

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

**Minutes of the Swallow Parish Council Meeting held  
On 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

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

**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**

**1-24 Apologies for absence.**

None

**2-24 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

**3-24 To receive and consider any dispensation requests on agenda items and decide whether they are to be granted.**

None received.

**4-24 To approve as a correct record the notes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November and to authorise the Chair to sign the official minutes.**

Resolved unanimously to accept the notes as a true record.

**5-24 Matters arising from the Minutes**

None that are not Agenda items.

**6-24 Co-option of a Parish Councillor**

Gemma Deane was proposed as a Parish Councillor by Cllr Thompson and the proposal seconded by Cllr Hodson. All agreed and Cllr Deane duly co-opted.

**7-24 To receive and consider a report from LCC & WLDC Councillor.**

Cllr Smith updated the Meeting on the bones of the Lincolnshire Devolution proposal and the possible impacts on service delivery. There followed a general discussion about the impacts on the Parish and the role of a Mayor.

**8-24 To receive a report from the Chair.**

Fly tipping issues have been reported and the rubbish cleared. Nothing else of note to report.

**9-24 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.

- Information about the forthcoming D Day celebrations has been circulated. It was agreed that any participation would be via the Village Hall. The Village Beacon may be lit to mark the occasion.
- Hard copies of the Devolution proposal have been forwarded for information of residents. These are available in the Village Hall.

#### **10-24 Financial matters**

- To approve the bank reconciliation statement. This was agreed.
- To approve a payment of £90.93 to C Hollands. This comprised of the November Salary increase as the Standing Order had not been amended prior to payment date and a sum of expenses for Ink Cartridges and Postage. Approved and cheque signed.
- To ratify payments of accounts, salary and payments already made.

Payment Ratifications	
Clerk Wage & Admin November	£309.02
Clerk Wage and Admin December	£274.31
HMRC Paye on Clerks Salary for December	£61.57
LALC Training Fee	£30
Unity Bank Service Charge	£18
<b>Total to be ratified:</b>	<b>£692.90</b>

- Resolved unanimously to ratify payments of salary payments already made.
- To finalise the Budget and Precept requirements for 2024/2025. There was discussion about the level of Precept to be requested and the lack of increases in previous years Precept requests leading to Reserves not keeping up with inflation. It was agreed that the Precept request be set at a figure 15% above the 2023/2024 sum to account for inflation and to increase the Parish Councils' reserves.

#### **11-24 To further review the ROSPA Playground Inspection Report and agree actions on points raised.**

Cllr Wilson informed the Meeting that most of the critical issues raised in the ROSPA Inspection Report have now been completed. Some fencing work is still outstanding. It was agreed that invoices for the work as previously discussed be paid.

#### **12-24 To discuss and update progress with Flooding issues affecting the Village.**

Some improvement works have been carried out but the County Council and Anglian Water still have work to do. The County Council will look at putting more funding into Budgets to enable 'gulping' of drains on a more frequent basis.

#### **13-24 To update progress with a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme for the Village.**

Communication has been sent to the Administrators of localised schemes in the Village but there has been no response. The initiative will progress as and when interest is shown.

#### **14-24 To discuss environmental issues affecting Grimsby Road.**

A number of Issues surrounding 3 and 4 Grimsby Road were discussed. These included the physical condition of the property, the possibility of compulsory purchase, and the occupancy of the property including the appropriate level of Council Tax for the occupant. Cllr Smith will pursue an issue with trees encroaching on the pavement and efforts to improve the situation will continue.

**15-24 To discuss the need for a Neighbourhood Plan for the Village.**

There followed a general discussion about the need for a Neighbourhood Plan for the Village and the benefit one might bring. It was agreed that background research be carried out with a view to the matter being discussed in more detail at the March Parish Council Meeting. An invitation to attend will be extended to the District Council Neighbourhood Planning Officer.

**16-24 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 the local residents and remains financially viable.
- Maintenance issues brought up at the last meeting have been addressed and are in hand. The Hall and equipment remains in good order. Recent PAT test inspection completed and report now available.
- Recent Events include:-
  - The regular Thursday morning get together.
  - The Village Christmas meal was cancelled part way through making arrangements due to the Pub closing.
  - The Children’s Christmas party and Santa on 17 th December.
  - Iza Moon classes.
  - Group attendance from the Villages being organised for the Pantomime at Caistor.
- Future events include:-
  - Sponsored hair and beard cut (Roger Garrod) 25 th January at the Village Hall coffee morning in aid of “LIVES”.  
( [www.justgiving.com/page/rogers-beard-shave?](http://www.justgiving.com/page/rogers-beard-shave?) )
  - The regular Thursday morning get together.
  - Bingo on dates to be advised.
  - Iza Moon classes.
  - The effort to hold at least one event every month remains on the agenda.
- Request assistance to remove the Village Green Tree lights.
- The last VH meeting was on 4 th January, 2024.
- The next VH meeting will be on 7 th March, 2024 at 19:00.
- Communication continues with the assistance of the “Whatsapp” group- (Swallow & Cuxwold Village Hall Association) and a facebook page.

**17-24 Any other Business and future Agenda items.**

- The Grit Bin situated in Grimsby Road has been damaged. Cllr Smith will pursue a replacement.
- There are parking issues in Chapel Lane/Cuxwold Road that are proving difficult to resolve.
- Vegetation is encroaching on the roadway in Caistor Road between the Church and Keepers Cottage. The Clerk will pursue with Yarborough Estate.

**18-24 Confirm date of next Parish Council meeting as Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024. Date confirmed.**

Meeting closed at 912pm

Signed Chairman .....

Date.....

Next Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.15pm at Swallow Village Hall unless otherwise stated. These notes are draft until adopted as Minutes at the next meeting.