



The Clerk had attempted to speak to Chris Shepherd about putting up signs on his land, but Chris was too busy to talk about it. It was agreed that the Clerk will send Chris a note asking for permission to put up "No wind farms" signs on his land. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

- 5.4 Sadberge has won a 'Special Eco Award' in the 2008 Calor Tees Valley Village of the Year competition.

On Sunday 10-Aug-2008 Millie Scaife gave a radio interview about the Sadberge Energy Saving Project.

The Council congratulated Middleton St. George on being named the 2008 Calor Tees Valley Village of the Year.

- 5.5 Councillor Brian Jones reported that Middleton St. George Parish Council will be pleased to join Sadberge Parish Council in purchasing a storage container.

Councillor Schott will consult Alan Shields about the appropriate size of container and will get information on prices. **ACTION:** Councillor Schott

- 5.6 The Clerk has still to speak to Marie Kenny about the flower tubs for the village green.

**ACTION:** A Mackenzie

- 5.7 The Clerk has asked the Street Scene Team to repair and paint the railings in the three locations in Sadberge. It is not yet known when the work will be carried out.

- 5.8 The Clerk has still to obtain more information about the practicalities of setting up a community compost facility. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

## 6. Caravan on agricultural land north of Lea Close

- 6.1 Mr. Walker-Coates' legal representatives have requested that he be allowed to stay on site until the third week in September due to difficulties in organising his final move, and the Darlington Borough Council Planning Committee has agreed to that request. Apparently a friend of Mr. Walker-Coates will be driving him to Plymouth on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

- 6.2 It was pointed out that the request to stay on the site until the third week of September seems inconsistent with a departure date of 27<sup>th</sup> August. The Clerk will seek clarification of the dates.

**ACTION:** A Mackenzie

- 6.3 The Clerk will write to Darlington Borough Council expressing the Parish Council's concern about the further delay and requesting that prompt enforcement action is taken if Mr. Walker-Coates has not left by the relevant date. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

## 7. Sadberge Post Office

- 7.1 It appears unlikely that it will be possible to open a post office counter in the village hall.

- 7.2 The Sadberge Village Hall Association Management Committee is investigating the possibility of establishing an "outreach" post office service for Sadberge.

- 7.3 The new post box has been put in an inappropriate location on the north side of Stockton Road not far from its junction with Norton Road.

It would be better for the new post box to be located either (a) on the north side of Church View at its junction with The Orchard or (b) beside the telephone box in the centre of the village.

Why was Sadberge Parish Council not consulted about the position of the new post box?

The Clerk will contact the Post Office to ask them to move the new post box to a more suitable location. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

## 8. "Talking Together" event in Sadberge on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2008

- 8.1 There was a disappointing attendance from Sadberge residents, but it was a good meeting.

- 8.2 Issues discussed included the new bus services, the requested 7.5 te weight restriction for Sadberge and the proposed wind farms near Sadberge.

## 9. Allotments

- 9.1 Local residents have enquired about the possibility of taking over allotments.

- 9.2 Councillor Scaife has a contact phone number for the people who administer the allotments.
- 9.3 The Clerk will investigate (a) who owns the allotments and (b) the arrangements for managing the allocation of allotments.  
**ACTION:** A Mackenzie

#### 10. Tree planting by Riever Homes

- 10.1 Phil Haynes hopes to have the proposed planting schedule finished by Friday 15-Aug-2008.
- 10.2 There is not enough space in Sadberge Village for trees to the full value of £5,000. The relevant Planning Officer has advised that the money can be spent on tree-related works in and around Sadberge. This can include removing the three sycamore trees on the village green near Tithe House and/or planting trees outside the village (but within Sadberge Parish).
- 10.3 The Council would be interested in any suggestions on what else could be done with the available money.

#### 11. Parish Council land and property

- 11.1 Phil Haynes has still to provide quotes for (a) the tree pruning work and (b) removing the old cherry tree stumps on the village green in front of Mayfield House.
- 11.2 The suckers have been removed from the trees on various parts of the village green.
- 11.3 The guard on the tree on the north side of Darlington Road near the village hall has still to be modified.  
**ACTION:** Councillor Schott
- 11.4 The Clerk has still to obtain advice on treating / painting the benches.  
**ACTION:** A Mackenzie

#### 12. Parish Plan

- 12.1 As requested by the Council, the Parish Plan Steering Group is organising an Open Meeting to discuss wind farms near Sadberge. The most likely date for the Open Meeting is Thursday 18-Sep-2008.
- 12.2 At the "Talking Together" event on 6-Aug-2008, John Anderson (Darlington Borough Council's Assistant Director for Regeneration) gave an assurance that parish councils will be consulted about any wind farm planning applications.
- 12.3 The Wind Farms Action Group has asked the Council to print copies of a newsletter and distribute them to Sadberge homes.  
**ACTION:** A Mackenzie
- It was agreed to print and distribute the Wind Farms Action Group's newsletter. The newsletter will be accompanied by a flyer advertising the Wind Farms Open Meeting and explaining the Parish Council's relationship with the Wind Farms Action Group. The Clerk will produce the flyer in consultation with Councillor Scaife.  
**ACTION:** A Mackenzie
- 12.4 Brigid Press is happy to come to Sadberge to talk about village gardens. The idea is that the session will be open to Sadberge residents, who will also be able to ask general questions about gardening issues. Councillor Scaife will make the arrangements.  
**ACTION:** Councillor Scaife
- 12.5 In the Sadberge Energy Saving Project:-
- The personalised feedback from the Home Energy Check questionnaires should be distributed later this week.
  - Phase 2 of the electricity use monitoring theme will be launched within the next week or two.
  - An O<sub>2</sub> representative will be visiting Sadberge to see how the "It's Your Community" grant is being used. The visit will probably take place during the week commencing 1-Sep-2008.

#### 13. Risk assessment and risk management

- 13.1 The Council reviewed its Risk Assessment and agreed that it is satisfactory as it stands.
- 13.2 The Council reviewed its processes for managing risk and agreed that the existing processes are appropriate and satisfactory.

- 13.3 The Council reviewed its Internal Audit process and agreed that the existing arrangements are appropriate and satisfactory.
- 13.4 It would be useful if Councillors could be provided with a short (one page) overview of their responsibilities in the area of good governance. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

#### 14. External Audit

The Responsible Financial Officer reported that the Council's Annual Return and the associated paperwork have been sent to the External Auditor.

#### 15. Darlington Association of Parish Councils and Parish Meetings

- 15.1 Following a meeting with the Chairs of the local parish councils, Councillor Brian Jones has written to Ada Burns and Councillor Jenny Chapman about the Darlington Borough Council grants to parish councils.  
Councillor Brian Jones and Councillor Steve York will have a meeting with Ada Burns and Councillors Chapman and Harker on Tuesday 2-Sep-2008 to discuss this subject.
- 15.2 The next meeting of the Darlington Association of Parish Councils and Parish Meetings will be held on the evening of Tuesday 23-Sep-2008.

#### 16. Planning

- 16.1 The Council approved planning application 08/00607/FUL without comment.

#### 17. Correspondence

The Council noted the following correspondence:-

- 17.1 Notification that the Secretary of State has issued the North East of England Plan (the revision to the draft North East Regional Spatial Strategy).
- 17.2 Notice that the order diverting Public Footpath No. 8 has been confirmed.
- 17.3 Letter from Banks Developments about a "drop in" session about the proposed Moor House Wind Farm in Sadberge Village Hall between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Wednesday 13-Aug-2008.

#### 18. Next meeting

The next meeting of Sadberge Parish Council will be held in Sadberge Village Hall at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

**Alastair Mackenzie**  
Clerk

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2008

I hereby certify that these minutes are a true record of the meeting.

Signed: Councillor M Scaife \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_