

Minutes of Swaffham Prior Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 14th March 2019 at 7.30pm Village Hall

Present:

Mr John Covill, Mrs Sandra Gynn, Mr Alan Durrant, Mr Steve Kent-Phillips, Mr Peter Hart, Mr Andrew Camps, Mr Michael Malster. Mr Paul Latchford.

There were five members of the public in attendance.

2527 In attendance:

Cllr Allen Alderson, Paul Catling (Parish Clerk), Jude Griffiths (Trainee Clerk)

2528 Apologies for absence:

Mr David Greenfield

2529 Members' declaration of interest for items on the agenda and requests for dispensations:

None

2530 Public participation:

None

2531 Approve and sign amended minutes of Parish Council meeting – Thursday 14th February 2019:

The minutes were agreed as a true record. *Proposed: Peter Hart, seconded Steve Kent-Phillips; unanimously agreed.*

2532 Reports:

CCC: no report was provided.

ECDC: Cllr Allen Alderson reported to the meeting. The new bridge at Ely is complete and open. The new Ely swimming pool is also open and running without hitch.

The abandonment of the Local Plan was down to the councillors being unhappy with changes made by the new planning officer, who rejected numerous proposals regarding building regulations that the councillors felt to be important to ensure that current villages remained unspoiled. The next attempt at producing a Local Plan will be in 2020; until then, the 2015 development plan becomes the most recent plan.

The meeting was suspended at 1942

A member of the public asked if the 2015 local plan is considered out of date and can therefore be ignored, does this leave Swaffham Prior vulnerable? Cllr Alderson stated that as the latest plan had been rejected, the 2015 plan would become more relevant now, but that he would check.

The meeting reconvened at 1944.

Cllr Alderson reported that he doesn't have the power to insist housing is built by a set date once planning application has been granted; for example, in Fordham there is land with permission granted for houses to be built, but no building has started, which makes the council behind on the number of houses that should be built every year. Michael Malster

asked what can be done regarding this – Lucy Fraser (MP) has raised this with the Government but it as yet an ongoing enquiry.

2533 Matters arising from the previous minutes:

Re *min. ref. 2520* A new Parish Clerk (Jude Griffiths) has been appointed, starting on 6th April 2019, after Rosie Featherstone withdrew due to employment commitments.

Re *min.ref.2517* SID. Paul Latchford had sent out a proposed SID rental agreement for discussion. Some changes were proposed: ‘fee’ instead of ‘rent’; use of the word ‘install’ or deploy – ‘deploy’ agreed. Paul Latchford asked if the fortnightly fee was to be £200.00 - this was confirmed.

Paul Catling suggested a clause was needed stating that SID is insured by SPPC but that there is an excess of £100.00 in the event of damage therefore SID is to be on the agenda of the next PC meeting.

2534 Correspondence for consideration/circulation:

None

Paul Latchford questioned the lack of EC correspondence; Steve Kent-Phillips explained that there is a great deal of correspondence that isn’t relevant to Swaffham Prior and therefore not forwarded to all the Parish Council.

2535 Consideration of planning applications received:

None

2536 Village Hall:

Alan Durrant stated that a signed copy of the booking form for the hall is needed or slots would be lost.

The Annual Village Assembly needs to be moved to Tuesday 14th at 730pm if the hall is available – Steve Kent-Phillips to book.

David Greenfield had emailed to confirm that the two amalgamated Trust forms had been sent to a solicitor.

High winds have rocked the noticeboard – Andy Martin to fix this at a cost of no more than £100.00 on the grounds of health and safety.

2537 Allotments:

Steve Kent-Phillips confirmed that the allotment map is now online on the parish website.

There is one vacant plot and there has been one enquiry regarding this, although the enquirer has yet to contact the clerk. JW is happy with plot GAP 5.

2538 East Cambridgeshire Local Plan:

a) Notification of withdrawal

b) Implications for Swaffham Prior

a)

b) The village envelope remains the same. As the number of houses to be built is below the required level for the five year supply of housing, this could be a successful means of appealing against refusal. Permission for enough houses has been granted but they’re not being built. In light of the abandonment of the Local Plan, planning now reverts to the 2015 Local Plan until it becomes out of date in 12 months’ time; after this it will revert to infill

only, with a maximum of two buildings. Steve Kent-Phillips noted that the heating scheme may be affected by the definition or not of Stirling Farm as an area of 'light industry'.

The Parish Clerk is to email David Greenfield for comments.

2539 Accounts for payment:

a. Clerks' salaries	£384.00
b. Inland Revenue – Clerks' tax	£ 96.00
c. P Catling expenses – printer toner	£ 57.69
d. S Kent-Phillips – Clerk's equipment	£224.01
e. Mead Construction – VH drive	<u>£120.00</u>
Total	£898.57

Payment of the above invoices was agreed. Proposed: Steve Kent-Phillips, seconded Paul Latchford, agreed unanimously.

2540 Clerk's report:

Forms for re-election are available on the ECDC website and need to be submitted by the end of the 24th March 2019. The village hall has booked for the day; ECDC to sort out manning of the polling station.

2541 Parish councillors' reports

Sandra Gynn reported that village hall lights were sometimes being left on all night – for information.

Steve Kent-Phillips has been informed that the cemetery bins are overflowing and will check this.

Paul Latchford noted that a lorry had been parked at the end B ulbeck end of the village without moving for some time – Sandra Gynn suggested ringing the non-urgent police number to report it.

The meeting closed at 2028.

2542 Open question time.

LK complained regarding the number of unapproved minutes.

It was suggested a note be put in the Crier stating that the parish website is the fifth to be listed when searched for using common search engines.

It was noted that the village hall driveway has to be kept in good repair in order to encourage use of the car park over parking in the street.

Business finished at 2033.