

**MINUTES OF THE SWYNNERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2015 IN HANCHURCH VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** Councillor R A James (Chairman)  
Councillor (Mrs) N Adams  
Councillor D Butler  
Councillor F Cheadle  
Cllr F Cromey  
Councillor B Eyre  
Councillor N Leeson  
Councillor Miss B Fieldhouse  
Councillor Mateu  
Councillor S Riddle  
Councillor D Tucker

**In attendance:** Mrs Liz Harrington-Jones (Parish Clerk)  
2 members of the public

**Apologies:** Councillor (Mrs) P Boulton  
Councillor (Mrs) K Ong  
Councillor B Price, Stafford Borough Council (SBC)  
Councillor F Chapman, Staffordshire County Council (SCC)

**15/153 Public Question Time**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no issues raised by members of the public.

**15/154 Reports of County Councillors and Borough Councillors**

Cllr James will ask Cllr Chapman for a report on Highways issues. Cllr James reported on the start of a proposed process to transfer Leisure Services to a charitable trust. Section 106 funds had not yet been received from the developer of the Walnut Tree Farm, Ash Lane, Yarnfield, site, , although it was understood that the development was now fully occupied.

**15/155 Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Boulton and Ong, SBC Cllr Price and SCC Cllr Chapman.

**15/156 Declarations of Interest and to consider written requests from Councillors to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011)**

There were no declarations of interest made by Councillors.

**15/157 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22 October 2015**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the Swynnerton Parish Council meeting held on 22 October 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**15/158 Clerk's Progress Report, items not on the agenda**

The Clerk circulated a list of action points arising from the last meeting, most of which had been completed or would be covered later in the meeting. Councillors agreed that the graffiti should be removed from the bus stop at Ferndown Drive without delay, and a protective coating applied to reduce the impact of future vandalism. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk reported that a telephone call had been received from Western Power, who were surveying trees near power lines in the Parish that required cutting back or felling. One site was found to be outside the Parish boundary, the other on land forming part of Lord Stafford's Estate. Councillors would be notified of any other sites that might require work.

Cllrs Eyre and Tucker would meet the Clerk to view the sites on Yarnfield Green where replacement trees should be installed. **Action: Cllrs Eyre, Tucker, Clerk**

**15/159 Financial matters**

**15/159.1 To approve the accounts for November for payment**

The following accounts were considered for payment:

Clerk's salary and expenses	394.76
Trent Grounds maintenance	393.60
Information Commissioner Registration	35.00
Swynnerton Village Hall, Neighbourhood Plan meeting	35.00
SBC, Printing of labels for newsletter posting	231.69
<b>Total payments for November</b>	<b>£1,090.05</b>

**RESOLVED** - That the accounts for November be approved for payment.

**15/159.2 Draft budget and precept proposal for 2016/2017**

Councillors agreed to consider the draft proposals and discuss and finalise at their meeting December.

**15/159 Ward matters**

**15/159.i Ward matters, Swynnerton, benches on Cotes Lane junction and Park View/Highfield Close**

SCC Highways had not yet responded regarding the siting of the benches. The Clerk would contact them again, and also confirm that SPC would welcome an increased allocation of time in the Parish by the Neighbourhood Highway Team.

**Action: Clerk**

The Clerk would forward details and prices for benches to Cllr Butler for him to pass on to Swynnerton & Yarnfield WI.

**Action: Clerk, Cllr Butler**

**15/159.ii Ward matters, Tittensor, issues raised by residents**

The Clerk would contact Cllr Chapman and Richard Rayson, SCC, to alert them to the dangerous situation when traffic exits the A34 at speed near to the junction of Hammond Rise with Winghouse Lane.

**Action: Clerk**

The Clerk would confirm to Tittensor Village Hall Committee that Councillors were aware that CCTV cameras had been installed overlooking the play area.

**Action: Clerk**

**15/159.iii Trentham, Ferndown Play Area, installation of memorial bench, dog fouling**

A photograph of the recently installed memorial bench was shown to Councillors. Pressure would be put on SBC to provide additional litter bins for the area. Councillors agreed to discuss the matter again at their next meeting, and would consider purchasing additional bins if no progress had been made. The Clerk would write to inform the Friends of Ferndown.

**Action: Clerk**

**15/159.iv Trentham, pavements on Whitmore Road**

Cllr Adams reported that the pavements at the bend on Whitmore Road, where traffic enters from the A34, were very overgrown and pedestrians were forced to walk in the road. The Clerk would notify SCC.

**Action: Clerk**

**15/159.v Yarnfield, application for funding to install Adult Exercise Equipment adjacent to play area**

Cllr Tucker confirmed that a decision on the application would be received by the next meeting.

**15/159.vi Yarnfield, tree by bus stop on Yarnfield Lane**

Cllr Eyre reported that the tree adjacent to the bus stop needed cutting back as it obscured the street light and obstructed the pavement. The Clerk would notify SCC Highways.

**Action: Clerk**

**15/160 Action to reduce the incidence of dog fouling within the Parish**

Friends of Ferndown had confirmed that dog fouling was one of their biggest problems, and they would welcome the provision of additional bins. There was also a problem in Tittensor, and more bins would be welcome. Yarnfield had problems on The Green, High Lows Lane, and The Furlong. The Clerk would pass the information to Mr S Hocking, SBC.

**Action: Clerk**

**15/161 Swynnerton Parish Council Media Policy**

A draft Media Policy had been circulated to Councillors and was approved, subject to the addition of 'Recordings, or sections thereof, should be complete and unedited' at the end of Item 8.

**RESOLVED** – That the draft Media Policy should be adopted by Swynnerton Parish Council and reviewed annually at the Annual Meeting of Swynnerton Parish Council.

**15/162 Neighbourhood Plan, update on progress to date**

A meeting had been arranged for all residents who had expressed an interest in the Neighbourhood Plan on Thursday 26 November 2015 at Swynnerton Village Hall at 7.30 pm. Cllr Cromey had analysed the information received on all completed questionnaires. Mr Hugh Lufton, the consultant who had completed the Neighbourhood Plan for Gnosall, had confirmed his willingness to assist with the Neighbourhood Plan for Swynnerton and provided an estimate of likely costs. Councillors agreed that Mr Lufton should be invited to attend the meeting on 26 November, and that the Clerk should contact the Clerk to Gnosall Parish Council and consult with them on the procedures to follow.

**Action: Clerk**

**15/163 Highways issues, traffic and Speedwatch update**

Cllr Tucker reported there had been another accident at Pilstones Bank, Cold Meece. Councillors agreed that a meeting should be arranged between Richard Rayson, SCC Highways, and Cllrs Eyre and Tucker to discuss the way forward to improve safety on the road.

**Action: Clerk**

Cllr Eyre reported that following an appeal in a recent issue of The Flyer, no volunteers had come forward in Yarnfield. Councillors agreed that another appeal should be made in the next edition of The Flyer.

Cllr Mateu reported that three Speedwatch sessions had been held recently, but volunteers were restricted to operating in the early afternoons due to the time of year, so were unable to cover the periods of peak traffic volumes.

Eight volunteers and one new trainee would operate the equipment. PC Karl Green had not yet carried out a risk assessment at the three main sites.

Councillors discussed the possibility of installing gates south of Swynnerton, approaching Yarnfield from the direction of the motorway, and on Northwood Lane in Trentham, to encourage drivers to slow down. Councillors agreed that the cost and the ownership of the relevant areas of land should be investigated, and a report made to the next meeting.

**Action: Clerk**

**15/164 Correspondence and circulars received by the Clerk**

A list of correspondence received to date was circulated to Councillors at the meeting. Cllr Tucker requested information on play equipment should be forwarded to him, and Cllr Eyre requested details of next year's 'Ironman' event in Staffordshire.

**Action: Clerk**

**15/151 Matters for the next meeting**

Neighbourhood Plan, next stages  
Budget and precept requirements for 2015/2016

**15/152 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of Swynnerton Parish Council will be Thursday 17 December in **Yarnfield Village Hall at 7.15 pm**. There being no other business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.