

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

**Minutes of the Swallow Parish Council Meeting held
On 12th September 2023**

Present: Cllr G Thompson, Cllr J Wilson, Cllr I Hodson, Cllr A Peart, County/District Councillor T Smith and C Hollands (Clerk)

Absent: Cllr A Mathieson, Cllr C Turner.

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

55-23 Apologies for absence.

None

56-23 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

57-23 To receive and consider any dispensation requests on agenda items and decide whether they are to be granted.

None received.

58-23 To approve as a correct record the notes of the meeting held on 11th July and to authorise the Chair to sign the official minutes.

Resolved unanimously to accept the notes as a true record.

59-23 Matters arising from the Minutes

Minute 46. Overgrown vegetation around the bus shelter on the A46. The County Council did not see a need to clear this but it has now been cleared by a Resident.

Minute 48. Litter Picking Equipment. This was given out when applications were received rather than waiting for the cut off date. The Parish Council is now on the list for future supplies.

Minute 53. Hedging from the Churchyard to Keepers Cottage. This is now subject to Enforcement procedure.

60-23 To receive and consider a report from LCC & WLDC Councillor.

Flooding issues that have been raised are progressing. The frequency of drain 'gulping' will be queried.

61-23 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.

62-23 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.
- The Parish Councils Insurance requirements have been confirmed with Insurers as agreed at the last Meeting. The Clerk has increased sums insured by 6% to take account of inflation as is normal practice.
- Cllr Turner has queried if the Rural Bulletin is being sent direct to Councillors. It was confirmed that it is not.

63-23 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 July	£309.02
Clerk Wage and Admin August	£309.02
West Lindsey DC – Election Charges	£103.15
Glendale Countryside - Grass Cutting	£84
Total to be ratified:	£805.19

- Resolved unanimously to ratify payments of accounts, salary & payments already made.
- To review Banking arrangements. The forms for change of signatories on the Account are still outstanding.
- Budget and Precept requirements for 2024/2025.
There was lengthy discussion about the Parish Councils reserves and the need to increase them. The Precept had remained the same for many years leading to a failure to keep up with inflation. It was agreed that the Clerk will produce some options moving forward to be discussed at the next Meeting.

64-23 To review the ROSPA Playground Inspection Report and agree actions on points raised.

It was agreed that the Report contains some comments about the condition of equipment that need to be addressed and others that are observations. A quote has been requested to address some important safety issues and other points will be addressed by Councillors. It was also agreed that a rubbish bin be requested for the Playground area. Cllr T Smith will pursue this. As a separate issue, rubbish bins will also be requested for the two lay-bys on the A46.

65-23 To discuss input into the Highways and Drains Consultation exercise.

It was agreed that the plan showing drains around the Village appeared accurate.

66-23 To discuss and update progress with Flooding issues affecting the Village.

It was agreed that Councillor T Smith will liaise with the Head of Highways on the following issues.

- To ascertain what actions have been taken following a site Meeting in the Village.

- To address the number of Potholes on highways in the Village that require attention.
- To confirm the drains are being 'gulped' once or twice per year according to a schedule.
- To ascertain when road sweeping is to be carried out in Grimsby Road as it appears in need of urgent attention.

67-23 To discuss the possibility of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme for the Village.

It seems that there are two Schemes currently operating within the Village. Cllr Hodson has sent emails to both Co ordinators requesting more detail but has had no response. This matter will be discussed further at the next Parish Council Meeting.

68-23 To discuss environmental issues affecting Grimsby Road.

It was reported that an Officer from Environmental Health Department has visited 3 and 4 Grimsby Road but decided upon no further action. It was agreed the Cllr T Smith will speak with the Environmental Health Department and request a site Meeting to consider the various issues that include derelict vehicles and vermin.

69-23 Village Hall – to receive an update from the Village Hall Committee.

Cllr Wilson reported as follows;

- The Village Hall continues to remain available for use by local Residents and remains financially viable.
- Recent Village Hall activities have been influenced by various new Committee Members to good effect.
- The next Village Hall Meeting will be in October.
- One of the Committees goals is to improve communication. This has been achieved by setting up a 'Whatsapp' Group entitled Swallow and Cuxwold Village Hall Association. A Facebook page has also been set up to link with surrounding Communities.

70-23 Any other Business and future Agenda items.

A donation of £20 was received from a gentlemen for Cllr Hodson finding his lost GPS Device. This has been forwarded on to the Guide Dogs for the Blind Charity.

71-23 Confirm date of next Parish Council meeting as Tuesday 14th November 2023. Date confirmed.

Meeting closed at 856pm

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.

