

**MINUTES OF THE SWYNNERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 2017 IN YARNFIELD VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr R James (Chairman)
Cllr (Mrs) P Boulton
Cllr D Butler
Cllr F Cromey
Cllr F Cheadle
Cllr N Leeson
Cllr J Malkin
Cllr (Mrs) K Ong
Cllr Brian Price
Cllr D Tucker

In attendance: Mrs Liz Harrington-Jones (Parish Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr (Mrs) N Adams
Cllr B Eyre
Cllr E Mateu
Cllr F Chapman, Staffordshire County Council (SCC)

17/01 Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present.

17/02 Reports of County Councillors and Borough Councillors

No report had been received from Cllr Chapman. Cllr James reported the tax base for the Parish for 2017 is £2,087.00.

17/03 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Adams, Eyre and Mateu, and SCC Cllr Chapman,

17/04 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.

17/05 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15 December 2016

It was agreed that Cllr Butler's name should be added to the list of those present, instead of being included in the list of Apologies. **Action: Clerk**

RESOLVED That, subject to the agreed amendment, the minutes of the Swynnerton Parish Council meeting held on 15 December 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

17/06 Clerk's Progress Report, items not on the agenda

The Clerk reported that the request had been made to SCC Highways for a concealed entrance sign near the junction of Park Lane and Whitmore Road, Trentham (16/182).

A letter had been sent to two residents of Tittensor referring to a proposed building development (16/180).

The telephone call to MoD Swynnerton and report on the allocation of New Homes Bonus funding in another authority were still outstanding (16/184.v and 16/162).

Cllr Chapman SCC had reported on a problem with a footpath near Ash Lane, Yarnfield, where a farmer had installed electric fencing. SCC Footpaths were dealing with the matter.

The Clerk had attended a recent memorial service for the late Ian Gammon (Trent Grounds Maintenance).

Other listed items would be discussed later in the meeting.

17/07 Financial matters

17/07 January accounts for payment

The following accounts were considered -

Clerk's salary and expenses	480.98
SBC Civic amenity visits	230.00
Total payments for January	£710.98

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

17/08 Ward matters

17/08.i Swynnerton, request to varnish seat at Toposcope/view point

Councillors agreed that the Clerk should obtain an estimate for the work from Mr Challinor.

Action: Clerk

17/08.ii Swynnerton, problems with parked vehicles in the village centre

Date

.....
Cllr R James, Chairman

Councillors had received a number of complaints from residents over the number and location of vehicles parked in the centre of the village near the Fitzherbert Arms, and also near the war memorial. Lord Stafford Estates, were hoping to arrange a meeting with SCC Highways to discuss possible solutions. After discussion Councillors agreed that the Clerk should write to the Manager, Fitzherbert Arms, to request that staff use the allocated car park on the opposite side of the road, and to seek more car parking spaces as specified in the original planning applications. It was considered that double yellow lines would exacerbate the problems by encouraging parking in other wholly inappropriate areas; problems on pavements has the effect of self monitoring by slowing traffic and shielding pedestrians. Residents and the Parish Council were concerned to support a vital asset to the village. Mr Poole had confirmed that the principal sign for the Fitzherbert Arms was being redesigned. **Action: Clerk**

17/08.iii Swynnerton, history board for former Frobisher Hall gatehouse

Swynnerton & Yarnfield WI had requested support from Councillors with a proposed project to install a history and information board at Fairbanks Walk, on the site of the former Frobisher Hall gatehouse. Councillors confirmed they would be happy to support the project in principle and would await further details from the WI. **Action: Clerk**
Cllr Butler confirmed that he had placed plaques on the two new benches in Swynnerton.

17/08.iv Tittensor, sign for village hall

Cllr Boulton reported that she was investigating the possibility of adding another finger to the signpost to St Luke's Church, to show the location of Tittensor Village Hall, or the installation of an antique black and white fingerpost, and would report back.

17/08.v Tittensor, posts and chains to protect the War Memorial

After discussion, Councillors agreed that the Clerk should write to local residents parking near the war memorial, expressing concern over the lack of respect being shown to a cenotaph regarded with the same veneration as a grave, and requesting co-operation in keeping the area clear. **Action: Clerk**
Cllr Boulton was awaiting a response from SBC on the siting of an additional bin at the end of Green Lane.

17/08.vi Tittensor, application to close churchyard at former Mission Church, Beech, under the provisions of Section 1 of the Burial Act 1983

It was agreed that although Councillors were awaiting a response from SBC, which would be forwarded by the Parochial Church Council (PCC), the Clerk should write to the PCC to enquire if they would be prepared to contribute to any future maintenance costs. The Clerk would consult NALC/SPCA and refer to Arnold-Baker. **Action: Clerk**

17/08/vii Trentham, issues raised by residents

No issues had been raised. A number of residents had received letters from KIER advising that work involving temporary closure of Beechdale Lane was scheduled from 6 February to 3 March 2017.

17/08.viii Yarnfield, pelican crossing outside Springfields School

The road where a pelican crossing had been requested had not yet been adopted, and so would not be eligible for some time for such a crossing. A number of other options such as a walking bus, and the encouragement of parents to use designated parking, were considered.

17/08.ix Yarnfield, sale of properties on Yarnfield Park (Section 106 monies)

The Clerk would check the original planning applications and agreements to ascertain the number of properties that should be sold, and at what stage of the development, to trigger the payment of Section 106 monies. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr James confirmed that the report on the drainage of Yarnfield Green was currently with SBC Leisure.

The report on recorded traffic along Yarnfield Lane was still awaited from SCC Highways, along with confirmation from them of acceptable portable speed signs. Councillors agreed a letter should be sent to the Chief Executive expressing frustration with the lack of a response. **Action: Clerk**

A resident of Yarnfield had collated information on necessary work required on kerbs and pavements in the village. The Clerk would check that the report had been forwarded to SCC Highways. **Action: Clerk**

17/9 Draft article for Church magazine

Councillors suggested pieces on the new Speedwatch group in Yarnfield; the imminent installation of the traffic calming gates; help to keep areas around the war memorials in Cold Meece, Swynnerton and Tittensor clear and to show appropriate respect; continuing struggles to work with SCC to improve traffic issues; the impact of cuts in central government funding and the hope that SPC will be able to take on the responsibility and provide some of the services. Cllr Leeson would prepare an article for The Stone Gazette.

17/10 Civic Amenity Visits 2017/2018

After discussion Councillors agreed to continue the Civic Amenity vehicle visits, in line with previous years, although SBC would no longer provide one visit in three free of charge.

RESOLVED That Civic Amenity visits should continue in line with previous years.

Date

.....
Cllr R James, Chairman

17/11 Cessation of funding to CAB by SCC for Debt Benefit and Consumer Advice

After discussion, Councillors agreed they were not willing to provide funding to SCC for this purpose. Any future contributions would be made direct to CAB. Councillors would be interested to receive a report from CAB at the Annual Meeting in May.

17/12 Termination of Lengthsman Agreements by SCC

The agreement had covered work including road sign cleaning and clearing of gulleys and drains. The Parish Council hoped to provide some services in 2017/2018.

Cllrs Ong and Leeson would attend a Workshop on Thursday 23 February 2017 to discuss the provision of services by local communities and arranged by SCC. **Action : Cllrs Ong, Leeson**

17/13 HS2 – Stone railhead, report on action to date

Cllr Tucker reported that the action group were working to achieve the re-siting of the proposed railhead. A recent report had been received from Cllr Chapman and this would be circulated to Cllrs. **Action: Clerk**

It was agreed that all local communities in the Parish had a strong case for obtaining compensation from HS2, and Councillors would consider a 'wish list' of projects at their next meeting. It was essential that Yarnfield Lane would remain open for use at all times. Cllr Price offered to forward information he received on the HS2 proposals to Cllr Tucker.

17/14 Neighbourhood Plan, Update on progress

Cllr James hoped to send out the draft Neighbourhood Plan during the following weekend. Cllr Cheadle confirmed he would supply a brief history of Swynnerton village. **Action: Cllrs Cheadle, James**

17/15 Correspondence and circulars received by the Clerk

A list of correspondence had been circulated. No other items of correspondence had been received.

17/16 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Swynnerton Parish Council was scheduled for Thursday 23 February 2017 at 7.15pm in Swynnerton Village Hall. Cllrs Cheadle and Price gave their apologies. There being no other business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.