

**MINUTES OF THE SWYNNERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER IN TITTENSOR VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr R James (Chairman)
Cllr (Mrs) N Adams
Cllr D Butler
Councillor F Cheadle
Cllr F Cromey
Councillor B Eyre
Councillor N Leeson
Cllr (Mrs) K Ong
Cllr D Tucker

In attendance: Mrs Liz Harrington-Jones (Parish Clerk)
1 member of the public

Apologies: Cllr (Mrs) P Boulton
Cllr E Mateu
Councillor Brian Price, Stafford Borough Council (SBC)
Councillor F Chapman, Staffordshire County Council (SCC)

16/129 Public Question Time

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. A resident of Tittensor reported that he had received a 'Rejected' notice on his recycling bin, and gave examples of the two rejected plastic boxes, both of which were made of recyclable material. SBC would not accept such items for recycling, but would incinerate them. Cllr James would pursue the matter with SBC. Clothing and small electrical items were now accepted for recycling..

The drains at the bottom of Beech Cliff Lane had now been cleared, following a direct approach by the resident to employees of SCC Highways who were working in the village. The Chairman thanked the member of the public for attending.

16/130 Reports of County Councillors and Borough Councillors

Cllr Chapman had sent his apologies Cllr James had no matters to report from SBC.

16/131 Apologies

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

16/132 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.

16/133 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 August 2016

16/122.iii Line 1 should read '. . . entrance to Green Lane on the A34 opposite Tittensor Manor.'

RESOLVED – That, subject to the above amendment, the minutes of the Swynnerton Parish Council meeting held on 25 August 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

16/134 Clerk's Progress Report, items not on the agenda

The Clerk reported that a meeting had been arranged with Richard Rayson, SCC Highways, for 12 October in Yarnfield Village Hall. (16/112). Tea, coffee and biscuits would be provided.

Mr Challinor had been asked to reinstate the bin on Yarnfield Green that had been thrown in the brook.

Daffodil and crocus bulbs would be collected the following day for distribution through the Parish. Councillors agreed to provide a selection of bulbs for tubs installed by the WI by the new benches.

Councillors agreed that a resident who had expressed interest in representing Tittensor Ward should be invited to the next Parish Council meeting or possible co-option. There were currently two vacancies for Tittensor Ward (16/119).

The Clerk had requested details of solar powered signs that flash driver speed and 'Slow down' messages from Messagemakmer, and would circulate these when received (16/120). Councillors agreed that the Clerk should write to SCC Highways requesting the specific make and model number of approved items of equipment. **Action: Clerk**

Councillors were dissatisfied with recent responses from SCC Highways and agreed that Cllr Leeson should draft a letter to be sent to Cllr Chapman with copies to the Chief Executive. **Action: Cllr Leeson**

A letter of thanks had been sent to Streetscene for cutting the Green, Yarnfield, prior to the village Fete.

The planters at Great Bridgeford were very large, and had been financed by Network Rail and made locally. A resident of Cold Meece was obtaining prices for smaller tubs and would pass the information to the Clerk (16/122.v)

An email had been received from a U3A Walks leader requesting information on walks in the Swynnerton area. Cllr Butler offered to help, and the Clerk would pass on information. **Action: Clerk, Cllr Butler**

A Yarnfield resident had asked about progress to register a footpath over the playing field. The Clerk would contact SCC for an update. **Action: Clerk**

The milepost had been identified on Whitmore Road, and SCC Highways had been asked for advice regarding its refurbishment. The kerbstones had been scheduled for repair and realignment. **Action: Clerk**

16/135 Financial matters

16/135.i September accounts for payment

The following accounts were considered -

Clerk's salary and expenses	487.52
John Green Landscapes	840.00
Grant Thornton, audit fee	240.00
Eon, Street lamp maintenance and energy (Swynnerton)	74.92
Swynnerton Village Hall hire, Stone Parish Liaison Group meeting	10.00
HMRC, PAYE/NI	320.20
P Pattison, cutting Yarnfield Green	50.00
P & M Edwards, daffodil, tulip bulbs	128.00
Eccleshall and Mercia Rotary, Purple4Polio campaign	<u>200.00</u>
Total payments for September	£2,350.64

RESOLVED - That the accounts for September be approved for payment, with the inclusion of £200 contribution to the Purple4Polio campaign.

16/135.ii Report from Grant Thornton on Annual Audit

The report from Grant Thornton on the Annual Audit had been received, with no comments made. The notice inviting electors to inspect the accounts had been displayed on all notice boards.

16/135.iii Purchase of three wreaths for Remembrance Day services

Councillors approved the purchase of three wreaths for Remembrance Day services at an approximate cost of £50.

16/136 Traffic issues in the Parish

The Safer Roads Partnership had been notified of the increased speed and volume of traffic through Yarnfield, and had arranged for the SID trailer to be installed in the village. Speed checks would be carried out prior to the attendance of the speed van. Councillors recommended that the speed checks should be sited on the verge at the entrance to the village from the A34, and at the junction of High Lows Lane with Yarnfield Lane. Cllrs Eyre and Tuckler would be available for advice and consultation.

Councillors asked the Clerk to write to SCC Highways regarding the installation of traffic calming gates, requesting a response by mid November. Tacit agreement would be assumed if no response was received by that date.

Action: Clerk

16/137 Ward matters

16/137.i Swynnerton, issues raised by residents

Cllr Butler would obtain more details concerning the new scout troop in Swynnerton.

Action: Cllr Butler

16/137.ii Tittensor, issues raised by residents

No issues had been reported.

16/137.iii Trentham, issues raised by residents

No issues had been raised by residents. Cllr Leeson reported on a recent meeting of the Sir Richard Leveson and Lady Katherine Charity. Minutes had been passed to the Clerk to place on the record. £850 in total had been donated to a local group going to Kenya and for a laptop for a local university student.

16/137.iv Yarnfield, issues raised by residents

Traffic issues had been covered earlier in the meeting. The state of the pavements would be discussed with Richard Rayson at the meeting on 12 October. The road leading to Yarnfield Park still required work, and would be brought fully up to standard before adoption by the local authority.

16/138 HS2 – Briefing on Phase 2a Consultation

Information received on the Consultation, ending on 8 November, was displayed to Councillors. A local briefing for residents would take place on Wednesday 12 October, and information would be displayed on Yarnfield and Swynnerton notice boards.

A proposition had been made very recently to construct a railhead at Yarnfield. Construction would take approximately 6 years. It was not yet known whether the railhead would be a temporary feature, or permanent.

After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would make a written submission to the Consultation, and would work with other local organisations to represent local interests. Councillors would also make representations as individuals. The Chairman reported that representatives from HS2 would attend the next Parish Council meeting.

16/139 Proposal to offer Superfast broadband provision to village halls

After discussion Councillors agreed to obtain prices for installation and running costs, with a view to inclusion in next year's precept.

Action: Clerk

The 'league table' of precept charges made by Parish Councils would be brought to the next meeting. Councillors agreed to investigate the costs involved in replicating the work of SCC NHT for possible inclusion in the precept.

Action: Clerk

Action: Clerk

16/140 Draft article for inclusion in the Church magazine

The Clerk would draft an article for inclusion in the Church magazine and circulate it to Councillors for approval.

Action: Clerk

16/141 Neighbourhood Plan, Update on progress

The Chairman hoped to circulate a rough draft of the Plan over the following weekend, and requested information on areas to build, particularly brown field sites.

Action: Cllr James

16/142 Correspondence and circulars received by the Clerk

A list of received correspondence had been circulated to Councillors. Cllr Eyre had brought a police alert that 120 chickens had been stolen from a farm in Meaford. Other recent local burglaries were discussed, and the Chairman urged Councillors to keep outside buildings secure and encourage residents to do the same.

16/143 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Swynnerton Parish Council was scheduled for Thursday 27 October 2016, at 7.15pm in Swynnerton Village Hall. There being no other business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.15 pm.