

**MINUTES OF THE SWYNNERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2018 IN TITTENSOR VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr K Ong (Chairman)
Cllr N Adams
Cllr D Butler
Cllr F Cheadle
Cllr F Cromey
Cllr J Malkin
Cllr E Mateu
Cllr D Tucker

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

Apologies: Cllr R James
Cllr N Leeson
Cllr J Nixon
Cllr B Price
Cllr J Pert, Staffordshire County Council (SCC)

18/114 Public Question Time

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. A resident of Yarnfield reported that he had not received any paperwork concerning an application to divert Footpath 34 and asked if consideration by SCC could be postponed to allow comments and submissions to be made. The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had been telephoned two days earlier with information about the application, and had been promised paper copies with details, but these had not yet been received. Councillors agreed that SCC should be asked to delay consideration of the application.

Action: Clerk

Concerns were raised by a Tittensor resident about a recent planning application for commercial activities on Beechcliffe Lane, due to the site's proximity to the village hall and the school on a narrow country lane. It was reported that the planning application had been called in by Cllr Price SBC for consideration by the full Planning Committee.

A representative of Lord Stafford Estates reported on a planning application to be submitted in the near future for the demolition of a property at Harley Thorn, Beech, and its replacement by a development with a smaller footprint as part of the succession planning for Stafford Estates. Cllr Butler commented that The Old Post Office in Swynnerton had extensive work carried out during the summer and it was proposed to paint the building in the near future.

A number of Tittensor residents and parents of children at the school expressed concerns over recent proposals to install double yellow lines along Winghouse Lane outside the school and near the war memorial. The meeting was assured that although SCC had issued proposals for consideration, no action would be taken without full consultation with residents and interested parties. A public meeting had been held in 2017 where residents had expressed their concerns over pavements, parking and traffic issues in Tittensor. The recent work on pavements with higher kerbs had improved the situation. A resident suggested that traffic calming measures at the top of the hill would be more effective.

A Yarnfield resident reported that several people in the village had not yet received copies of the Parish Council newsletter, and was disappointed over a number of perceived inaccuracies in the newsletter.

A Yarnfield resident and representative of Stone Railhead Crisis Group expressed concern that the December meeting of Swynnerton Parish Council had been cancelled; this had been scheduled to be held in Yarnfield Village Hall. Concerns were expressed that Yarnfield residents might not be adequately represented if there was not a Parish Council meeting held in the village. The Clerk reported that the programme of meetings for Swynnerton Parish Council meetings was an item on the agenda for the October Parish Council meeting.

Councillors commented that the Committee Room at Tittensor Village Hall was not an appropriate venue for future Swynnerton Parish Council meetings.

18/115 Reports of County Councillors and Borough Councillors

There were no reports from County or Borough Councillors. Cllrs Pert (SCC), Price and James (SBC), had all sent their apologies.

The Chairman closed the public session of the meeting.

18/116 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Cheadle, James, Leeson, Mathieu, Price and Nixon.

18/117 Declarations of Interest and to consider written requests from Councillors to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011)

No Declarations of Interest had been received.

Date

Cllr K Ong, Chairman

18/118 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 23 August 2018

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Swynnerton Parish Council meeting held on 23 August 2018 should be approved and signed by the Chairman.

18/119 Clerk’s Report, Items not on the agenda

The Clerk reported that she had not been able to submit a nomination for the SBC Community Awards as there was a limit of only one nomination per entry and a nomination had already been submitted by a former Councillor. A replacement timetable had been provided by the bus company for the bus shelter at Cold Meece; a resident reported that the shelter was now being used as a community notice board.

18/120 Financial matters

18/120.i September accounts for payment

The following accounts were considered –

Clerk’s salary and expenses	581.17	VAT
JPCS, installation of 8 groundscrews and provision of 1 post for flashing speed sign	4,767.04	794.51
SBC, Civic Amenity vehicle visits	1,560.00	260.00
Creative Copy’n’Colour, printing SPC newsletter printing SPC Newsletters	271.00	
Total payments for September	£7,179.21	1,054.51

Cllr Cromey objected to the cost of the Parish Council newsletter. This had been approved at the Parish Council meeting held on 28 July 2018 (Minute 18/92) and confirmed at the meeting held on 23 August 2018 (Minute 18/108); the production costs were the same as those charged in 2015.

RESOLVED – That the accounts for September 2018 should be approved for payment.

18/121 Traffic issues in the Parish – proposals for double yellow lines to be installed at Swynnerton, Tittensor, and Yarnfield

Proposals for double yellow lines to be installed in Tittensor had been discussed earlier in the meeting (Minute 114 refers).

A site visit had been held in Swynnerton since the last meeting; it had been agreed that yellow lines were needed from the entrance to the Fitzherbert Arms southward to the bend in the road. Councillors discussed the installation of yellow lines near the War Memorial. Following the successful installation of traffic calming gates in Yarnfield, Councillors confirmed the dimensions and wording for traffic calming gates to be installed in Swynnerton.

Yarnfield Councillors confirmed that yellow lines were required outside the village hall, as previously agreed.

Trentham Councillors reiterated the need for a warning sign and chevrons on Whitmore Road to alert drivers entering the road from the A34 of a concealed entrance.

18/122 Ward matters

18/122.i Swynnerton

Councillors were concerned by the recent curtailment of the Saturday bus service to the village, and deplored the decline in bus services in the Parish.

The drains in the centre of the village had still not been cleared, and were now flooding after heavy rain. It was agreed that the Clerk would report the drains to SCC Highways again, along with concerns over flooding at Hanchurch roundabout and a blocked drain in Yarnfield.

Action: Clerk

18/122.ii Tittensor, issues raised by residents

Concerns had been expressed about the increasing use of Winghouse Lane by HGVs. After discussion it was agreed to raise this with Cllr Pert and request a safety audit.

Action: Clerk

Residents had reported difficulties in crossing the A34, particularly when attempting to use the bus service. The installations of traffic lights had been discussed in the past, and Councillors discussed if this could be included with future traffic arrangements to cope with increased traffic caused by the HS2 project.

18/122.iii Trentham, issues raised by residents,

The bench opposite Foxglove Lane, Clayton, was in need of attention and Mr Challinor would be asked to provide a quote for the work. The Clerk would also check on the condition of the finger post.

Action: Clerk

18/122.iv Yarnfield, issues raised by residents,

Cllr James was checking with SBC Planning that any conditions imposed with planning permission for the development at Yarnfield Park had been adhered to, and would report back to the Parish Council. Residents were hoping to form a Residents’ Association to address dissatisfaction with the lack of service from the management company; Cllr Cromey offered his assistance. The Clerk would notify Councillors when a report would be prepared on the drainage of Yarnfield Green. Councillors asked the Clerk to remind Cllr Pert about the state of the pavements,

Date

Cllr K Ong, Chairman

cutting back trees near the bus shelter, and hedges throughout the village. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should write to a resident on Yarnfield Lane to request that a laurel hedge overgrowing the Lane should be cut back. The Clerk would arrange for the repair of a bench on the Green. **Action: Clerk**

18/123 Local Governance Review,

Cllr Tucker reported on the overwhelming support from Yarnfield residents for a separate Parish Council, with two Wards - Cold Meece and Yarnfield. The recommendations of SBC Resources Scrutiny Committee would be published in early October, with the final decision by the full Council in November.

18/124 HS2 updates by SPC representative and SRCG

There was no report from Cllr James. Cllr Tucker reported that the problems forecast for Junction 15 were likely to be worse than predicted. Residents had been updated at a recent well attended public meeting on proposed changes to viaducts and embankments, involving additional HGV movements along Yarnfield Lane. SRCG were negotiating at national level, and Cllr Tucker thanked all local people for their support.

18/125 Swynnerton Neighbourhood Plan

This had been delivered to SBC Planning for comment.

18/126 Draft article for Church magazine

After discussion Councillors agreed that the next issue should include information on the progress of the Local Governance Review, the Neighbourhood Plan, traffic calming gates in Swynnerton, flashing speed sign, and the consultation on installing yellow lines.

18/127 Correspondence and circulars received by the Clerk

The Clerk reported the receipt of SBC Members' Digest 246, and information on children's play equipment.

18/128 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Swynnerton Parish Council will be held at 7.15 pm on Thursday 25 October 2018 in Swynnerton Village Hall. There being no other business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed.