

Report to Sutton Benger Parish Council.

Report on the Annual Meeting with the public.

When:- 10th May 2025 – 12 noon until 5pm

Where:- Recreation Ground, Village Hall

This was a Consultation Exercise and was set up to achieve the Annual Meeting requirement, for the year of 2025. On Saturday 10th May 2025, the Parish Council set up a stall at the 80th Anniversary Celebrations for Victory in Europe (VE) Day.

The event was chosen because the admittance was free; it was a substantial event, organised by the Parish Council and it was focussed on the residents of the parish.

A 3m by 3m gazebo was set up and decorated with union flags and a banner for the Sutton



Benger Parish Council. The theme was “The Good; The Bad, and The Maybe”. The table in front of the display saying that we want to let residents and visitors have the opportunity to tell the local Parish Councillors what they think is important in the area. We indicated that as a Parish Council, we are funded by a Precept – an amount of money we receive from council tax – to cover our annual budget. It’s the main source of income for us to cover our expenses and provide support (for example) for funding towards this VE80 event. This year’s average precept is £32 per year per house.

The documentation set out some examples of what the Parish Council does and can do.

Then it posed the question What do you think? –
The good; (we might do MORE) (Higher Priority)
GREEN.

The bad; (we should spend LESS) (Lower Priority)
PINK.

The maybe; What do we NOT do that you think we
SHOULD find out about ORANGE.

Through making ourselves available and asking the questions, we were able to get a range of responses to the questions, as the residents filled out post it notes and stuck them to the board.



The results of the comments that were made are (in no particular order):-

Could we:

- put in a BMX track for youngsters (or perhaps a few more humps)?
- implement Traffic Calming on the High Street (like – Oaksey)?
- use Community Asset process to have the Bell rated as a community facility – ownership not needed
- community ownership of the Bell House
- have more local facilities – village shop, café)?
- provide a footbridge (next to the road) over the Avon to Christian Malford?
- bring the Swing Band back for another evening?
- could we get number plates on the Speed Indicating Device?
- continue trying to get the Village Groups to work together more – sharing resources etc

Compliments were



- Splendid job
- Sutton Benger is a lovely place – no issues from us
- Love the comments on the Speed Indicator Devices
- Trails are good - note tree down on trail to Bluebells
- Feel standard of representation and support is good
- It's all good
- A big thank you for everything the Parish Council does for our village. VE80 was brilliant

- Congratulations on all efforts on the VE day celebrations
- Thank you for today – it's been fantastic
- Keep the good comms going (SID, VE80 etc)

Problems with :

- Noise from motorcycles
- Flooding, Speeding and Potholes on the roads
- Traffic – we need a pedestrian crossing
- New houses and impact on the school
- Speed of tractors at harvest time
- Need better road markings for the road between Sutton Benger and Seagry – dotted centre line to move traffic
- People are using litter bins for dog waste