

Swinford Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Swinford Parish Council held on Tuesday 7th May 2024 at 7.30pm at Swinford Village Hall

Parish Councillors: Carol Parker, Steve Withers, Glenn Cameron and David Crews.

Also present: Katherine Clarke (Parish Clerk) and six residents.

24-039 To receive apologies from members of council and accept valid reasons for absence

Apologies for absence received and accepted from Cllr. Brett Lonsdale. Apologies for absence also received from District Cllr. Jon Bateman.

24-040 Declarations of interest

- a. **To receive members' declarations of interest in accordance with the adopted Code of Conduct and Standing Orders:** No declarations of interest received.
- b. **To receive and consider members' requests for dispensations in accordance with the adopted Code of Conduct and Standing Orders:** No requests for dispensations received.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION (15 minutes)

24-041 To adjourn the meeting for contributions from other representatives and members of the public (To allow the public to make representations, ask or answer questions, give evidence relating to the business being transacted in accordance with the Public Participation Policy agreed at the meeting held on 04.04.17 minute reference 17-69)

- Representatives of the Village Hall Committee attended the meeting to ask what suggestions have been received for the use of Eight Parishes Windfarm Funds for a larger project. The Parish Council explained the suggestions that they had received, the idea of building a new village hall is not viable. The representatives asked that the Parish Council support them with grant applications to other bodies.
- The representatives also asked the Parish Council would support them in their bid to become a Community Resilience Building, for us in times of crisis such as flooding and power cuts. Cllr. Parker asked for a proposal to be submitted to the Parish Council.
- It was noted that the Pocket Park needs maintenance work undertaking.
- It was noted that the PCC have received complaints regarding parking outside the church during events.

COUNCIL SESSION

24-042 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 5th March 2024

Cllr. Parker **proposed** signing the minutes of the meeting held on 5th March 2024 as accurate, Cllr. Withers **seconded** the proposal. The minutes will be signed electronically.

24-043 Matters arising from the meeting held on 5th March 2024

Cllr. Parker recorded apologies that the Parish Council had to cancel their April 2024 meeting due to unforeseen circumstances.

24-044 Financial Matters:

a) To note the bank reconciliation to 7th May 2024

The reconciled balance on the parish council bank accounts as of 7th May 2024 is £30,748.10.

b) To approve accounts for payment

Cllr Parker **proposed**, and Cllr Crews **seconded** payment of the following accounts:

TYPE	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
BACS	Npower	Streetlighting – Mar 24	£382.38
BACS	Npower	Streetlighting – Apr 24	£341.00
BACS	E-on	Streetlighting Repair – Rugby Road	£1,651.59
BACS	ICO	Annual Data Protection Fee	£40.00
BACS	E-on	Quarterly Maintenance Fee	£123.60
BACS	Andrew Granger	Pocket Park Rent	£600.00
BACS	DTM	Cemetery Maintenance – Apr 24	£691.99
BACS	Symbiosis	Cemetery Tree Survey	£834.00
BACS	LRALC	Annual Subscription Fee	£338.11
BACS	Harborough District Council	Cemetery Non-Domestic Rates	£102.01
BACS	CPRE	Annual Subscription Fee	£60.00
BACS	K Clarke	Parish Clerk salary and expenses – Apr 24	£614.54
BACS	K Clarke	Parish Clerk salary and expenses – May 24	£614.54

d) Any other financial matters

No matters raised.

24-045 Planning Matters

- a. To consider planning application 24/00362/FUL
Erection of oak framed garden building – Keepers Cottage, Stanford Road, Swinford
Resolved: The application has been approved by Harborough District Council.
- b. To consider planning application 24/00428/FUL
First floor rear extension – Frankton Cottage, Shawell Road, Swinford
Resolved: The Parish Council has no comments regarding the application.
- c. To consider planning application 24/0055/TCA
Works to trees (fell) – Swinford House, Stanford Road, Swinford
Resolved: The Parish Council has comments regarding the application.
- d. To consider planning application 24/00513/AGR
Prior notification for the erection of an extension to an agricultural building – Lambcote Hill Farm, Shawell Road, Swinford
Resolved: The Parish Council has no comments regarding the application.
- e. Any other planning matters
A letter has been received from David Atkinson, Director of Planning at Harborough District Council thanking the Parish Council for their comments regarding the accessibility of the recent Local Plan Ideas and Options Consultation.

24-046 To discuss speeding concerns

- The Parish Council is still waiting for Leicestershire County Council to provide some advice on a suitable location for an additional vehicle activated sign.
- The local Community Speed Watch Scheme requires a minimum of twelve volunteers who need to undergo training.
- Cllr. Crews has contacted the Leicestershire Police and Crime Commissioner to invite him to attend a meeting to discuss concerns.
- The busiest day for the Auto Speed Watch Device recorded 63 people speeding through the village.

24-047 To discuss matters arising at the cemetery

- The tree survey has been completed and circulated to the Parish Council for review.
- There has been a request for a bin nearer to the cemetery to try and reduce dog fouling. Harborough District Council will not allow us to add any bins to the current amount. Cllr. Parker suggested we could trial leaving the cemetery black bin out on the pavement to see if it gets used.

24-048 To discuss matters arising at the pocket park

- The Parish Council is aware that the Pocket Park is in need of a lot of maintenance and hope to hold a working party for volunteers.
- Cllr. Parker advised that a petrol lawn mower is now available and requested that a secure shed is purchased to keep equipment in.
- Stephen Morris offered to provide weedkiller and clear the hedge alongside the large gate entrance to allow vehicular access for future works.
- A quote has been requested for the clearance of the brambles at the far end of the park behind the pond.

24-049 To receive the clerk's report on correspondence and consider any recommendations

- Correspondence has been received regarding the stability of the boundary wall of The Retreat on Stanford Road.

24-050 To consider items for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting

Updates on the agenda items above and other usual rolling agenda items.

24-051 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.45pm on Wednesday 22nd May 2024 at Swinford Village Hall. This meeting will follow the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm on the same date and at the same venue.

Cllr Parker closed the meeting at 8.27pm.

APPROVED AS ACCURATE ON 22.05.24.