

**MINUTES OF THE SWYNNERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 22 JUNE 2017 IN TITTENSOR VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr R James (Chairman)
Cllr N Adams
Cllr P Boulton
Cllr D Butler
Cllr F Cheadle
Cllr F Cromey
Cllr N Leeson
Cllr J Malkin
Cllr E Mateu
Cllr D Tucker

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

Apologies: Cllr B Eyre
Cllr K Ong
Cllr Brian Price
Cllr J Pert, Staffordshire County Council (SCC)

17/83 Public Question Time

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no members of the public present.

17/84 Reports of County Councillors and Borough Councillors

Cllr Pert SCC had sent his apologies. Cllr James reported the outsourcing of SBC Leisure Department, which should result in a saving to the Borough of £500,000. The play area at Swynnerton would not be affected.

17/85 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Eyre, Ong, and Price and Cllr Pert (SCC).

17/86 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.

17/87 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 May 2017

Minute 17/72 should read 'Current and future letters from SPC to SCC Highways would be copied to all Councillors.'

RESOLVED That subject to the above amendment the minutes of the Swynnerton Parish Council meeting held on 25 May 2017 should be approved and signed by the Chairman.

17/88 Clerk's Progress Report, items not on the agenda

Lord Stafford Estates had confirmed that the staff car park at the rear of the garage was in regular use; signs would be erected to try to reduce the inappropriate parking in Swynnerton village (APM.17.07).

A copy of the Yarnfield residents' report on pavements had been forwarded to Cllr Pert (17/68).

The Clerk or Chairman would report to the next meeting on the number of houses sold on Yarnfield Park and the likely due date for payment of Section 106 monies 17/72). **Action: Clerk, Chairman**

A reminder had been sent to SCC Highways about additional signage and chevrons for Whitmore Road (17/72).

Comprehensive insurance cover had been agreed with AON at an improved rate (17/74).

The Clerk would summarise the recent playground inspections and forward copies to Councillors (17/75).

A public meeting would be arranged in Tittensor to discuss Highways issues, including pavements, parking, and a pedestrian crossing (17/77.ii).

SBC Planning was investigating the confusion over the numbering of properties in Hammond Rise/Winghouse Lane, and would report back (17/77.ii).

An article had been submitted to the church magazine.

17/89 Financial matters

17/89.i June accounts for payment

The following accounts were considered -

Clerk's salary and expenses	511.22
HMRC, PAYE/NI	320.00
John Green Landscapes	576.00
Total payments for June	£1,407.22

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

17/89.ii Consideration of Clerk's payscale in line with revised NALC payscales for 2017/2018

After discussion, Councillors approved the payment of the Clerk on NALC Scale 24 with effect from 1 April 2017.

Date Cllr R James, Chairman

RESOLVED That the Clerk's payment should be based on NALC Scale 24, backdated to 1 April 2017.

17/89.iii Request for support for Yarnfield Village Fete

A request had been made for the Parish Council to sponsor the printing of programmes for the Yarnfield Fete. It was agreed that the Yarnfield Ward Councillors would meet representatives of Yarnfield Forum to discuss making an interest free loan to the Fete Committee. The matter would be discussed again at the next meeting of Swynnerton Parish Council.

Action: Cllrs James, Tucker, Eyre, Cromey

17/90 Onward devolution of local government responsibilities

Councillors were urged to access the link which had been circulated, detailing recent moves to devolve local government responsibilities to Parish Councils, ready for discussion at the next Parish Council meeting.

Action: All

17/91 Proposal by central government to amalgamate governance of police, fire and rescue services

Councillors agreed that further information was required, including the full report on the proposal and details of when a response should be submitted.

Action: Clerk

17/92 Traffic issues in the Parish

Cllr Mateu had been informed by Staffordshire Police of evidence to the effectiveness of Speedwatch groups in raising awareness of speeding.

It was agreed that a letter should be sent to SCC Highways, listing the proposed sites for a flashing speed sign in each Ward, and asking for a response by 30 September 2017. Councillors would advise the Clerk of the proposed sites in each Ward.

Action: Clerk

17/93 Ward matters

17/93.i Swynnerton, issues raised by residents

The Clerk reported that Lord Stafford's Estate had confirmed that the staff car park at the rear of the garage was in regular use; the Estate planned to erect signs urging visitors to the village to park appropriately. Swynnerton & Yarnfield WI had written to thank the Parish Council for their support with the BKV entry; they had prepared a programme of fund-raising events to support the BKV entry in 2018.

SCC Highways had confirmed that the re-surfacing of Weavers Walk was included in their current programme.

Cllr Cheadle reported the dangerous condition of a disused water tank off the A51, which would be reported to Severn Trent Water.

Action: Clerk

17/93.ii Tittensor, issues raised by residents

A public meeting was being arranged to ascertain the views of residents on pavements, parking, and the need for a pedestrian crossing on Winghouse Lane.

Action: Cllr Malkin

Cllr Boulton reported that Footpath 44 was inaccessible due to vegetation and an overgrown hedge. Fly tipping on Green Drive, to the rear of Bracken Close, had been reported to SBC.

Action: Clerk

17/93.iii Trentham, issues raised by residents

An estimate of £420 plus VAT had been received from Play-Ground Supplies Ltd to check and adjust the tension on the zip wire at Ferndown Play Area, and make good the grass matting underneath. It was agreed this should be accepted and the work carried out as soon as possible.

RESOLVED – That Play-Ground Supplies should be asked to carry out work at Ferndown Play Area.

Cllr Leeson reported that the Lady Katherine and Sir Richard Leveson Charity had made contributions of £500 and £300 to local students for a 3D printer and towards costs of a trip to Kenya.

17/93.iv Yarnfield, issues raised by residents

The Chairman would follow up recent inaccurate reports in the Sentinel and Staffordshire Newsletter concerning the drainage of the Green and the provision of additional equipment, with a view to the articles being reprinted.

Action: Cllr James

The contract to carry out preliminary remedial work to the drainage of the Green had been allocated and work should commence during the following week. If additional work is necessary, that will be funded from Section 106 monies.

After discussion Councillors agreed that Mr Pattison should be asked to carry out an additional cut on the Green.

RESOLVED – That an additional cut by Mr Pattison should be arranged for Yarnfield Green.

Action: Clerk

Cllr Eyre had received a communication from a Yarnfield resident, criticising perceived inaction by the Parish Council, which would be circulated to all Councillors.

Action: Clerk

17/94 Draft article for Church magazine

The Clerk would circulate a draft article for the next issue of the Church magazine to Councillors, to include – the role and responsibilities of Parish Councils, limitations and frustrations; imminent commencement of work to improve the drainage of Yarnfield Green (availability of funding if additional work is required); reminder of the date of Yarnfield Fete; public meeting to discuss Tittensor Highway issues.

Date

Cllr R James, Chairman

17/95 HS2, Stone Railhead Crisis Group, report on action to date

Cllr Tucker reported that Stone Rail Crisis Group (SRCG) would hold a second meeting over the siting of the proposed railhead with HS2 representatives during the following week. It was hoped that Sarah Mallen, SCC Liaison with HS2, would attend the July meeting of the Parish Council to brief Councillors on her role. SCC had arranged a public meeting in early July. The Clerk confirmed that, on publication of the Parliamentary Bill, hard copies of briefing materials would be available to the public at Stone Library, and electronic copies would be available on Swynnerton Parish Council's website

17/96 Swynnerton Neighbourhood Plan, Update on progress

Cllr James reported that the Neighbourhood Plan was very near to the draft stage, and the final meeting before submission would be arranged when additional maps, photographs, and charts had been added.

17/97 Correspondence and circulars received by the Clerk

The Clerk listed correspondence that had been received – SBC Members’ Digest No 232, posters and leaflets from the office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (displayed on SPC notice boards), invitation from Stone Town Council to take part in Civic Sunday on Sunday 2 July 2017, request from Seafarers UK to display the Red Ensign on Merchant Navy Day (3 September), information on ‘Festival of Refashioning and Repair’ on 1 July 2017 at Littleworth,

17/98 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Swynnerton Parish Council would be held on Thursday 27 July 2017 in Hanchurch Village Hall. Cllr Tucker gave his apologies. Cllr Leeson was unable to attend the Stone Parish Council Liaison Group meeting in Sandon on 12 July and asked for another representative to attend. There being no other business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed.