

# Sutton Parish Council

Annual Newsletter 2022



**Parish Council Office,  
The Glebe, 4 High Street, Sutton**

**Monday to Thursday  
10am to 12pm**

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## Chairmans Introduction

Welcome to the latest summer newsletter from Sutton Parish Council. It's been a busy year both on the parish council and in the village.

Early June saw a great range of events organised by Sutton Feast for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The parish council helped support the events with grant funding as well as installing three Platinum Jubilee benches at locations around the village as a lasting memorial to the jubilee. Well done to everyone who helped make these events happen.

In May we saw the official launch of Sutton Timebank, an initiative kicked off by the parish council at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. Initially our Timebank coordinator focussed on coordination of volunteers helping those who were isolating during the first lockdown. More recently the scope has broadened and includes volunteer exchanges plus regular coffee mornings with more events and activities to come.

The Parish Council has continued its review of the village's Neighbourhood Plan. The original plan was formally adopted in May 2019, and the review is to bring the plan up to date, adding a Design Code, additional policies on climate change and other areas along with a more extensive list of community actions. There are more details elsewhere in this newsletter. Information will also be made available the Neighbourhood Plan website <http://sutton-in-the-isle.org.uk/>.

Earlier in the year we saw some of the benefits of the existing Neighbourhood with Vistry (Linden Homes) signing a Section 106 legal agreement as part of the second phase of their development at the top of Mepal Road. This commits them to providing additional playing fields, a new burial ground as well as funds to improve the MUGA (multi-use games area) and for school improvements.

There are many other areas where the Parish Council is seeking to bring improvements with council working parties investigating traffic and transport issues, climate change, sports and recreation, youth provision and proposals for a library access point. If you are interested in any of these areas do consider putting yourself forward for one of the vacancies for parish councillors. It's a great way to volunteer a few hours of time to help make our village a better place to live.

Mark Inskip

Chairman, Sutton Parish Council

**Check out our website  
[www.sutton-cambs-pc.gov.uk](http://www.sutton-cambs-pc.gov.uk)**

## Some of the things we have done this year



**3 Jubilee Benches**  
Funded by CIL



**2 Play park Benches**  
Funded by CIL



**Phone Box Refurbishment**  
Funded by CIL



**Finding Fitness**

**Finding Fitness  
Summer Sports (3 weeks)**  
Lottery Grant Fund



**Defibrillator at  
The Glebe**  
Funded by Precept



**Bury Lane Footpath**  
Funded by CIL

**Precept = The Precept is a tax that Parish Council's charge their local electors to meet their budget requirements**

**CIL = Community Infrastructure Levy is a charge which is levied by local authorities on new developments in their area. The allocation to Sutton Parish Council is 25% as the Parish Council has a 'Made' Neighbourhood Plan**

### **Community Phonebox**

Following the renovations to the K6 telephone kiosk on the High Street, we will be looking at options to use this space on a rotational basis

## **What's Next ?**

### **Planters**

New planters to be placed in locations in the village to create floral displays

### **Local Highways Improvement Scheme**

Safer crossing point on The Brook near the High Street junction

### **War Memorial**

To Investigate the renovation of the war memorial (situated within the grounds of St Andrews Church)

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

To hold a village referendum on the revised Neighbourhood Plan

## Sutton's new Neighbourhood Plan

In 2019 a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish was adopted by East Cambridgeshire District Council. It followed a lot of work by the Parish Council and a group of volunteers to prepare and consult on the Plan and a parish referendum where 90% of those that voted were in favour of the Plan being used when the District Council determines planning applications.

In the 3 years since the Plan was finished there have been a number of changes nationally and locally that mean that our Plan is now not up-to-date and doesn't cover important matters. The Parish Boundary has changed since 2019 and we need a Plan that covers the current parish.

The new Neighbourhood Plan provides an opportunity to cover matters that weren't included in the 2019 Plan, such as:

- protecting and enhancing our biodiversity
- guiding the design of new development
- tackling climate change

Before we complete the new Plan and consult you on it, we want your help to review the issues that the parish now faces. In October 2015 a "launch event" was held for the original Neighbourhood Plan. Residents attending that event were asked to identify a number of issues in selected topic areas, which are reproduced on the following pages. It's 7 years since they were identified, and we want to know whether those issues remain today and whether there are different issues that you think Sutton faces.

To help us, we ask if you could spare a few minutes to complete the survey by ticking the boxes if you think the matter remains an issue in 2022. At the end of each section there is an opportunity to add new issues.

We encourage you to complete the survey online if you can at [https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Sutton\\_Issues/](https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Sutton_Issues/) or by using the QR code



Alternatively, you can complete the survey on the following pages, remove it from the Newsletter and return it to the Mailbox located on the fence at Parish Council Office at The Glebe, 4 High Street

***Please complete and return the survey by  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September***

***Thanks for your support***

*Please tick the boxes if you think the issue listed remains today*

**Biodiversity and the Natural Environment**

- 1. Protection of the Ouse Washes Special Protection Area
- 2. Protection of other local level habitats and green spaces capable of supporting wildlife
- 3. The potential for the creation of additional areas for the enjoyment of leisure and wildlife within the Parish, in particular on the Old Rec
- 4. Encouragement of sustainable building practices
- 5. The value of mature trees and planting around the village
- 6. Ensuring that, if the village grows, it does not grow onto meadowland
- 7. Any future master planning of the land to the north of the village to include areas for biodiversity and wildlife
- 8. Encouragement of the production and use of local food and produce
- 9. Appreciation of local species, both in terms of flora and fauna
- 10. Ensuring people make the most of their gardens as either a potential habitat or an opportunity to produce sustainable foodstuffs
- 11. Encouragement of bat boxes, bird houses and other appropriate contributors to the local habitat provided by the village
- 12. Impacts of rural industry of local ecology and habitats, including the use of pesticides and the operation of the straw burning plant
- 13. The development of a network of local ecologists that can help record and nurture the wide variety of species that live in the Parish
- 14. The extension of the Sutton Conservation Area
- 15. Encouragement of planting of more wildflower species throughout the village, including on verges and in gardens
- 16. Promotion of the Sutton Conservation Society
- 17. Planting of trees and new hedgerows in the often quite barren rural area surrounding the village
- 18. Educating and building an appreciation within the people of the village in relation to local wildlife and its value.

**New Issues**

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**Traffic and Transport**

- 1. The retention and enhancement of local footpaths and cycle ways, including the provision of new routes
- 2. Linking new development to existing shops, services and amenities
- 3. Provision of adequate off-street parking to serve new development
- 4. Adequate pick up and drop off points at new traffic generating uses
- 5. Provision of a better public transport service through liaison with providers
- 6. Traffic management measures, including speed calming, HGV routing, additional parking and junction improvements
- 7. Local police enforcement on the roads
- 8. Street lighting and highways maintenance
- 9. Longer distance footpaths and cycleways linking the village to towns such as Ely and Chatteris
- 10. Implementation of new road schemes, such as a bypass for Sutton

**New Issues**

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## Housing and Built Environment

- 1. Respecting and preserving the character of the village through the promotion of high quality design
- 2. Protecting and enhancing the conservation area and its setting
- 3. Maintaining a mix of house sizes, types and tenure within the village
- 4. Protecting the green spaces within the village
- 5. Ensuring that the village does not lose its character due to inappropriately dense development
- 6. A need for more smaller houses for first time buyers and those seeking to downsize
- 7. The provision of an adequate supply of affordable (social) properties in the village
- 8. The provision of housing to meet all sectors of the community including older people and people with limited mobility
- 9. The avoidance of piecemeal infilling and the provision of a proper vision in terms of how housing will be delivered in a well-planned fashion, including a consideration of the further promotion of additional land to the north of the village
- 10. Protect the historic built environment, such as the conservation area and listed buildings
- 11. The proximity of new housing to services and facilities and the ability for infrastructure provision to match housing growth
- 12. Ensuring that adequate parking is provided to keep the streets uncluttered and accessible

### New Issues

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## Local Services and Amenities

- 1. Retention of the existing range of shops, services and facilities in the village, along with the encouragement of new businesses that broaden the village's offer
- 2. Protection of community services, facilities and amenities
- 3. Protection of useable open space against development
- 4. Support towards the retention and possible upgrade of the doctor's surgery and pharmacy in the village
- 5. Recognition of the value of, and protection of, the formal and informal open spaces of the village that add to amenity value
- 6. Provision of additional open space, including recreation land, other types of amenity space including allotments and the additional burial land
- 7. Investment in existing open spaces and play areas
- 8. Attendance of and participation in local clubs, groups and societies
- 9. Provision of a better public transport service through liaison with providers
- 10. Encouragement of the use of local businesses
- 11. Local initiatives to identify ways to ensure that existing and future businesses cater for all customers
- 12. The varied use of and access to existing meeting places, open spaces and facilities
- 13. Maintenance of the public realm, including grass cutting, dog fouling and outdoor facilities
- 14. Community enterprises such as a community shop or pub
- 15. Encourage people to appreciate the leisure value of the surrounding countryside

### New Issues

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## Business, Retail and Employment

- 1. Retention of the existing range of shops, services and facilities in the village, along with the encouragement of new businesses that broaden the village's offer
- 2. Encouragement of a greater range of shops and businesses
- 3. Protection of community services, facilities and amenities
- 4. The valuing and encouragement of, as well as support provided to, small businesses in the Parish
- 5. The reuse of some vacant units of the Elean Business Park
- 6. Provision of small business units to encourage workers based at home to grow their enterprise
- 7. Ease of access to local shops and businesses by a means of transport
- 8. Increasing the ability for people to both live and work in Sutton
- 9. Facilitate greater access of future local businesses to high speed connections such as superfast broadband
- 10. Promotion of, and the encouragement of the use of, local small businesses
- 11. Greater engagement with local small businesses to identify their needs
- 12. The facility for local networking between small business owners and entrepreneurs
- 13. The provision of superfast broadband throughout the village
- 14. Encourage local businesses to link up with surrounding colleges and places of training
- 15. The creation of a village directory of small businesses

### New Issues

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## Sport, Recreation and Leisure

- 1. Provision of additional open space to accommodate local sports clubs
- 2. Protection and retention of existing open space and sports pitches
- 3. Provision of additional children's play facilities and play equipment as a part of new developments
- 4. The potential relocation of the Scout Hut
- 5. Provision of a skate park at an accessible location within the village
- 6. Encouragement of use of the countryside as a source of recreation through enhanced walking and cycling links into and out of the village
- 7. Encouragement of provision of and participation in mix gender sports clubs
- 8. Review of the cost to rent local sports facilities for use
- 9. Maintenance of local facilities (vandalism, dog fouling, litter, renewal of old pieces of equipment)
- 10. A designated area for dog walkers
- 11. The availability of a range of clubs that are suitable for all age groups
- 12. The reuse of the old Recreation Ground
- 13. An assessment of how the Parish Council could use money received from development to prioritise and implement local initiatives such as those listed in the Sutton Vision section of the 2015 Local Plan
- 14. Encouraging greater usage of the multi-use games area (MUGA)

### New Issues

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Thanks for sparing your time

Look out for details of the consultation on the new Neighbourhood Plan in the Autumn

**07731017916**

**suttontimebank@sutton-cambs-pc.gov.uk**



Sutton Time Bank aims to engage and bring together the community, creating social and practical support networks that meet the needs of many, creating a happier and healthier community.

Sutton Time Bank are recruiting new members. When you spend an hour helping someone out, you will receive an hour back. Would you like to meet new people in the village or do you have a skill or knowledge you would like to offer to the wider community or maybe something you would like help with? There is no commitment at all when you join, you will not be expected to volunteer.

The Time Bank celebrated its 2nd birthday in March. We held a special coffee morning with a local animal experience visiting. Since the Time Bank launched members have completed 763 exchanges with 2446 hours of volunteering.



As well as taking part in exchanges Time Banking is a great way to meet new people and connect with residents in the village. The Time Bank hold weekly coffee mornings at The Glebe every Tuesday 10am-12pm. On the 1st Tuesday of the Month, we have coffee and lunch and those attending the coffee morning are invited to stay for a light lunch. At coffee mornings we also offer digital support. Trained digital champions are available to help with any questions or advice on anything digital. They are also available to help outside of coffee mornings. Please get in touch with any of your digital needs.

The Time Bank have been supporting Priors Field surgery and the PPG with a 6-week Healthy Living programme. The programme covered Health MOTs, healthy eating & nutrition, walk to the PPG allotment and much more. This has been a successful programme which we hope to run again in the future.



**To keep up to date with Time Bank activities and projects follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/Sutton-Time-Bank-110180473899714>), via the Parish Council website ([https://www.sutton-cambs-pc.gov.uk/Sutton\\_Time\\_Bank\\_36482.aspx](https://www.sutton-cambs-pc.gov.uk/Sutton_Time_Bank_36482.aspx)) or contact the Time Bank to receive the monthly Time Bank's newsletter.**



## Would you like to be a Parish Councillor?

The Parish Council is a local authority, and makes decisions on behalf of local people. This makes the parish council a vital part of the community. As a parish councillor, you become a community leader with the power to influence decisions for the benefit of the community. Seeing a positive change in a community based on decisions you have made gives a sense of achievement and pride.

There are a number of topics that the parish council is involved with, for example: Highway Improvements, Planning matters, Crime Prevention, Open Spaces, Community Facilities, the ability to negotiate and influence other authorities and organisations. Sutton Parish Council meets as a Full Council once a month, there are two Committees and a number of working parties. Some Councillors have specific duties requiring them to attend other meetings to represent the council.

There are currently 5 vacancies, the parish council will co-opt to fill them. The co-opted Councillors will remain in office until the next election in May 2023. So this is a great opportunity to see if this is for you.

**If you are interested in joining the council, please visit the website for details, or contact the Parish Clerk**



## Would you like to be a Tree Warden ?



Sutton Parish Council has joined the East Cambs Tree Warden Scheme, and is looking for Tree Wardens for the village. This is a volunteer role, and would suit someone with some experience. No formal training is required, but professional arboricultural qualifications or experience would be an advantage.

It would be advantageous if you are an active member of the Sutton Conservation Society, whose volunteers may be called upon to provide assistance.

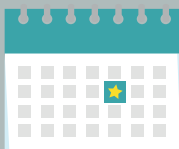
If you think you may be interested and to find out more about what the role involves, please contact Rosie, Parish Clerk on [rosie.hughes@sutton-cambs-pc.gov.uk](mailto:rosie.hughes@sutton-cambs-pc.gov.uk) for additional details.

## Would you be able to spare some time in the next few weeks to join a group of Parish Councillors and residents in assessing our draft Neighbourhood Plan?

It's essential that the Neighbourhood Plan takes into account the needs of all residents in terms of gaining access to services and facilities. We're looking for a small group of volunteers who have lived experience of disability and equality issues (people with disabilities or their parents or carers) to independently assess the draft Neighbourhood Plan against the provisions of the Equality Act.

If so, please contact the Parish Council Clerk at [rosie.hughes@sutton-cambs-pc.gov.uk](mailto:rosie.hughes@sutton-cambs-pc.gov.uk)

### Community Calendar



**Find out about Parish Council and Community Events.**

**Have a look on our Website**  
[www.sutton-cambs-pc.gov.uk](http://www.sutton-cambs-pc.gov.uk)



### Sutton Fire Station needs you

Have you ever thought about becoming a firefighter and helping your local community?

**If you live or work within five minutes of Sutton fire station, we need you to come and join our team!**

By joining #TeamCambsFire as an on-call firefighter you can benefit from:

- Paid development opportunities
- Rostered hours to suit you
- Giving back to your local community
- Working with a great team to learn new skills



[www.cambsfire.gov.uk/oncall](http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk/oncall)



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