



## 6. Wind farms near Sadberge

- 6.1 Councillor Scaife and the Clerk reported on their two meetings with Darlington Borough Council Planning Officers. The meetings went well, and the Planning Officers were interested in the suggestions being put forward by Sadberge.
- 6.2 Seven Sadberge residents – including Councillor Vickers and the Clerk – visited Banks Developments' West Durham Wind Farm on Saturday 29-Nov-2008. It was an informative visit. Banks Developments appeared to have done a good job of preparing the site for the installation of the wind turbines, and the 'footprint' of each turbine was smaller than might have been expected. However, it was noted that wind turbines situated in low-lying areas need to be significantly taller than ones situated on high ground.
- 6.3 The Council approved and adopted the 'wind farms' addendum to the Sadberge Parish Plan and approved the two supporting documents – *Suggested Wind Farms Policy and Suggested Wind Farms Planning Conditions*.
- It was noted that Darlington Borough Council has granted planning permission for the erection of a 60m high wind monitoring mast near Barmpton.
- 6.4 It was agreed to invite Phil Wilson MP to meet Sadberge Parish Council to discuss wind farms and other issues of interest to Sadberge residents. The Clerk will invite Mr. Wilson to attend the Council's meeting in January 2009. **ACTION:** A Mackenzie

## 7. Parish Plan

- 7.1 Following up the Sadberge applications to the Warm Front insulation grants scheme and the central heating bulk purchase scheme is proving quite time-consuming.

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

- 8.1 The annual meeting between the DAPC and Darlington Borough Council took place on Tuesday 18-Nov-2008. The Clerk gave a presentation summarising Sadberge's suggestions on a policy for wind turbines in the north-eastern part of the Borough of Darlington and planning conditions on any wind turbines that are given the go-ahead despite local residents' opposition. John Anderson (Darlington Borough Council's Assistant Director for Generation) described it as an "interesting contribution" that would be taken into account by the Borough Council.
- 8.2 On Monday 24-Nov-2008 the Clerk had a meeting with Andy Casey of Darlington Borough Council's Highways Department to explain the Parish Council's proposal for a 7.5 te weight restriction covering the whole of Sadberge village.
- During the same meeting the Clerk also raised the following issues:-
- Concerns about development along the Eastern Transport Corridor generating additional traffic through Sadberge.
  - The need for additional parking in the centre of Sadberge.
  - The request for additional parking in The Orchard.
  - The desire for additional traffic calming measures in and around Sadberge.
  - The possibility of using Calor Village of the Year prize money to pay for "30 mph" vehicle activated sign(s) in Sadberge.

## 9. Request for donation

The Council agreed to make a donation of £20.00 towards the cost of wine and mince pies at the Carol Service in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 21-Dec-2008, and approved the associated payment.

## 10. Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)

The Council decided to pay the Clerk's SLCC membership subscription for 2009, and approved the payment of £61.00.

## 11. Approval of payments

The following payments were approved:-

- |                                                                                                       |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| • Additional lights for the Christmas tree                                                            | £33.98 |
| • Batteries for the Sadberge Energy Saving Project                                                    | £5.08  |
| • Colour printing for the Sadberge Parish Plan                                                        | £11.50 |
| • Room hire for the Midsummer Morris Festival craft workshops                                         | £45.00 |
| • Subsistence expenses for Councillor Scaife and the Clerk during their visit to London on 2-Dec-2008 | £9.50  |

## 12. External audit of the accounts for 2007 - 08

12.1 The Clerk reported that the External Auditor passed the Council's Annual Report for 2007 - 08 without raising any exceptions.

12.2 The External Auditor did, however, raise three issues:-

- The balances held by the Council appear high and have been building up over the years. The generally accepted level of reserves is usually no more than twice the level of the precept.

It was agreed that the Council will take this advice into account when setting the budget and precept for 2009 - 10. [See item 13 below.]

- The Council does not have an asset register.

The Council has already asked the Clerk to prepare an asset register. [See item 18.1 in the minutes of the meeting held on 8-Jul-2008.]

- The Council's asset value as disclosed in the Annual Return is out of date as it does not include all the assets in the control of the Council. An asset register must be compiled as soon as possible, and the values of all assets owned by the Council should be assessed and recorded in the asset register.

The Council has already asked the Clerk to prepare an asset register.

12.3 The Council approved the audited Annual Return for 2007 - 08.

## 13. Budget for 2009 - 10

13.1 After discussion, the forecast of expenditure for the period December 2008 - March 2009 attached as Appendix 1 to these minutes was approved.

13.2 It was agreed to put the sum of £3,000 into a separate account to fund a project to recognise Sadberge's success in the 2008 Calor Village of the Year competition.

It is the Council's intention to complete the expenditure on the project by the end of the 2009 - 10 financial year.

Sadberge residents will be consulted on what should be included in the project.

13.3 After discussion, the budget for 2009 - 10 attached as Appendix 2 to these minutes was approved.

13.4 In line with the agreed budget, the precept for 2009 - 10 will be £1,500.

## 14. For information

14.1 The 2009 Sadberge Village Festival will take place on Saturday 11-Jul-2008. The theme will be "Saxon Sadberge".

## 15. Next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of Sadberge Parish Council will be scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2009. However, the Clerk may change the date of the meeting if Phil Wilson MP is not available on 6-Jan-2009.

**Alastair Mackenzie**  
Clerk

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2008

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

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

## SADBERGE PARISH COUNCIL

### FORECAST FOR 1-Dec-2008 to 31-Mar-2009

SOURCES OF FUNDS	<u>Actual up to</u> 30-Nov-2008	<u>Forecast for</u> Dec - Mar	<u>Forecast for</u> the year	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	3,424		3,424	2,974	450
Income					
Precept	1,500	0	1,500	1,500	0
Grant from Darlington Borough Council	1,387	0	1,387	1,394	-7
Calor Village of the Year prize	0	2,500	2,500	0	2,500
Donations towards the Village Festival	500	400	900	0	900
Income from the Village Festival	134	0	134	0	134
Energy Saving Project grant	585	0	585	0	585
Interest on bank accounts	3	2	5	6	-1
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Total income	4,109	2,902	7,011	2,900	4,111
			-----	-----	-----
Total funds available			10,435	5,874	4,561
<b>USES OF FUNDS</b>					
	£	£	£	£	
Expenditure					
Clerk's salary [See note 1.]	0	1,111	1,111	1,200	-89
Contribution towards the cost of keeping St. Andrew's churchyard tidy	0	475	475	400	75
Insurance premiums	165	0	165	160	5
Audit fees	141	0	141	60	81
Parish Plan	0	163	163	0	163
Energy Saving Project	460	125	585	0	585
Subscriptions	0	61	61	60	1
Donations	128	0	128	0	128
Meeting room hire	0	225	225	110	115
Maintenance and repairs	15	700	715	400	315
Village gardens	137	50	187	500	-313
Christmas tree	0	34	34	100	-66
Village Festival	1,435	99	1,534	1,200	334
Training	0	0	0	100	-100
Newsletters	0	94	94	100	-6
Miscellaneous	112	10	122	0	122
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Total expenditure	2,593	3,147	5,740	4,390	1,350
Contingency / Balance carried forward			4,695	1,484	3,211

#### Notes

- (1) The Clerk's salary is forecast to be less than budget because of the credits received from HMRC for filing the annual return on-line.
- (2) For the purposes of this forecast, the precept and grant for 2008-09 are treated as having been paid during the 2008-09 financial year. In practice, they were paid on the last day of the 2007-08 financial year.

# SADBERGE PARISH COUNCIL

## BUDGET FOR THE PERIOD 1-Apr-2009 to 31-Mar-2010

**SOURCES OF FUNDS**

	£	£	<u>Notes</u>
Balance brought forward		1,695	
Income			
Precept	1,500		
Grant from Darlington Borough Council	1,415		
Calor Village of the Year prize	0		
Donations towards the Village Festival	0		
Interest on bank accounts	5		
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Total income		2,920	
		-----	
Total funds available		4,615	

**USES OF FUNDS**

	£	£	<u>Notes</u>
Expenditure			
Clerk's salary	1,200		
Contribution towards the cost of keeping St. Andrew's churchyard tidy	500		
Insurance premium	170		
Audit fee	150		
Subscriptions	60		Society of Local Council Clerks.
Meeting room hire	225		
Maintenance and repairs	400		
Village gardens	100		Including the planters.
Christmas tree	100		
Village Festival	1,200		
Training	100		
Newsletters	100		
Miscellaneous	0		
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Total expenditure		4,305	
Contingency / Balance carried forward		310	

Notes

- (1) This budget does not include the £3,000 that the Council has set aside to fund a project to recognise Sadberge's success in the 2008 Calor Village of the Year competition.

**This budget was approved by Sadberge Parish Council on 16th December 2008.**

Signed .....

Councillor M Scaife, Chair

Signed .....

Alastair Mackenzie, Clerk

Date .....

Date .....