority indicates that assets purchased during the prior year have not been included in Section 2, Box 9.
  - The smaller authority has confirmed that certain gifted assets have been included in the fixed asset register, and therefore Section 2, Box 9 at zero value. The Practitioners' Guide requires that gifted assets are valued at £1.
- To agree a length of time to publish the Notice of Conclusion on the noticeboard
  14 days from date of publication – published 11th September 2026

186/26. ROUND 'N' ABOUT:

To consider the tender advert regarding re-implementation of the village magazine
Council considered the tender advert for the re-implementation of the village magazine and **RESOLVED** to approve for publication. **Clerk to action.**

187/26. CLERK'S REPORT:

A request for a donation to St Mary's Church Harvest Flower Festival was received. Delegated authority was given to the Clerk to issue a £75.00 donation, in line with the longstanding annual contribution.

188/26. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Cllr Sands – Church clock – to be deferred to November meeting

189/26. NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday 7th October 2026 at 7.00pm in the Community Lounge.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.39pm.

Signed…….. Date……..