

**SWALLOW PARISH COUNCIL INCORPORATING THE VILLAGES OF
SWALLOW AND CUXWOLD**

**Minutes of the Swallow Parish Council Meeting held
On 11th July 2023**

Present: Cllr G Thompson, Cllr J Wilson, Cllr C Turner, Cllr I Hodson, Cllr A Peart, and C Hollands (Clerk)

Absent: Cllr A Mathieson, Cllr G Hunt.

No members of the public in attendance and no questions were passed to the Clerk for inclusion at the meeting.

The meeting commenced at 715pm

38-23 Post Election Matters

Outstanding Councillor Acceptance of Office Documents were completed..

39-23 Apologies for absence.

Cllr G Hunt and District/County Cllr T Smith.

40-23 To receive declarations of interest under the Localism Act 2011 – being any pecuniary interest in agenda items not previously recorded on Member's Register of Interests.

None

41-23 To receive and consider any dispensation requests on agenda items and decide whether they are to be granted.

None received.

42-23 To approve as a correct record the notes of the meeting held on 9th May and to authorise the Chair to sign the official minutes.

Resolved unanimously to accept the notes as a true record.

43-23 Matters arising from the Minutes

Unity Trust Bank have rejected the recent request to add signatories on the Account due to a signing error. The amended request will be submitted.

44-23 To receive and consider a report from LCC & WLDC Councillor.

No Report received.

45-23 To receive a report from the Chair.

- The Chair reported that it has been a quiet couple of months and nothing to report that is not on the Meeting Agenda.

46-23 To receive and consider a report from the Clerk/RFO to the Council on any outstanding matters and correspondence received since the last meeting.

- All relevant Correspondence has been circulated to Cllrs by e mail.
- A complaint has been received from a Resident concerning hedging obscuring the 'bus shelter on the Lincoln bound carriageway of the A46 near

the junction with Limber Road. The Clerk has reported this to the County Council.

- The Annual Playground inspection has been scheduled for the month of August.
- It was agreed that the Parish Council will not respond to the Central Lincolnshire Consultation Planning obligations exercise.
- It was agreed that there are no new items to include in the Parish Councils Insurance schedule.

47-23 Financial matters

- To approve the bank reconciliation statement. This was agreed.
- To ratify payments of accounts, salary and payments already made.

Payment Ratifications	
Clerk Wage & Admin May	£309.02
Clerk Wage and Admin June	£309.02
Bank Charges	£18
Glendale Countryside - Grass Cutting May	£136.18
Total to be ratified:	£772.22

- Resolved unanimously to ratify payments of accounts, salary & payments already made.
- To agree the method of financial reporting. There has been exchange of e mails between the Clerk and Cllr Mathieson but this matter is still outstanding.
- To agree the maintenance of the Asset Register. The Clerk informed the Meeting that the figure shown on the Annual Return for the Councils' assets is a stand alone figure. It has no bearing on the Accounts. The Clerk has discussed the matter with a Senior Manager at the external Auditors, PKF Littlejohn, and advice sought. The relevant passage from the confirmation e mail received was read to the Meeting and is as follows:

The most appropriate and commonly used method of fixed asset valuation for first registration on the asset register is at acquisition cost. This means that the recorded value of the asset will not change from year to year, unless it is materially enhanced. Commercial concepts of depreciation, impairment adjustments, and revaluation are not required nor appropriate for this method of asset valuation.

It was agreed that the current method used by the Parish Council to record Assets is in line with this advice and will continue.

48-23 To discuss the provision of litter picking equipment.

It was agreed that the offer by the County Council of Litter Picking kits be accepted and the Clerk will respond and request 20 kits if possible.

49-23 To discuss Police cover of the Village.

It has been confirmed that cover provided by the PCSO will remain until October.

50-23 To discuss and update progress with Flooding issues affecting the Village.

It was reported that a on site Meeting has been held between Highways, Parish Councillors and County/District Councillor to discuss the issues. No progress has been made or work undertaken to eradicate the risk of flooding to date.

Highways committed to resolving the issue of blocked drains in August and further works as needed within the next year.

51-23 To discuss the possibility of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme for the Village.

The Clerk informed the Meeting of the existence of a website recording Neighbourhood Watch Schemes and giving advice on setting up such a scheme. It appears that there is a small scheme in existence covering part of Swallow Village. This will be further investigated and discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting with a view to extending the scheme to cover the whole Village.

52-23 Village Hall – to receive an update from the Village Hall Committee.

A report from Cllr Wilson was read to the Meeting and is as follows;

Following the Covid Years we have had ups and downs with the organisation of events but regular daily events such as Coffee mornings have kept those residents together who wanted to participate. We started off opening Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings . Attendance on Tuesdays tailed off and did not justify the effort being put into it so has now ceased. Thursdays proved more popular and there is regular good attendance, giving residents the opportunity to meet up, catch up and socialise.

The VH continues to remain available for use by the local residents and remains financially viable.

Recent VH AGM saw an influx of new committee members willing to take on the challenges of getting residents interested and we are now fortunate in having some much younger members including a young Mum who will get the children involved. Having a community focal point in the village for children has been one of our goals so we'll see where this takes us.

Another of our goals was to improve communication. This has been done by setting up a "Whatsapp" group."Swallow & Cuxwold Village Hall Association". A "Face book" page is also to be set up which will link us with surrounding communities.

The VH will provide facilities (and shelter if required) in support of the Swallow Church Fete being organised by Church Warden Joe Thompson on Saturday 15 th July. Will do what we can to get everything cleared away on completion on the 15 th but have agreed with Joe that all tables and chairs taken for the fete will be returned by 20 th July which will be the next date when the VH will be open to receive them.

Future events for the diary include:-

- *Farmers Group meeting on 17 th July 16:00.*
- *"Lives" talk and a refresher on use of the Defibrillator on Thursday 13 th July. Spaces limited and now fully booked.*
- *Village BBQ on 12 th August.*

- *Scarecrow Fest around August bank holiday to be finalised.*
- *Halloween event for the Children on 31st October.*
- *Table top sale in Autumn.*

We continue to have good dialogue with the Swallow Inn to avoid conflicting events.

Now that the new Patio door is in place we still need to modify the security system. This work will be done and one quote is received.

We also have a problem with 2 of the security cameras, both the South facing ones and this is being progressed. No quote received yet.

53-23 Any other Business and future Agenda items.

- The hedge stretching from the Churchyard to Keepers Cottage is in need of cutting back. This will be reported to the County Council.
- A situation at numbers 3 and 4 Grimsby Road was discussed. The premises are in a state of disrepair and there are issues with dilapidated cars, rats and other vermin. The Environmental Health Officer has made a visit and written to the owner about the issues found. Problems continue and it was agreed that this will be discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting.

54-23 Confirm date of next Parish Council meeting as Tuesday 12th September 2023. Date confirmed.

Meeting closed at 842pm

Signed Chairman

Date.....

Next Meeting on 12th September 2023 at 7.15pm at Swallow Village Hall unless otherwise stated.

These notes are draft until adopted as Minutes at the next meeting.