

Swavesey Parish Council

7.30pm

Minutes

Swavesey Parish Council Meeting, held at The Memorial Hall, High Street
Monday 27th March 2017

PRESENT

Mr W Wright (Chairman)

Councillors : Miss L Boyes, Mr J Dodson, Mr S Faben, Mr D Hunt, Mr M Johnston, Miss H Parish,
Mr C Parsons, Mr J Pook, Ms S Smith, Mr K Wilderspin

Clerk : Mrs L Miller

In attendance

Parishioners : 3

District Councillor: Mrs S Ellington

Item**Power Action****2017/ TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE****03-1** County Cllr Mandy Smith**2017/****03-2 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS****2.1 Declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda**

Mr J Pook, Agenda item 12.2(i) – owns land further along Hale Road to the application site.

Miss L Boyes, Agenda item 12.2(i) – resident of Hale Road.

Mr S Faben, Agenda item 9.2 – submitted quote for consideration

2.2 Requests to Speak No requests received to speak on any items as declared above.**2.3 To receive requests for dispensations** No requests received.**2.4 To grant requests received** The granting of dispensations to be made by Full Council.

**2017/ Meeting suspended to allow 10 minutes for the public participation forum and for persons
03-3 declaring prejudicial interest relating to the business to be transacted, to address the
meeting.**

No addresses regarding prejudicial interests were made

Items raised by members of the public present:

- Resident (near to CostCutter Store, Middlewatch) – (i) litter bin on the verge outside of the shop is always overflowing by Monday but not emptied by SCDC until Thurs/Fri each week. Resident regularly calls SCDC on Mondays for an additional collection. Could there be two collections scheduled please, or a larger or additional bin provided?
(ii) dog waste bin on the verge next to the litter bin is also extremely well used and often overflowing, concern that this is a health hazard particularly next to the litter bin where people are often standing. Could it be moved?
(iii) The Guided Busway car park has very large deep holes, would it be possible for a local working party to move existing gravel around to help fill the holes?
Chairman replied that the Council would look into all of these items (i) & (ii) District Cllr Mrs Ellington and the Clerk would speak to SCDC about the litter and dog bins. (iii) Cambs County Council have been asked on numerous occasions to fill the car park holes which they have promised to do but we understand obtaining road planings has been very difficult. Suggestion made to ask if the A14 team could assist – the Clerk would do this.
- Newsagents, Market St – Owners thanked the Council for their concern and support following the recent ramraid break-ins. They are looking at installing rising and fixed bollards in front of the shop to deter future ramraid attempts, however there is concern over the cost of installation, if the County Council specify contractors, if the bollards are sited within County land. Draft suggestions for locating bollards handed to the Clerk. The Chairman replied that the Clerk would ask for someone from CCC to visit to discuss this.

- Resident – had written to Council (which the Clerk confirmed had been received this morning and circulated to Cllrs) to object to the removal of some of the Poplar trees around Moat Way pond. Concern raised about possible nesting birds and the reasons for felling certain trees. The Chairman acknowledged the concerns and that these would be discussed later in the Agenda.

Public forum closed in order for the Parish Council meeting to commence.

2017/ TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING DATED 27th February and 9th March 2017

03-4 It was **proposed**, seconded and unanimously approved that the Chairman sign both sets of Minutes with no amendments.

4.1 Matters to report from previous minutes (for information)

- (i) Congratulations to all of the organisations from Swavesey who won awards and recognition at the SCDC Community Awards on 9th March
- (ii) Horses have escaped their field in Cow Fen on a number of occasions since the last meeting. SCDC Enforcement Officers have been notified, as have the Police. The field owner has been spoken to by the Police re ensuring his land is adequately fenced.
- (iii) Quality Award application now submitted.

4.2 Clerk's Report – noted as published

2017/

03-5 COUNTY COUNCIL BUSINESS

5.1 Highway Safety

- (i) Site meeting held on 15th March at the Primary School, notes circulated. As per previous discussion, it would be difficult to site a zebra crossing close to the school entrance without modifying the footpaths and road width. Ideally CCC would prefer to see a Crossing Patrol Person employed. It was hoped the position might be offered very soon. A zebra crossing around the recreation green area was possible, however it would mean losing part of the layby and associated parking which would cause other problems. Other safety options would be to remove the central refuge in the road just south of the mini-roundabout, which was a dangerous point to cross, plus widening the footpath on the east side of Middlewatch by cutting into the verge alongside the pond. Both of these would be investigated further. With regard to dangerous or inconsiderate parking, the new Police website recently launched is for reporting these, which would lead to a Police blitz day if a regular safety issue arose. Website information would be advertised by the School & Parish.
- (ii) Over Road – concerns raised re speed of traffic and if a speed cushion could be installed. Cost would fall to the Parish for this unless it could be a part of an LHI Bid, which the next round of will not be until autumn 2017. In the meantime it was agreed to try again to recruit volunteers for Speedwatch sessions. Clerk

5.2 Highways Maintenance updates

Black Horse Lane new surface water drainage scheme to be installed from 27th March-20th April. Pipe will go under the POS on corner of Chantry Close and the land will be repaired and any trees removed, replaced, at the end of the work.

5.3 Correspondence for information and items for County Councillor

- (i) LHI Panel results – Successful in obtaining funding for reduction in speed limit to 40mph along Ramper Rd on approach to village boundary 30mph limit. Mr Pook recorded the Council's thanks to the Chairman for attending the LHI Panel in support of the written application.
- (ii) 2017 Surface Dressing schedule of works – no roads within Swavesey listed
- (iii) Innovation Fund event – Thurs 30th March, Over Community Centre – Clerk will attend

2017/**03-6 DISTRICT COUNCIL BUSINESS****6.1 Correspondence for information and items for District Councillor**

- (i) Notice of Repair Café dates in S Cambs villages.

Cllr Mrs Ellington reported:

Excellent SCDC Awards evening again with Swavesey mentioned several times.

Cllr Mrs Ellington heads the Task & Finish Group on Social Isolation looking at all aspects including within new developments.

A new Chief Exec for SCDC should be appointed soon, it has been considered not cost efficient to share this service at present with any of the other Districts.

Cllr Mrs Ellington to find out when a New Land Drainage Manager could be appointed.

Cllr
SE

2017/**03-7 A14 Improvement Scheme Updates**

Mobile visitor centre has been booked to attend the Primary School Fayre on Sat 20th May, which is open to any resident to attend.

The Stakeholder Manager to be contacted with regard to the request for A3 maps for display in the village.

Clerk

2017/**03-8 NHW and POLICE BUSINESS**

Noted that the Village Life Facebook page is working well with comments alerting residents to suspicious behaviour or incidents.

2017/**03-9 VILLAGE MATTERS****9.1 To receive the monthly report from the Village Handyman**

Gate to larger play area not always closing, to be checked. Noted that RoSPA inspection will take place during April on all play areas.

9.2 Bus Shelter, Boxworth End

Storm Doris blew half of the roof panelling off the shelter on 23rd February. Two complaints had been received of damage caused by this to a car and to railings and a brick wall. Both had been responded to with insurance details should they wish to pursue a claim and the Clerk had notified the Council's insurance company. Now awaiting Insurance assessment.

Mr Faben declared a registered pecuniary interest and left the room during this item. Shelter repairs – a quote had been received to repair the shelter from Mr Faben.

Resolved to make a claim on the insurance for the repair costs £345, which would be greater than the insurance excess £250.

9.3 Village Ponds

- (i) Moat Way Pond – concerns raised over the colour of water and amount of great crested newts in the vicinity, with residents concerned that the newts are moving away from the pond due to the water. The Clerk had notified the District Council's Ecology Officer and the Ecology consultancy who are advising neighbouring developers. The Consultancy agreed to visit to assess the water quality, but advised that newts will often breed in ponds with reasonably poor water quality, confirmed by the Council's Ecology Officer. However, barley straw has been added to the water in case there is algae growth whilst the ecology testing takes place.
- Poplar Trees – Further to the correspondence received re concern over the work to the trees, discussion took place and Council agreed that the work to the trees would continue provided each tree is individually inspected for any signs of bird nesting before the tops were reduced. With regards to the felling of proposed trees, it was agreed that as it could not be proved at this time that the tree roots were definitely causing the block paving issues, the end tree by the paving would not be felled. The other trees identified for felling would be, provided they were clear of birds/nests.

This summer, if the pond dries out, a working party would be formed to remove some of the decaying leaf litter.

- (ii) School Pond – Agreed to arrange for machine clearing of overgrown reeds this October half-term. Suggestion to ask the A14 Team if they would like to help the community by providing a machine, driver and volunteer help, also if they might be able to take the reeds pulled from the pond away, once they had dried out.

9.4 SVC Enrichment Week 10th-13th July Request for projects which students could help with:

- 1) Gardening and Conservation work at Constable's Rood Wildlife Garden, at the end of Taylors Lane.
- 2) Moat Way Pond. Build a newt hibernaculum under the trees at the western end of the pond. Also, a bug hotel in same area, providing a two-day project, one habitat-build each day. Project to be managed with the help of Helen Parish, Ecologist

2017/

03-9 DRAINAGE

Mr Wilderspin had met with EA Officers recently and asked about progress on the riverbank project. A new Officer has now taken on this project however there is no date for when work might start. The stability of the existing bank is to be tested to ensure it can take the weight of additional soil. The EA also stated to Mr Wilderspin that none of their other drain or river banks in this area are 7m wide, which raises the question of why they were originally stating that to maintain this riverbank it needed to be 7m wide! Correspondence to be sent to Heidi Allen MP's office for information.

2017/

03-10 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

Mr Hunt gave a report on Steering Group meetings and workshops which are now looking at collating stakeholder data for village wide consultation. Also investigating collaborating with Gamlingay NH Plan Group on a Housing Needs Survey. a Housing Needs Survey. A Plan Budget is also being drawn up.

2017/

03-12 PLANNING

Resolved: To confirm continued approval for the Chairman to attend SCDC Planning Committee Meetings to speak on behalf of the Parish Council with regard to objections submitted against major planning applications. The next application Ref: S/0053/17/OL for 70 homes on land to the rear of 130 Middlewatch will go to the 5th April Planning Committee.

Chairman reported on attending the SCDC Committee of 30th March at which Committee Members granted approval for the Gladman Developments application in Cottenham, overturning their decision of refusal on the previous Gladman application on the same site.

SCDC Cllrs have met with the Government Planning Minister recently to complain about the planning situation and that developers are land-banking.

12.1 To consider correspondence received

- (i) Ref: S/0689/17/PN – For information only. Prior notification of demolition of a bungalow at 48 Middlewatch – Noted. Noted that recent work to this site has left the County verge in a terrible state – to be reported to CCC.
- (ii) Update from SCDC on Local Plan Inspector's consideration of Local Green Spaces. Noted that SCDC instructed to review all proposed Local Green Spaces.
- (iii) Ref: S/3474/16/FL – Cambridge Services, A14. Enlargement of parking areas. Objections from the Parish Council noted but decision is to be made under delegated powers.
- (iv) 37 Market St – revised flood risk assessment, delivery and construction management plan being sought. Economic assessment of the viability plan is being reviewed. Application is expected to be heard at the June Committee meeting at the earliest.

12.2 To consider planning applications received

- (i) Ref: S/0752/17/LD – **White Willows, Hale Rd**, Mr & Mrs Ratcliffe. Application for Lawful Development Certificate for Occupation of Property in Breach of an Agricultural Occupancy Condition in excess of ten years. Comment returned that Council agrees with facts as in the applicant's statement.
- (ii) Ref: S/0862/17/OL – **Land south of Fen Drayton Rd**, Bloor Homes (Eastern) Ltd and Mr A Johnson. Construction of up to 99 dwellings with associated access, infrastructure and open space.
Re-submission of previous application (refused January 2017) – amended to include a new footpath solution
Strong objections raised that to fit a footpath along the south side of Fen Drayton Rd as proposed would be a danger for reasons including:
- Be extremely unsafe, footpath will not be wide enough and existing streetlights and sign poles will cause obstruction.
 - Erecting a barrier between the footpath and open ditch will obstruct the maintenance of the ditch.
 - Narrowing of the road in places will be a danger for larger vehicles.
- Full letter detailing the above objections to be sent to SCDC Planning.

Clerk

12.3 Permissions, Refusals , Appeals

Ref: S/3185/17/FL – land to rear of 136 Boxworth End. New self-build dwelling and garage permitted.

(Cllr Mrs Ellington gave her apologies to leave the meeting early)

2017/

03-13 FINANCE**13.1 To approve payment of outstanding accounts**

RESOLVED: to approve the invoices and payments as listed in appendix 1, to the total sum of £ 4,005.45

Bank Reconciliations:	Business Account	£226.15	at 20/03/17
	Current Account	£14,005.79	at 20/03/17
	Unity Account	£2,110.98	at 20/03/17
	ALTO Card Account	£243.23	at 20/03/17
	CCLA Account	£113,653.00	at 20/03/17

The Clerk reported on the increase in the annual subscription for the accounting s/w, which will increase by £102. Decision to renew but assess the proposed improvements during this year, together with a comparison of other s/w to review whether to change the package next year.

Clerk

13.2 Notice of receipts received None

2017/

03-14 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) Mini Guide to the Ouse Washes – Ouse Washes Landscape Partnership
- (ii) CAPALC March Bulletin; Draft Membership Agreement
- (iii) Wings for Life Race – Sun 7th May – route not including Swavesey but will include Over and Longstanton
- (iv) EACH – charity donation request
- (v) Fair Funding for South Cambridgeshire Pupils – Heidi Allen MP re campaign re government funding for schools.
- (vi) Newsletters and magazines

2017/

03-15 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND NEXT MEETING AGENDA

- (i) Annual Parish Meeting Agenda.
- (ii) Sunday 9th April a sponsored dog walk will take place around the village, raising funds towards the 2018 Festival.
- (iii) Scout Group is concerned that the Village College may request within the next 18 months, that the Scout Hut is removed from the College grounds, therefore a new site will need to be found. At present there is no idea where in the village this could be.
- (iv) Carters Way-Priory Ave open space improvements – no drainage work quotes have been submitted therefore need to contact other contractors – suggestions requested.
- (v) Would Council consider a post/bollard in the recreation green behind the telephone kiosk to stop vehicles reversing in the gap to park on the front of the green? To be reviewed when Cllrs meet on the green re various other matters.
- (vi) Noted that CCC and Mayor elections will take place in early May.
- (vii) Report from the Clerk on attendance at the Practitioners Conference in February.
- (viii) Spartans Football Club – re pitch improvement work, verti-draining and possible purchase of moveable goal posts. The Clerk would discuss the grounds maintenance work in line with budget provision. Moveable goal posts to be reviewed together with discussion on basketball wall equipment, re location and storage.

Next meeting dates:

Annual Parish Meeting – 7.30pm Wednesday 12th April 2017

Planning – 7.30pm Thursday 13th March 2017

Full Council – 7.30pm Monday 24th April 2017

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 10.05pm

Signed & dated
Chairman

Powers of Expenditure

MINUTES APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN AT THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 24th APRIL 2017

PAYMENTS LIST - March 2017

Voucher	Code	Date	Minute	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	Net	VAT	Total
193	Waste bins/Signs	27/03/2017	2017/04-13.1	002351	Litterpickers	Trinity Engineering &	15.30	3.06	18.36
194	Mileage Claims	27/03/2017	2017/04-13.1	BACS	Mileage	Longstanton Parish	36.90	0.00	36.90
195	Meeting Room Fees	27/03/2017	2017/04-13.1	BACS	Meeting room hire	Swavesey Memorial Hall	173.00	0.00	173.00
196		31/03/2017	2017/04-13.1	BACS				0.00	
197		31/03/2017	2017/04-13.1	BACS				0.00	
198	Staff Costs	29/03/2017	2017/04-13.1	BACS	Staff Costs		3,371.33	0.00	3,371.33
202		27/03/2017	2017/04-13.1	002352				0.00	
203		29/03/2017	2017/04-13.1	BACS				0.00	
199	Postage	29/03/2017	2017/04-13.1	BACS	Postage	Linda Miller	2.75	0.00	2.75
200	Stationery	29/03/2017	2017/04-13.1	BACS	Batteries	Linda Miller	4.49	0.00	4.49
201	Miscellaneous Expenses	29/03/2017	2017/04-13.1	BACS	Refreshments (Meeting)	Linda Miller	2.62	0.00	2.62
204	Sale of Assets	04/03/2017	2017/04-13.1	Optimum	Public Notice	Local World Ltd	330.00	66.00	396.00
Total							3,936.39	69.06	4,005.45