

# *Swavesey Annual Parish Meeting*

## **Minutes**

Swavesey Annual Parish Meeting, held at The Memorial Hall, High Street  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2017, 7.30pm

### **PRESENT**

Chairman: Mr W Wright (Chairman of the Parish Council)

Parish Councillors : Ms L Boyes, Mr J Dodson, Mr M Johnston, Mr J Pook, Ms S Smith

Parishioners : 12

District Cllr Mrs S Ellington

Minutes taken by : Mrs L Miller

### **Total Present: approx. 19**

#### **Item**

#### **1 To receive apologies for absence**

Parish Councillors: Mr D Hunt, Miss H Parish, Mr C Parsons, Mr S Faben, Mr K Wilderspin  
County Cllr Ms M Smith

#### **2 To sign & approve the minutes of the meeting dated 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

Copies circulated to Parish Councillors and members of the public.  
The Minutes were approved and signed with no amendments.

#### **3 Swavesey Parish Council - Annual Report**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a report outlining the main items occupying the Parish Council during the past year. A copy of the report would be available on the Parish Council's website.

Chairman concluded by thanking everyone involved with the Parish Council for their time and commitment over the past year as well as the many residents who assist with voluntary litterpicking and working parties on various maintenance projects around the village.

Mr Pook added a thank you to the Chairman for attending the recent County Council Local Highways Initiative panel in support of the Parish Council's application for a 40mph speed restriction zone on Ramper Rd on the approach to the village. The panel approved the application and the new speed limit will be in place later this year.

**Question:** Would the A14 works be able to provide suitable soil for the Environment Agency to use as part of the riverbank maintenance work? Chairman was unsure but it would be mentioned to the EA and HE.

**Question:** Are cycle stands to be provided as part of the Market St improvements. Chairman replied that yes there would be some cycle stands in the area close to the village sign.

**Comment:** With regard to crossing safety near the Primary School, there are lots of issues around the Crossing Patrol provision. Chairman confirmed that a new Crossing Patrol Person has now been appointed by the County Council, to start after the Easter holidays. Comment made that Crossing Patrol Persons are not fully insured. Chairman replied that the situation re insurance will be checked with the County Council.

#### **4 Parish Council Accounts                      2015 - 2016 Audited Parish Council Accounts                      2016 - 2017 Draft - Subject to Audit**

Copies of the accounts were circulated amongst the public.

No questions were asked. The Chairman thanked the Council's Clerk for the reports.

#### **5 Representatives from the following organisations gave reports and took questions**

Where available, reports will be appended to the Minutes and published on the website.

**5.1 County Council**

Apologies received from County Cllr Ms Smith, no report received.

**Question:** With regard to the A14 compound on Boxworth Road, there is often mud left on the road from the lorries. The site should have wheel-washing on site, not road sweeping off site. Chairman replied that at a recent meeting with the Area Manager and the Parish Council this had been raised and Council had been assured there is to be wheel-washing on site. This will be clarified.

**5.2 District Council**

Cllr Mrs Ellington gave a short report on items from the past year including:

- Peer Review held recently, with a good outcome.
- A new Chief Executive is to be appointed this month.
- Together with Parish Council, objections to local major planning applications are being submitted and recently the 70 homes proposal on land at 130 Middlewatch was again refused by SCDC. The result of the appeal on the first proposal on this site is awaited by the end of April.
- Housing Dept is working hard to keep homeless families out of B&B accommodation.
- Government had reduced Council housing rent by 1%, thereby reducing the income the District Council receives and has for building new homes. This past year 39 new Council homes have been built, which is the largest amount for many years.
- Wheelie bin emptying days have all been changed recently.
- The Community Grants Scheme is still extremely successful and continues this year.
- Cllr Mrs Ellington has been Chairman of SCDC for two years and stands down this May.
- Cllr Mrs Ellington is Chair of a Task & Finish Group for Social Isolation, which is looking at not just elderly residents but young teenagers as well. Timebanking is also a part of this and is something which will be discussed with the Parish Council.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Mrs Ellington.

**5.3 Neighbourhood Police & Neighbourhood Watch Scheme**

Apologies received from PCSO Baugh and a report read out by the Chairman on this year's Crime figures: Since the April 2016 to present date, Cambridgeshire Constabulary have had 107 crimes reported by residents and local businesses that reside within Swavesey. Figures show December 2016 to be the busiest month for crime with a total of 14 being reported.

| Incidents/Crimes | Swavesey | South Cambs |
|------------------|----------|-------------|
| Incidents        | 477      | 10795       |
| ASB Incidents    | 31       | 961         |
| Crimes           | 107      | 2946        |

The Village NHW Co-ordinator has now stood down and the vacancy will shortly be advertised.

**5.4 George Long Charity for Swavesey Memorial Hall**

Mr Wright, Chairman of Trustees, gave a report on the work of the Memorial Hall Trustees. Accounts for the year had been circulated. No questions were raised.

**5.5 The Thomas Galon Charity**

Annual report and accounts for the Charity had been circulated. Mr Day, Chairman of Trustees gave a brief report on the history of the Charity and to highlight the charity's support of the Community Warden Scheme and its involvement in the A14 improvement project, as the charity will lose some of its agricultural land to compulsory purchase. The Trust hopes to be able to re-invest the capital received to be able to continue to provide its level of assistance to residents of the village.

**Question:** a resident had contacted Cllr Martin Johnston with regard to the annual grant from the charity to elderly residents. The Clerk would contact the resident.

**5.6 The Frere Cottages Trust**

Mr Pook, Trustee, gave an explanation of the history and management of the four Cottages in Station Road. Currently one cottage is being renovated and would be advertised for a new licensee shortly. There were no questions raised.

### 5.7 Byways Committee

Cllr Ms Boyes gave a brief explanation of the Byways and acknowledged the work of local farmers in keeping the byways maintained. This past year less maintenance has taken place due to the lack of road planings available.

**Question:** Has the Committee considered future funding for the maintenance as at present the rents from local landowners are not necessarily in proportion to the amount of usage per landowner/acreage. Ms Boyes said this had been discussed at the recent Maintenance Committee, as well as potentially paying Farmers for their time rather than relying on volunteer time. No decision had been reached and it will continue to be considered.

### 5.8 Swavesey Community Pavilion Trust

Mr Peet, Chairman of Trustees, gave a brief report on the Pavilion. Financially the Trust is doing well this year, as football is back on the green and with thanks to Mr Ladell, last year's inaugural Cider Festival was a good fundraiser. There will be another Cider Festival this year on 20<sup>th</sup> July. Some local residents have also approached the Trust re holding an after-school café in the pavilion starting after the Easter holidays. There are 3 Trustees and if anyone is interested in joining and helping manage the building they would be most welcome. No questions were raised.

### 5.9 Swavesey Festival Group

Ms Boyes, Chairman, gave a brief report on last year's Festival and outlined the programme of events for the 2018 Festival which will be from 30 June -7<sup>th</sup> July, a week later than previous years. The theme will be Swavesey Through the Ages. There are fundraising events going on during this year as the Festival costs hundreds of pounds to put on. Ms Boyes wished to thank a group of 14 year old students who last Sunday organised a sponsored dog walk around the village and raised approx. £400 for the Festival.

### 5.10 Hale Road Allotment & Gardening Association

Mr Richardson, Chairman of the Allotment Association Committee, gave a brief report on the allotment association. In particular the successful grant applications to provide a fully accessible, waterless toilet for the site. The site was now in its 5<sup>th</sup> year and with a full complement of plot holders and a waiting list.

## 6 Housing Proposal Update and A Neighbourhood Plan for Swavesey

The Chairman of the Parish Council gave an update on the situation re the major housing proposals around the village – see attached slides.

Mr Stuart Websdale from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group gave an update on the Plan progress and forthcoming consultation programme.

A copy of the presentation given at the meeting will be put onto the website.

Cllr Mrs Ellington passed on information relating to the City Deal Cambridge Greenways project consultation, to expand non-motorised transport routes to/from the villages and the City.

Cllr Mr Pook suggested the NH Plan Group should also look at the recent Ouse Valley AONB project, as land within than falls within Swavesey Parish and would impact on the recreational area provision.

## 7 Open Public Forum

- Mrs Stevens – wished to thank the Parish Council for its time in nominating village groups for the SCDC Community Awards. Mrs Stevens had attended the event which had been a fantastic showcase for village activities and organisations.
- Question raised re the Parish Council's thoughts on relocating the Primary School, particularly as it had recently had major extension work completed. The Chairman replied that the Parish Council has been asking the County Council about relocation for over 10 years now, to see if it could be moved away from the main road. Other thoughts were if there was land close to the Village College, so that sports facilities might be shared. However the County Council has not been prepared to even consider the possibility. With all of the proposed new development and potential increase in pupil numbers, the Parish Council is still asking the County Council to start to consider what might need to happen in the future.
- Guided Bus Car Park – huge deep holes in the parking area, which have been there for months. What is the County Council doing about it? The Clerk replied that both Over and Swavesey Parish Councils have been reporting this to the County Council for months (almost a year now), with the County stating they have requested repair work. The Parish Councils continue to chase.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and reminded people that they could also attend Parish Council monthly meetings and raise questions and comments at the public forum sessions at the start of each meeting.

Also all information about Parish Council meetings and items relating to the village can be found on the Parish website at [www.swavesey.org.uk](http://www.swavesey.org.uk) and encouraged everyone to take a look.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 9.05pm

Signed & dated, Chairman

**MINUTES APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN AT THE MEETING HELD ON  
11<sup>TH</sup> April 2018**