

Swilland and Witnesham grouped Parish Council

Clerk: Mr Steven Barron

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Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 16th November 2016 7:30 pm at Witnesham Village Hall

MINUTES

1. Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. The Code of Conduct: To receive Councillors Declarations of Interest. None.
3. To receive apologies from Councillors not attending: Mr Darell-Brown, Mrs Camp

Present: Mr Everett, Mr Lightfoot, Mr Rush, Mrs Shaw, Mrs Pace, Mr Templeman, Mr Hindle, Mr Wilks, Mr Stanley, Mr Madge, Dr Nicol

In attendance: SCDC Cllr Whiting (left at 20:15) and SCC Cllr Vickery (left at 20:10).

4. To approve Minutes from the meeting held on 21st September 2016: Prop Mr Lightfoot, Sec Mr Everett: Carried.
5. County Councillor Report: Cllr R Vickery

Cllr Vickery reported that the B1077 culverts had been completed.

A footpath issue had been resolved opposite the Moon and Mushroom Inn.

Cllr Vickery read a response letter from Cllr Finch (cabinet member for Highways) to Dr Poulter MP ref. 40 mph speed limit request for Gibraltar Crossroads on B1078. The theme in the reply was that it was not supported by Highways. Mr Hindle asked Mr Vickery to arrange a meeting with Cllr Finch on site at the crossroads to review. Cllr Vickery would ask for this to be arranged.

A concern had been raised about the state of Wash Lane, Witnesham by a regular user.

Mr Everett informed Cllr Vickery that he had submitted a recent enquiry to SCC Highways for a quote on replacing 30 mph signs through the villages but this had been quoted at anything between £10k and £18k depending on the extent of works. Chairman confirmed that this was not acceptable and asked for an option to repair replace and cut back hedge rows to at least improve what was already in place. Cllr Vickery confirmed that he would allocate £2k from his highway budget to assist with this work. Clerk would enquire to Ashbocking Parish Council Clerk to find out how they funded their recent sign upgrade and report back.

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C. Rush. 16/11/16

Cllr Vickery also reported that he would allocate there was £2.2K to assist in some repairs to the play area surfacing which had been quoted at almost £5K.

6. District Councillor Report: Cllr R Whiting

Cllr Whiting informed the meeting the proposed merger of SCDC and Waveney District Council was due for 12th December 2016.

Cycling had been allowed on Felixstowe Promenade as a trial.

SCDC Local Plan (planning) public consultation close date was due 28th Nov 2016.

Cllr Whiting was involved in the Homeland House enforcement case and was supporting this.

He was also able to allocate £1.5K from his budget towards the Play Area resurfacing which the Chairman thanked him for.

7. Finance Update

Clerk as RFO

Current Account: £18,891.52p

Ipswich Building Society £8,141.03p
(Above balances as of 28th Oct 2016)

Dr Nicol reported that there had been a recent Finance Committee meeting which included amending Financial Regulations and Standing Orders to include Public Service contracts legislation. The Financial Regulations would be verified by the Clerk ready for the January PC meeting.

Standing Orders had been scrutinised by Mr Stanley and he proposed that the council keep the present Standing Orders with Clerk to add the relevant NALC bullets for the Public Service Contracts. Sec Dr Nicol: Carried

There would be another Finance Committee Meeting in early January 2017.

8. To approve the following payments:

a) Mole clearance	£70.00
b) 3 Month SALC Paroll	£16.80
c) Clerk web site training	£54.00
d) HMRC tax March	£104.20
e) Pest control	£50.00
f) Hall hire Jan Mar	£40.00
g) Council Tax	£140.36
h) Administration March	£190.98
i) Hall hire Jul Sep	£40.00
j) HMRC tax Sep	£126.40
k) Administration Sep	£154.34
l) Mob phone top up x 2	£20.00
m) Ink cartridge x 3 and paper	£26.50
n) Play Area inspection	£54.00
o) CAS website lease	£60.00
p) Administration Oct	£192.98

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q) Tree clearance	£216.00
r) Payroll	£54.00
s) Ink cartridges x 2	£10.00
t) Daffodil bulbs	£90.00
u) Larger ink cartridges bulk buy	£31.49
v) Grass cutting for the year	£1474.20

Payments were approved: proposed Mr Hindle, seconded Mrs Shaw.

9. Footpaths

Mr Hindle had nothing specific to report, although he had noticed an increase in dog fouling on Footpath 41 at the top of Mill Lane Witnesham. He suggested that Council should remind residents about the "clean up after your dog" requirement.

Mrs Shaw reported that the Footpath sign opposite the Moon and Mushroom Inn was lying on the ground by the post. Mr Hindle would arrange repair.

10. Planning

Mr. Wilks reported on recent planning applications and their progress with SCDC which included the following:

Spinney Cottage : Permitted
Tree Tops (Brick Wall retrospective application)
Hillbrow Farm (Change of use)
Fynn Valley Golf Club : Permitted
The Barn Strugglers Lane: Refused
Land on Mow Hill: Withdrawn
Land opposite Burwash: Refused
Manor Farm: Appeal dismissed

There had been a recent SCDC "Call for Sites" which was aimed at land owners. The Parish Council waits for the results in early 2017.

There are two enforcement cases in progress (Wades Lane and Ex Anglia Cleaning site).

11. Police Report

Newsletters were on the PC website and Police Connect messages were sent to the residents email list by the Clerk.

Mr Templeman would attend the next 12PT meeting on the 24th November.

It was reported that there had been a burglary in Tuddenham lane.

12. Highways

Mr Everett reported the double bend sign in Swilland was due to be installed by 29th Jan 2017.

13. SAVID (Safer Village Driving)

Mr Madge reported that the redevelopment of SAVID was in progress. There was currently a collation of what traffic measures each member villages have in place.

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14. Playing Field Management Committee

Mr Rush reported that the last PFMC meeting had included an enquiry regarding the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) in relation to development in the villages from Headmistress Mrs Hubbard-Whitehead to possibly assist with a replacement classroom project. Mr Wilks had subsequently made enquiries to SCDC and awaited their responses.

Some of the vegetation adjacent to the Play Area and Playing Field was encroaching onto the pavement by the school. Clerk would arrange for this to be addressed.

15. Play Area Inspections

Mr Stanley reported that the small crack on the slide at the Recreation Ground had not deteriorated.

Mr Rush reported he had a recent quote for the gate and post issue at the Play Area by the School of £155 inc VAT which had been ordered.

16. Recreation Ground

Mr Rush had nothing to report.

17. VHMC

Mrs Shaw stated that the Chairman of the VHMC had said he had nothing to report at this time. It had been observed by Mr Hindle that re-rendering of the VH wall adjacent to the car park had been completed and the hall had been redecorated.

There was then an update from Mr Rush and Dr Nicol to the Council on how the VH was managed in relation to the Parish council responsibilities and the need for long term planning of any Capital projects which might need Parish Council support so that funds could be budgeted for in advance.

18. Tree Officer

Mr Darell-Brown was not present.

19. Allotments

Mrs. Camp was not present.

Clerk confirmed that a spare allotment plot had been advertised (including "In Touch").

Clerk would be sending out tenancy renewal letters soon after the Finance Committee had decided not to increase the rent for this year.

20. Community Group

Mr Rush formally expressed his thanks to Steve Henley and all the participants in the recent excellent production of "Cripps, Cripps and Cripps".

Mr Hindle reported that Daffodil planting had been a success in October at Weyland Road and Coopers Close.

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21. Any proposed items for next meeting.

Chairman had received recent correspondence from Talitha Koum regarding the official opening date on the 30th November.

Mrs Pace had made a few enquiries about a defibrillator after the council received correspondence in this regard. Mrs Pace would report back further and this could be an agenda item for January meeting or perhaps the APM in April?

Meeting closed at 9:00 pm

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