

**MINUTES OF THE SWYNNERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 24 OCTOBER 2019 IN ST PAUL'S CHURCH HALL, TITTENSOR**

- Present:** Cllr K Ong (Chairman)
Cllr N Adams
Cllr P Bickerstaffe
Cllr F Cheadle
Cllr N Leeson
Cllr J Malkin
Cllr E Mateu
- In attendance** Mrs Liz Harrington-Jones (Parish Clerk)
Cllr R James, Stafford Borough Council (SBC)
- Apologies:** Cllr D Butler (Vice Chairman)
Cllr B Price, SPC
Cllr J Nixon, SBC
Cllr J Pert, SCC

19/140 Public Participation Time

Cllr Ong welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no members of the public present.

19/141 Reports of County Councillors and Borough Councillors

Cllr James had nothing to report. The difficulties experienced by a tenant of Stafford and Rural Homes reported at the previous meeting had been resolved the following day. The Chairman closed the public session of the meeting.

19/142 Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Butler and Price, Cllr J Pert SCC, Cllr J Nixon SBC.

19/143 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.

19/144 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2019

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Swynnerton Parish Council meeting held on 19 September 2019 should be approved and signed by the Chairman.

19/145 Clerk's Report, Items not on the agenda

The Clerk reported that recent confusion over the responsibility for the War Memorial at Cold Meece had been resolved and that Yarnfield & Cold Meece PC is clear that the War Memorial is its responsibility. A resident of Cold Meece had asked the Clerk for advice about noise from planned rallies at the MoD site; the Clerk had referred them to the Clerk at Yarnfield & Cold Meece PC, as Swynnerton's Clerk, was no longer on the distribution list for the MoD site. The Clerk has thanked Lord Stafford's Estate for cutting the hedge at the Toposcope.

The state of the road outside the soil treatment site at Cold Meece has been reported to SCC Regulation again, with a request that wheel washing is carried out before vehicles leave the site, as well as the deployment of the road sweeper several times a week. Councillors suggested that signs warning of mud on the road should be displayed.

Action: Clerk

The Woodland Trust is offering free trees as part of Tree Charter Day on 30 November 2019. The Clerk would contact Ferndown Nature Reserve to see if they would be interested.

Action: Clerk

Spring flowering bulbs had been purchased and delivered to each of the Wards.

The Friends of Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Archive Services have completed their project to digitise the tithe maps of the Staffordshire parishes; as a sponsor of the project, Swynnerton Parish Council is entitled to a copy of a map. This should be supplied as a jpeg; the Clerk will notify Councillors when it has been received.

19/146 Financial matters

19/146.i October accounts for payment

The following accounts were considered –

Clerk's salary and expenses (inc purchase of bulbs)	760.72
John Green Landscapes, grass cutting etc	288.00
Mr E Challinor, moving speed sign (2)	70.00
RBL Poppy Appeal, two wreaths	34.00
Total payments for October 2019	£1,152.72

RESOLVED – That the accounts for October 2019 should be approved for payment.

19/146.ii. Update of list of approved cheque signatories

Date

Cllr K Ong, Chairman

After discussion Councillors agreed that Cllrs Bickerstaffe, Leeson, Malkin, and Ong should be added to the list of approved cheque signatories. Cllrs Butler and Cheadle were already approved cheque signatories.

19/147 Traffic issues in the Parish

19/147.i Update on available speed sign data

Cllr Bickerstaffe reported that he had been able to download information from the flashing speed sign now that it has been installed in Tittensor. One vehicle had been recorded travelling at 44 mph at 8.45 am outside the school.

19/147.ii Reduction in traffic speeds near Hatton Waterworks

Councillors agreed that this discussion should be carried forward to a future meeting, when Cllr Pert would have details of traffic volume and speeds in the area.

19/147.iii Consideration of measures to improve safety on the Swynnerton to Cold Meece road

Councillors considered a number of measures, including rumble strips, double white lines in the centre of the road, and the deployment of the speed van, following a recent fatality on the stretch of road by the Brickhills wood, and agreed that their concerns should be forwarded to SCC Highways. **Action: Clerk**

19/148 Ward matters

19/148.i Swynnerton, issues raised by residents

Cllr Cheadle reported that a stretch of pavement had been cleared to the south of the village, near the turning to Cotes Heath.

19/148.ii Tittensor, issues raised by residents

Councillors reported the formation of a group in the village to raise climate change awareness.

19/148.iii Trentham, issues raised by residents

Cllr Leeson reported on the recent meeting of the Lady Katharine and Sir Richard Leveson Charity, and the Charity's struggle to distribute funds to local schoolchildren. Councillors agreed that the Charity should be provided with a copy of the tithe map when it becomes available (Minute 19/145 refers)..

19/149 Grass cutting arrangements for the Parish

After discussion Councillors agreed that the Clerk should obtain at least three quotes for grass cutting in the Parish during 2020. **Action: Clerk**

19/150 Implications of GDPR requirements

Councillors discussed the implications of GDPR and were reminded of the importance of safeguarding personal information. The Clerk distributed copies of a draft Social Media Policy for approval at the next meeting.

19/151 Neighbourhood Plan, progress on submission of Plan

The Chairman was continuing to update the Plan by removing all references to Yarnfield and checking the validity of the data derived from the questionnaires, and would liaise with Cllr James SBC.

19/152 HS2, update on project

No progress was expected until the report of the Review which was due during the autumn.

19/153 Parish Council Newsletter

Cllr Ong reported that she hoped to provide a draft Newsletter for the next meeting, and would forward photographs for the website to Cllr Bickerstaffe.

19/154 Items for next Church magazine Bulb planting in the Wards; seasons greetings, list of meeting dates, encouragement to residents to attend meetings or raise any concerns with Councillors.

19/155 Correspondence and circulars received by the Clerk

The Clerk reported the receipt of SBC Members Digest 260; Stone Town Council – invitations to attend the Remembrance Day Service and the Civic Carol Service.

19/156 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Swynnerton Parish Council will be held at 7.15 pm on Thursday 28 November 2019 at Swynnerton Village Hall.. There being no other business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending, and declared the meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Date

Cll K Ong, Chairman