

**MINUTES OF THE SWYNNERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 28 JANUARY 2016 IN TITTENSOR VILLAGE HALL**

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

In attendance: Mrs Liz Harrington-Jones (Parish Clerk)
Councillor F Chapman, Staffordshire County Council (SCC)
Kirsty James, Staffordshire Newsletter
Mr Russell Poole, Lord Stafford Estate
1 member of the public

Apologies: Councillor (Mrs) N Adams
Councillor N Leeson
Councillor (Mrs) K Ong
Councillor B Price, Stafford Borough Council (SBC)

16/01 Public Question Time

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. A member of the public reported that the pothole on the road to Yarnfield Park and Yarnfield Training Centre had been repaired. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should contact SBC Planning and enquire when the road would be adopted **Action: Clerk**

Councillors agreed that the Clerk should also enquire when work on the road between Cold Norton and Cold Meece would be completed. **Action: Clerk**

Councillors agreed that the Clerk would clarify Amey's responsibilities with Cllr Chapman and, if appropriate, obtain details of landowners whose hedges were overhanging pavements and write to them to request their co-operation in keeping pavements clear for pedestrians to walk safely. **Action: Clerk**

16/02 Reports of County Councillors and Borough Councillors

Cllr Chapman had spoken to Richard Rayson (SCC Highways) about the installation of gates at Loggerheads to slow traffic approaching villages. Cllrs Eyre and Tucker would shortly be meeting with Mr Rayson about traffic issues in the Parish.

(7.30 pm, Cllr Chapman left the meeting.)

16/03 Mr Russell Poole, Lord Stafford Estate

The Chairman invited Mr Poole to report on the refurbishment of The Fitzherbert Arms, Swynnerton, and the proposal to replace the brick bus stop. SCC had confirmed that the bus stop, although owned and maintained by SPC, was sited on land belonging to Lord Stafford's Estate. A map showing land ownership in Swynnerton was circulated.

It was proposed to move the bus stop to the other side of the telephone box and replace it with a freestanding wooden structure, with self cleaning toughened glass, providing greater visibility for users and more in keeping with the refurbishment of the pub. The telephone box would be repainted. Car parking for customers would be at the rear of the pub (Early Lane), with staff car parking available opposite. There would be no gap at the back of the bus shelter, to avoid the accumulation of rubbish and litter.

Mr Poole agreed to forward a drawing showing the original pub to the Clerk for circulation to Councillors, and costings for the wooden structure. **Action: Clerk**

Mr Poole proposed that the replacement of the bus shelter should be funded by the Estate, together with all maintenance and insurance responsibilities. Cleaning would be the responsibility of the tenant.

The Estate had liaised with the WI, who had agreed to the temporary re-siting of the defibrillator in the bus shelter. Correspondence and telephone calls had been received from residents, half against and half in favour of the proposals for the bus shelter. Mr Poole reported it was hoped to reopen the pub in time for Valentine's Day (14 February).

The Chairman thanked Mr Poole for his presentation, and closed the public session of the meeting.

16/04 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Adams, Leeson and Ong and SBC Cllr Price.

16/05 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.

16/06 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17 December 2015

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Swynnerton Parish Council meeting held on 17 December 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

16/07 Clerk’s Progress Report, items not on the agenda

The Clerk circulated a list of action points arising from the last meeting.

The pothole at the entrance to Yarnfield Park had been repaired (15/165).

Councillors were advised that potholes should be reported to SCC Highways to ensure prompt action.

The Clerk would inform SBC that Tittensor village hall car park would not be available on 22 August 2016 for the civic amenity vehicle (15/177). **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Boulton reported on the progress made by the working party that had been set up to combat dog fouling in Tittensor, and would forward a report to the Clerk for circulation to Councillors. Notices had been put up in the village, although several had been removed. The area around Green Drive had improved, but there were difficulties in educating dog walkers about the problems caused. Dog waste bags were available from the Post Office. Cllr Boulton had arranged to speak to the Brownies, Guides, and First School pupils to raise awareness. The Clerk would obtain more posters, dog waste bags, and leaflets for Tittensor and Yarnfield villages. **Action: Clerk, Cllr Boulton**

The wheelie bin speed stickers for Swynnerton were now available and would be delivered by the PCSO. The Clerk would apply for additional stickers for Winghouse Lane, Tittensor. **Action: Clerk**

Streetscene were reviewing the siting of bins across the Borough and would complete the exercise before making a decision on providing additional bins for Green Drive, Tittensor, and Ferndown Nature Reserve (15/159.iii,15/140)..

The trees by the bus stop in Yarnfield had still not been cut back and the light was still obscured. The Clerk would send a further reminder to SCC Highways and Streetscene (15/159.vi). **Action: Clerk**

16/08 Financial matters

15/08.1 To approve the accounts for January for payment

The following accounts were considered for payment:

Clerk’s salary and expenses	379.22
SPCA, training invoice	35.00
John Green Landscapes, work at Cold Meece	96.00
SBC, Civic Amenity visit	105.00
Total payments for January	£615.22

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

16/08.ii Proposal to purchase a projector for use in meetings

After discussion, Councillors agreed that a projector should be purchased for use in meetings, at an approximate cost of £400.

RESOLVED – That a projector should be purchased for use in meetings.

16/09 Ward matters

16/09.i Ward matters, Swynnerton, benches on Cotes Lane junction and Park View/Highfield Close

Cllr Butler had discussed the provision of benches with members of the WI, who had selected their preferred design. Councillors agreed that the benches should be installed with slabs under, and that a quotation should be obtained from Mr Challinor to fit the benches with slabs under. **Action: Clerk**

16/09.ii Ward matters, Swynnerton, postal deliveries

Correspondence had been received from a resident, complaining about frequent late deliveries of post. Councillors sympathised with the situation but felt there was little further that could be done as representations had been made to the local delivery office and the Member of Parliament.

16/09.iii Tittensor, Consultation for listing of War Memorial

Councillors gave details of residents who could provide information regarding the War Memorial. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Fieldhouse reported that the grid on the A34 near The White House, which has been reported to SCC Highways on numerous occasions, was still blocked and causing problems for nearby residents. The Clerk would take photographs and report it to SCC Highways again. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Boulton asked if the triangle outside the shop and post office could be reduced in area so that vehicles could pass each other. The Clerk would contact SCC Highways. **Action: Clerk**

16/09.iv Trentham, Ferndown play area, provision of waste bins

This item was covered in the Clerk’s report (16/07).

16/09.v Yarnfield application for adult exercise equipment

There was nothing further to report. Cllr James was checking when the Section 106 money would be available.

16/09.vi Yarnfield, footpaths in Yarnfield Park

Cllr Eyre had received a complaint from a resident about the extensive dog fouling in Yarnfield Park and the lack of waste bins. These issues should be addressed by the developer, who would charge a maintenance fee for the care of all open spaces on the site.

Cllr Eyre reported that the footpaths between Cold Meece and Swynnerton were very overgrown. Councillors agreed that the Clerk would ask the SCC Neighbourhood Highways Team to address this on their next visit. **Action: Clerk**

16/09.vii Yarnfield, Traffic problems in the area of Springfields First School/Yarnfield Park

Cllr James would request the attendance of a traffic warden at appropriate times. The Clerk would send a reminder to Barratts about the signs on the A34 which had still not had the lettering replaced. **Action: Cllr James, Clerk**

16/09.viii Yarnfield, Listing for Cold Meece War Memorial

Information had been forwarded to Heritage England to support the application for listing. Damage had been caused to the memorial and surrounding area recently by a heavy vehicle. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should write to Major Salisbury informing him of the damage and urging greater care in the area, and to John Green Landscapes to arrange for the reinstatement of the area. **Action: Clerk**

16/09.ix Trees to be planted along stream on Yarnfield Green

The SBC Tree Officer had recommended that alders should be planted on the site, in preference to hornbeam, and this view was supported by the SBC Biodiversity Officer. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should arrange for three trees and supports to be purchased at an approximate cost of £100, and the trees to be planted by TGM or John Green Landscapes. **Action: Clerk**

16/10 Impact of HS2 on Swynnerton Parish

Councillors reported that many households in the area had not received information on the public meeting about HS2 held in Yarnfield Village Hall on 16 January 2016. Cllr James would pursue the matter.

Responses to the consultation should be submitted by 25 February 2016. The sites of two local depots for work on the project were not yet known. Assurances had been given that the project would not cause any disruption to traffic on the M6.

16/11 Schedule of maintenance programme

Councillors approved the maintenance programme, subject to the addition of the traffic island and the area around the war memorial at Cold Meece. Maintenance contractors would be invited to tender. **Action: Clerk**

16/12 Neighbourhood Plan, update on progress

Details were awaited of the grant to prepare the Neighbourhood Plan. Mr Lufton had carried out preparatory work.

16/13 Best Kept Village competition, entries for 2016

The Clerk would forward details of the competition to Cllr Boulton, for a possible entry by Tittensor. **Action: Clerk**

16/Programme of meetings for 2016

Councillors agreed the proposed dates for meetings in 2016, details of which would be placed on notice boards and the website. **Action: Clerk**

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 25 February 2016 in Swynnerton Village Hall at 7.15 pm. There being no other business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.