

**MINUTES OF THE SWYNNERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 28 MARCH 2019 IN HANCHURCH VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr K Ong (Chairman)
Cllr N Adams
Cllr D Butler
Cllr F Cheadle
Cllr F Cromey
Cllr R James
Cllr N Leeson
Cllr J Malkin
Cllr E Mateu
Cllr B Price

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

Apologies: Cllr J Nixon
Cllr J Pert (SCC)

19/27 Public Participation Time

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Residents from Newcastle Road, Trentham Ward, raised concerns over proposals by HS2 to create a four lane carriageway outside their properties, on what is already a busy major road, and the refusal of their Petition against HS2. Under the right to be heard, they would be meeting representatives of HS2 on the following Wednesday and would attend a closed meeting with SPC and HS2 representatives in Hanchurch on the following Thursday (4 April 2019). SRCG (Stone Railhead Crisis Group) would be holding a public meeting on Friday 29 March 2019.

The Chairman reported that she had been told by an HS2 representative that the Newcastle Road residents had good grounds to submit a Petition as they would be 'directly and especially affected' by the HS2 proposals. The residents hoped to be heard further at their next meeting with HS2, and the meeting wished them good fortune.

A resident of Yarnfield expressed dismay that Yarnfield's concerns, which had been highlighted at the previous Parish Council meeting, had not been included in the Petition submitted by SPC. Cllr Leeson regretted that SPC had not acted as assumed, but believed the difficulties arose from the aggressive attitudes of individuals towards Councillors who were endeavouring as unpaid volunteers to do their best for the community they had committed to serve. The Chairman reported that no information or evidence had been received from SRCG or Yarnfield Councillors; she regretted that the resident felt as she did, but the Petition had now been submitted. Councillors agreed to bring forward discussion on Item 8, HS2 on the agenda. Cllr James stressed that the AP2 proposals were principally concerning land requirements for the HS2 project.

Stafford Borough Council (SBC) would be managing the interests of Yarnfield residents from 1 April 2019 until the establishment of the new Yarnfield & Cold Meece PC.

19/28 Reports of County Councillors and Borough Councillors

Cllr Price reported that there were proposals to construct 10,000 new homes as a garden town on land adjacent to MoD Cold Meece, with £750,000 allocated to carry out a feasibility study. If successful, the development would take place approximately 20 years in the future. Cllr James stressed the positive aspects of the proposal.

A new swimming pool would be opened the following week for Stone residents. The Chairman closed the public participation session.

19/29 Apologies Apologies had been received from Cllr Nixon and Cllr Pert (SCC).

19/30 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.

19/31 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 28 February 2019

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Swynnerton Parish Council meeting held on 28 February 2019 should be approved and signed by the Chairman.

19/32. HS2 (Item 8 on Agenda)

19/32.i Submission of Petition to Select Committee with regard to AP2

The Petition submitted by SPC against Proposals in AP2 and in support of Petitions submitted by the residents of Newcastle Road, Trentham, and a resident of Swynnerton, had been accepted. Representatives of Petitions by SPC and Newcastle Road Residents, plus that submitted by Stone Town Council, would be heard by the Select Committee after the Easter Recess on 7 May 2019.

Date

Cllr K Ong, Chairman

There would be a closed meeting with representatives of HS2 on 4 April 2019 at Hanchurch Village Hall to discuss issues raised in Petitions. The Chairman would circulate copies of SPCs Petition to Councillors. **Action: Chairman**

19/33 Clerk’s Report, Items not on the agenda

The Clerk reported that a report had been received recommending the upgrading of a section of Footpath 58 (Brent Lane to Highway at Hill Chorlton) from a Footpath to a Bridlepath had been received. No objections had been received from Network Rail or adjoining Parish Councils, although an objection had been received from Swynnerton Estates. Councillors had no comment to make.

An acknowledgment had been received from Trentham Gardens to the recent letter sent concerning noise from recent events, and appreciating support from the Parish Council in recent years. A detailed response was awaited.

19/34 Financial matters

19/34 .i March accounts for payment

The following accounts were considered –

Clerk’s salary and expenses,	561.08
HMRC, PAYE/NI	355.20
SPCA, Audit training	20.00
Mr E Challinor, moving speed sign	70.00
Cllr James, expenses incurred in presentation of Petition to Parliamentary Select Committee	707.50
BHIB, payment of insurance cover for Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council	610.74
Yarnfield & Cold Meece Parish Council, Division of assets (part) one third of National Savings Holding, one third of flashing speed sign payment	<u>2,310.10</u>
Total payments for March 2019	£4,634.62

RESOLVED – That the accounts for March 2019 should be approved for payment; that a payment should be made to ensure insurance cover for the new Parish Council of Yarnfield and Cold Meece with effect from 1 April 2019, and that payments of one third of financial assets should be made to the new Parish Council of Yarnfield and Cold Meece.

19/35 Traffic issues in the Parish

19/35.i Report on operation of flashing speed sign throughout the Parish

Cllr Butler reported that the flashing speed sign had now operated in every Ward in the Parish. He had contacted the supplier and had re-programmed the sign to operate from a range of 50m instead of 200m, and increase the speed that activated it from 9 mph to 25 mph, to improve the length of operation. It was still operating to the north of Swynnerton after 12 days on site, and would be moved next to the north of Tittensor. There had been enthusiastic feedback from residents in all Wards.

The Clerk would research the cost of an additional unit, additional permanent poles, and solar power units, to facilitate future operation of the unit(s), as one unit could be shared between Tittensor and Swynnerton, and one moved between Whitmore Road and Northwood Lane in Trentham. A submission for further funding would be prepared for submission to Safer Roads Staffordshire. Cllr Butler confirmed that information could be downloaded from the device even when it was switched off.

Cllr Mateu reported that the Speedwatch team in Swynnerton had recorded 28 people (8% of the total) travelling at 45 mph or more during a recent survey.

19/35.ii Installation of traffic calming gates in Swynnerton

The Clerk confirmed that a delivery date for the gates to be delivered to Swynnerton was awaited.

19/36 Ward matters

19/36.i Swynnerton, issues raised by residents

Cllr Mateu reported that he had received a complaint from a resident about the state of the road near the soil treatment plant at Cold Meece. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the operatives and request that wheel washing and other measures should be undertaken. **Action: Clerk**

The village had entered the Best Kept Village (BKV) competition again this year.

The Clerk had submitted an application to the War Memorials Trust for a grant to assist with repairs to the War Memorial, and a response was expected within two months. The BKV team had been advised.

19/36.ii Tittensor, issues raised by residents

Tittensor had entered the BKV competition again this year and were hoping to do well again. The BKV team had requested a bin with a lid for the play area. Grit bins in the village had been replaced.

19/36.iii Trentham, issues raised by residents,

Date

Cllr K Ong, Chairman

The Clerk would send a reminder to SCC Highways requesting a sign warning of a concealed entrance near the junction of Whitmore Road with the A34 and request additional road markings (chevrons). **Action: Clerk**

19/36.iv Yarnfield, issues raised by residents,

Cllr Cromey thanked the Clerk for her assistance during the handover of assets and responsibilities to the new Yarnfield & Cold Meece Parish Council. John Green Landscapes had been instructed to invoice Yarnfield & Cold Meece PC for work carried out in the new Parish; visits by the Civic Amenity vehicle had been arranged for the new Parish Council; insurance cover for the new Parish Council had been confirmed (Minute 19/34.i). Councillors requested that the new Parish Council would discuss the Neighbourhood Plan as soon as possible so that it could be completed, and this was agreed by Cllr Cromey.

19/37 HS2

This item had been discussed earlier in the meeting (19/32).

19/38 Parish Council Newsletter

After discussion Councillors agreed to discuss this further following Parish Council elections on 2 May 2019.

19/39 Consideration of Safeguarding Template for Parish Councils

Councillors agreed that the recently issued Template should be adopted by SPC and included on the website.

19/40 Draft article for inclusion in the Church Magazine

Councillors agreed to include information on the changes to SPC; the new Parish Councillors; entries for the Best Kept Village competition.

19/41 Confirmation of meeting dates for Swynnerton Parish Council for 2019/2010

Councillors confirmed the programme of meetings. Tittensor Village Hall would be used whenever possible during school holidays, and the October meeting would be held in Tittensor Church Hall. Meetings would be held in August and December.

19/42 Correspondence and circulars received by the Clerk

The Clerk reported the receipt of SBC Members Digest 253; Stone Town Council – Civic Dinner Saturday 27 April 2019; SPCA subscriptions due 27 April 2019; Flying the Ensign (naval charity).

19/43 The next meeting of Swynnerton Parish Council will be held at 7.15 pm on Thursday 25 April 2019 in Tittensor Village Hall. There being no other business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending, and declared the meeting closed.

Date

Cllr K Ong, Chairman