

**MINUTES OF THE SWYNNERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY 24 NOVEMBER IN HANCHURCH VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** Cllr R James (Chairman)  
Cllr (Mrs) N Adams  
Cllr (Mrs) P Boulton  
Cllr F Cheadle  
Cllr B Eyre  
Cllr N Leeson  
Cllr J Malkin  
Cllr (Mrs) K Ong  
Cllr D Tucker

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

**Apologies:** Cllr D Butler  
Cllr F Cromey  
Cllr E Mateu  
Cllr Brian Price, Stafford Borough Council (SBC)  
Cllr F Chapman, Staffordshire County Council (SCC)

**16/161 Public Question Time**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Two Tittensor residents gave details of a proposal to apply to develop an area of land with social or sheltered housing to meet local needs, and incorporating a junction with traffic lights on the A34 to address a perceived need for local traffic control..

Part of the site is on Green Belt land which is outside the agreed development boundary, and the protection of which is supported by the Council. It was pointed that this had not been a problem with regard to Westbridge Park, Stone; under the NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework there is a need for more housing nationally, and exceptions can be made with local agreement to release land from the Green Belt. Councillors were asked to consider supporting the proposal when discussing Swynnerton's Neighbourhood Plan, and were invited to view the site. Cllr Boulton declared an interest as she lives very near the site.

**16/162 Reports of County Councillors and Borough Councillors**

A report had not been received from Cllr Chapman. Cllr James reported that Stafford Borough Council was considering the budget for next year. Cllr Leeson presented a leaflet giving information on the consultation taking place in Wychavon on the allocation of the New Homes Bonus. Cllr James agreed to take this forward and report back. **Action: Cllr James**

**16/163 Apologies**

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

**16/164 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.

**16/165 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27 October 2016**

**16/146, line 4**, should read '... should take place between 2020 and 2026.'

**RESOLVED** That, subject to the above amendment, the minutes of the Swynnerton Parish Council meeting held on 27 October 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**16/166 Co-option of Mr Brian Price as Tittensor Ward Councillor**

After discussion it was agreed to defer a decision until the December meeting of the Parish Council.

**16/167 Clerk's Progress Report, items not on the agenda**

The Clerk reported that a request for volunteers for Yarnfield Speedwatch group had been included in the church magazine (16/151).

The Clerk had contacted SCC Highways and SBC Planning about the proposed sign for Tittensor Village Hall (16/154.ii).

SBC had been notified of the Council's interest in adopting the red telephone box (16/154.i).

Cllr James would arrange a consultation in December with Yarnfield residents on the proposals to use Section 106 monies to improve Yarnfield Green (16/154.vi)

Cllr Tucker had arranged the printing and distribution of leaflets and Cllr James had included a website link (16/155).

Cllr James would circulate a draft copy of Swynnerton Neighbourhood Plan on 26 or 27 November 2016 (16/158,141).

The Clerk had reported damage to branches on Yarnfield Lane, witnessed by Cllr Eyre and posing a possible danger to road users. SCC Highways had carried out an inspection and confirmed there was no danger. Monitoring of the rally held at MoD on 5 and 6 November had revealed significant results which would be held on file. A purchaser of a property in Yarnfield had emailed requesting information on proposed development in the area. The Clerk had advised him of the proposed HS2 workings and the possible siting of the railhead at Stone. Cllr Price had advised of possible enforcement issues concerning the fence at the former Winghouse pub, Tittensor, and on Northwood Lane, Clayton.

**16/168 Financial matters**

**16/168.i November accounts for payment**

The following accounts were considered -

Clerk's salary and expenses	528.03
John Green Landscapes	624.00
Solopress Printing (16/155)	<u>69.00</u>
Total payments for November,	£1,321.03

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

**16/168.ii Consideration of precept requirement for 2017-2018**

Councillors considered funding the tasks previously carried out by the Neighbourhood Highways Team; the provision of a flashing speed sign, plus posts; a further set of traffic calming gates for Swynnerton; the provision of Superfast Broadband to four village halls; costs incurred in mitigating the impact of the HS2 project. The Clerk would bring detailed costs and projections to the December meeting. **Action: Clerk**

**16/169 Traffic issues in the Parish**

Cllr Adams requested a 'Concealed entrance' sign before the junction with Park Lane when travelling from the traffic lights on the A34 along Whitmore Road. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Eyre reported that he had a full complement of volunteers in Yarnfield in order to commence training and apply for equipment for a Speedwatch group in Yarnfield.

The Clerk would pursue information from SCC Highways on approved models of flashing portable speed signs and data from the recent traffic checks on Yarnfield Lane, and the programme for the SID trailer and the attendance of the speed van on Yarnfield Lane. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Tucker reported that traffic calming gates had been installed in Norton Bridge.

**16/170 Ward matters**

**16/170.i Swynnerton, possible adoption for £1 of telephone kiosk outside Fitzherbert Arms**

The Clerk had confirmed to SBC that the Parish was interested in adopting the telephone kiosk outside the Fitzherbert Arms, Swynnerton.

**16/170.ii Tittensor, issues raised by residents, report on Remembrance Day service**

The service had been well attended, with the site looking very tidy and clear of parked vehicles. There were continuing problems caused by residents parking in the vicinity of the war memorial. The Clerk would update information and costs for the next meeting on installing small posts and chains around the war memorial. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Boulton was investigating a possible grant from One Stop Shop to carry out improvements to Footpath 44.

The Clerk would chase up the request for an additional bin at the end of Green Lane on the A34. **Action: Clerk**

**16/170.iii Trentham, issues raised by residents**

The traffic situation had worsened considerably in recent weeks due to the timings having been altered on the traffic lights at the junction between Whitmore Road and the link to the A500.

**16/170.iv Yarnfield, report on rally at Cold Meece**

A resident had confirmed that the noise levels during the rally were of a level that registered as noticeable in DoE terms, and would be held on file.

**16/170.v Yarnfield, report on Remembrance Day service**

Councillors Eyre and Tucker reported that they had attended the Remembrance service on 11 November 2016. A letter of thanks had been sent to Major Salisbury. The commemorative Rose Garden had looked its very best for the occasion.

**16/171 HS2 – Implications for the Parish, report on action to date**

Cllr Tucker reported on the formation of an action group, which was working to effect the removal of the proposed railhead from Stone and, failing that, the mitigation of its impact on local communities. A number of experienced local people were involved, and flyers had been distributed around the area. Concerns were expressed about the conflict of interest demonstrated by Stafford Borough Council and Staffordshire County Council, who could now see benefits

to be gained from the project and were perhaps recognising the inevitable, and Swynnerton Parish Council, who were opposed to the project and in particular to the disruption to local traffic on Yarnfield Lane and the A51. The local Member of Parliament, Bill Cash, had arranged for a debate in the House of Commons. Links were being established with other Parish Councils along the route, and an online petition had been set up for which Cllr Tucker would circulate the link. After discussion Councillors agreed to fund more flyers as needed, and to fund the Clerk attending meetings and taking minutes for the group. The next meeting of the group would be 9 January 2017. The Clerk would circulate to Councillors a copy of the Parish Council's response to the Draft Consultation for Phase 2a. **Action: Clerk**

**16/172 Draft article for inclusion in the Church magazine**

The Clerk would bring to the next meeting an article for inclusion in the January magazine, which would include information on new Councillors. Photographs of all Councillors would be added to the website.

**16/173 Neighbourhood Plan, Update on progress**

The Chairman hoped to circulate a rough draft of the Plan over the following weekend. **Action: Cllr James**

**16/174 Correspondence and circulars received by the Clerk**

Correspondence had been received from SBC, Members Digest; SLCC Clerks' Magazine; Clerks & Councils Direct; Stone Town Council – invitation to attend the Civic Carol service.

**16/175 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of Swynnerton Parish Council was scheduled for Thursday 15 December 2016, at 7.15pm in Yarnfield Village Hall. There being no other business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

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