

**MINUTES OF THE SWYNNERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 17 DECEMBER 2015 IN YARNFIELD 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 Miss B Fieldhouse
Councillor N Leeson
Councillor Mateu
Councillor (Mrs) K Ong
Councillor S Riddle
Councillor D Tucker

In attendance: Mrs Liz Harrington-Jones (Parish Clerk)
Councillor F Chapman, Staffordshire County Council (SCC)
3 members of the public

Apologies: Councillor (Mrs) P Boulton
Councillor B Price, Stafford Borough Council (SBC)

15/167 Public Question Time

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. A member of the public reported the serious state of a pothole on the road to Yarnfield Park and Yarnfield Training Centre. He had been advised previously to report the matter to SCC 'Clarence', a system which was no longer in operation. The Clerk would raise this again with Barratts, as a matter of urgency. **Action: Clerk**

Two large vehicles had collided on Yarnfield Lane the previous day. Trucks had been reported travelling in the wrong direction to access Yarnfield Park. Concerns were expressed about the speed of vehicles along Yarnfield Lane, particularly near the junction with Ash Lane.

The overgrown hedges impeding the pavement along Yarnfield Lane had been reported to SCC Highways some time ago, and a reminder would be sent. **Action: Clerk**

15/168 Reports of County Councillors and Borough Councillors

Cllr Chapman confirmed that traffic speeds on rural roads were a problem throughout the county. He would draw the problems in Swynnerton Parish to the attention of the Safer Roads Partnership. Additional signage was considered. Councillors suggested the purchase of solar powered flashing speed restriction warning signs and asked if help towards the cost would be available from SCC Highways. Cllr Chapman would investigate and report back. He would also request more frequent visits from the speed camera van.

Councillors considered the installation of gates to restrict traffic speed approaching Swynnerton and Yarnfield villages and on Northwood Lane, and would look at their installation in other areas. CPO Brewis had now returned to the area, and would be available to provide a uniform presence.

Cllr Chapman reported on the potential for closer collaboration between the police and fire authorities, and assured Councillors there would be no further cuts to police services in the near future.

Cllr James reported on the latest ministerial announcement on HS2. Construction should begin in 2020, with completion due in 2017. A public meeting was scheduled for 16 January 2016 in Yarnfield Village Hall. Notices giving details had been placed on Council notice boards.

It was reported that, during a recent farm machinery sale on the MoD site at Cold Meece, damage had been caused to the traffic island due to drivers using it to park vehicles. The police had agreed to tape off the area during future events. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should write to Major Salisbury reminding him that considerable amounts of money and effort have been spent on the area by the Parish Council and local residents to enhance the area; that there was a major hazard to drivers travelling from Norton Bridge as they could not view traffic approaching from the right; and requesting that it should be a condition for any future events that the traffic island was kept clear.

The Chairman closed the public session of the meeting.

15/169 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr (Mrs) Boulton and SBC Cllr Price.

15/170 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.

15/171 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19 November 2015

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Swynnerton Parish Council meeting held on 19 November 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

15/172 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.

AF Systems had been instructed to remove the graffiti from Ferndown Drive South bus shelter and apply a protective coating. This would be done in the New Year as soon as weather conditions were favourable.

Details of benches for installation in Swynnerton had been handed to Cllr Butler, who would take them to the next Yarnfield & Swynnerton WI meeting for consideration.

SCC Highways had been contacted and had no objection in principle to the siting of gates to restrict traffic speed on the approaches to Yarnfield and Swynnerton. Precise details of the proposed sites would be required before a decision could be made.

Historic England had confirmed that the war memorial at Swynnerton was listed (Entry No 1038992). The memorial at Tittensor was under consideration. The Clerk had forwarded details of the war memorial at Cold Meece and this was now also under consideration.

Bill Waller, SBC Biodiversity Officer, had no objection to hornbeam trees being planted on Yarnfield Green.

15/173 Financial matters

15/173.1 To approve the accounts for December for payment

The following accounts were considered for payment:

Clerk’s salary and expenses	507.87
SBC, Parish Council election charges	350.19
AF Systems, graffiti removal, Ferndown bus shelter	612.00
HMRC, PAYE, Nat Ins	260.20
SPCA, training costs	55.00
Total payments for December	£1, 785.26

RESOLVED - That the accounts for December be approved for payment.

15/173.2 Draft budget and precept proposal for 2016/2017

Councillors agreed that there should be no change to the precept for the year 2016/2017, giving a precept income of £18,207.

RESOLVED – That the precept requirement for 2016/2017 was £18,207, resulting in the precept rate for residents of Swynnerton Parish remaining unchanged.

(Cllr Chapman left the meeting at 8.20 pm.)

15/174 Ward matters

15/174.i Ward matters, Swynnerton, benches on Cotes Lane junction and Park View/Highfield Close

Cllr Butler confirmed he would take details of benches to the next meeting of Yarnfield & Swynnerton WI.

15/174.ii Ward matters, Tittensor, issues raised by residents

The Clerk would chase up the provision of an additional bin on Green Drive which had been requested. **Action: Clerk**

15/174.iii Trentham, Ferndown Play Area, provision of waste bins

The Clerk would contact Streetscene to confirm that they would empty additional bins at Ferndown play area, should they be installed. **Action: Clerk**

15/174.iv Yarnfield, decision on application for funding to install Adult Exercise Equipment

Cllr Tucker reported that the recent application to Veolia had been unsuccessful. An application for funding had now been submitted to Tesco.

15/174.v Yarnfield, issues raised by residents

Cllr Eyre reported on problems with traffic and parking issues in the area of the school. Cllr James would request the attendance of a traffic warden. Councillors asked if the lay-by and parking facilities included in the planning application for the Yarnfield Park development could be installed immediately, rather than waiting until the development was completed. Springfields First School was planning for an additional 80 pupils, which would exacerbate the existing problems. **Action: Cllr James**

15/175 Quiz Night on 28 January 2016, in aid of the Mayor’s Charity Appeal

Councillors agreed that the Trentham Ward Councillors (Cllrs Adams, Leeson, Ong) should attend the event to represent Swynnerton Parish Council as a networking exercise and to support the Mayor’s Charity Appeal. Councillors wished them good luck in their endeavours. **Action: Cllrs Adams, Leeson, Ong**

15/176 Neighbourhood Plan, update on progress

Cllr James reported on the meeting held on 26 November. Details of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee would be placed on the website, together with information on future meetings, agendas, and progress to date. Hugh Lufton had addressed the meeting and reported on the two Neighbourhood Plans with which he had been involved. He was

willing to prepare data for publication resulting from the questionnaires and would submit his invoice in January. The website would be sufficiently interactive for questionnaires and other forms to be completed and submitted on line. The Neighbourhood Plan would be a living document, to be reviewed regularly, probably every five years.

RESOLVED That Mr Hugh Lufton should be employed to carry out work, as instructed, on Swynnerton Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan.

15/177 Proposed visits by SBC Amenity Vehicle during 2016/17

Councillors confirmed that they would require the SBC Amenity Vehicle to attend on Saturday mornings in the Parish between the hours of 10 am and 12 noon during 2016/2017. Councillors would inform the Clerk if there were any Saturdays when it would not be appropriate for the vehicle to be in attendance. **Action: All**

15/178 Correspondence and circulars received by the Clerk

A list of correspondence received to date had been circulated to Councillors.

15/165 Matters for the next meeting

Neighbourhood Plan, next stages

15/166 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Swynnerton Parish Council will be Thursday 28 January 2016 in Tittensor Village Hall at 7.15 pm. There being no other business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.