

**Minutes of the Swaffham Prior Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 8th December 2022
at 7.30pm in Swaffham Prior Village Hall.**

Present: Cllr John Covill (Chair) (JC), Cllr Andrew Camps, Cllr David Greenfield (DG), Cllr Sandra Gynn (SG), Cllr Peter Hart (PH), Cllr Kent-Phillips (SKP) and Cllr Paul Latchford (PL).

In attendance: Jude Griffiths (Clerk)

There was 1 member of the public in attendance.

118/22-23 To receive apologies for absence and to approve reasons for absence where appropriate.

Cllr Alan Durrant sent his apologies.

119/22-23 Members' declaration of interest for items on the agenda and requests for dispensations

None

120/22-23 Public participation for items on the agenda

None

121/22-23 Reports

- a) Cambridge County Council – no report, no representative attended.
- b) East Cambridgeshire District Council – report circulated prior to meeting. Cllr John Trapp attended as representative. Cllr Trapp noted that the Community bus would not be in Burwell on 16th December and that he was involved in getting the bus to visit Swaffham Bulbeck as this would fit better with the current public transport bus routes. Cllr Trapp stated he is also looking into grants of money for new playground equipment.
The Chair invited questions; none were asked.

122/22-23 Approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 10th November 2022
PH proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting; seconded SKP, passed unanimously.

123/22-23 Matters arising from previous minutes (for information only)

114/22-23 DG noted in response to a question, that the cost of the Heating Scheme has been £10.6 million. In response to a second question, the back-up boilers are electric.

The Chair agreed to bring part of the Clerk's report forward – the report on the Sustrans meeting with a number of parish councils on 6th December at 2.30pm at the Gardiner Memorial Hall, Burwell.

132/22-23 Clerk's report

- a) Sustrans meeting. The Clerk summarised the meeting content (see appendix 1).

The Chair invited Cllr Trapp to join the discussion.

Cllr Trapp noted that the railway route seemed the obvious choice as it was away from the busy B1102, and arrived in Burwell at a better and safer point. It was established that the owner of the railway track had not been approached yet.

PL noted that the B1102 was the most direct and used by cyclists currently. DG noted that cyclists had no other cycle path to use.

PL stated that bringing a cycle route through the village would cause problems of congestion, could cause problems for access for those unable to use active travel and could result in vulnerable pedestrians mixing with cyclists. Some other councillors disagreed.

- 124/22-23** Correspondence for consideration/circulation.
- a) Email regarding the results of the Rogers Road speed monitoring.
SKP noted that the numbers of vehicles were roughly 15 an hour at peak times, compared to over 1000 an hour along the B1102 through the village. The direction chosen for the SID to face was because that was the direction the car came from involved in the collision. Given the lack of a significant speeding problem shown, the PC agreed that there was no justifiable reason for either putting the SID up facing the other way or investing in a permanent speed awareness fixture.
Action: Clerk to respond to email as outlined above.
 - b) Email from Great Wilbraham Parish Council regarding a response to the Greater Cambridge Partnership consultation ending 23rd Dec 2022.
Action: Clerk to respond saying that although the PC sympathise and recognise the issues, the area in question is outside of the PC's influence and that the PC are addressing similar issues with the help of the A-B1102 group.

125/22-23 Consideration of planning applications received:

- a) 22/01302/FUL Single and double storey side and rear extensions.
7 Rogers Road, Swaffham Prior, CB25 0HX
DG proposed no objections or comments be made; seconded PH, passed unanimously.
- b) CCC/22/083/FUL Construction of a private underground power cable with associated electrical and communications equipment between North Angle Solar farm and Swaffham Prior Energy Centre; erection of electrical substation/switch gear buildings with associated temporary and permanent compound and parking at High Town Drove, and; installation of new transformer/switch gear at the Swaffham Prior Energy Centre with associated temporary compound; and temporary typical mobile CPEN Cable recycling layout.
Land between North Angle and Swaffham Prior Energy Centre including compound at High Town Drove, Burwell, CB25 0BP
SKP proposed no objections or comments be made; seconded DG, passed unanimously.
- c) 22/01372/FUL Construction of detached glasshouse in garden.
Goodwin Manor, 1 Station Road, Swaffham Prior, CB25 0LG
DG proposed no objections or comments be made; seconded PH, passed unanimously.

Approved:

- d) 22/01215/TRE T1 Ash adjacent to barn - Reduce height by 6-7m, reduce spread on all sides by up to 3-4m to shape due to the potential for structural damage to the property. T2 Multi-stem Sycamore group - Fell as very close to adjacent building and is lifting flooring.
Knights Manor, 31 High Street, Swaffham Prior, Cambridge, CB25 0LD
Noted.
- e) 22/01230/TRE T1 Ash - Fell due to fungal activity and decay in main stem adjacent to public footpath as per photos provided.
Endon 6 Lower End Swaffham Prior Cambridge CB25 0HT
Noted.

126/22-23 Accounts for payment including:

a) Clerk's salary and taxes	£520.00
b) Clerk's out of pocket expenses	£100.00
c) Chair's honorarium	£40.00
Total	£660.00

Income:

Ivett and Reed – new headstone	£100.00
F W Cook – funeral directors	£175.00

SKP proposed that the accounts be settled in full; seconded SG, passed unanimously.
No transfer was required.

127/22-23 To approve the accessibility statement

The Clerk advised that the statement under “Disproportionate burden” be changed to “No disproportionate burden occurred”.

DG proposed that the PC approve and adopt the accessibility statement with this change; seconded SG, passed unanimously.

128/22-23 To agree the next step in repairing/replacing the speed awareness signs on Mill Hill
After discussion, *PH proposed that the PC order two replacement signs with the speed and smiling/frowning face display.*

Action: SKP to order.

Action: Clerk to cut back hedge overcrowding the Burwell end sign.

129/22-23 To approve a new headstone

SKP proposed that the headstone application be approved; seconded PH, passed unanimously.

130/22-23 To receive an update on progress towards replacement playground equipment

Cllr Trapp to send details of where to apply for funding from ECDC to the Clerk.

Action: Clerk to ask Wicksteeds to update their quote.

131/22-23 Report on Heating Scheme

A report was circulated and made available to the public prior to the meeting. 5 houses are connected and 2 more being worked on.

JC noted that manhole covers were thawing/drying from some source of heat; DG to feed back to check insulation.

SKP asked about the slow attachment rate. DG stated that there was a significant level of bureaucracy involved but that it should get slicker.

SG noted considerable frustration from some people regarding the wait, e.g. ordering oil to keep heating going is tricky when it's unknown how long it will be required.

132/22-23 Clerk's Report

b) Dog waste bin for the playground. The Clerk reported that ECDC have said that dog waste can be put in normal bins and that for now, they will monitor for a problem with dog fouling.

Action: Clerk to publicise the dog fouling online reporting form on the ECDC website via the Crier and Facebook.

c) Clerk noted a buddleia growing out of the playground wall

Action: Clerk to remove.

133/22-23 Parish Councillors' Reports

a) SG reported that the school had had an Ofsted inspection and has emailed the school to ask for a report for the PC in the New Year.

b) PL reported that the Allotment Inspection had taken place on 12th November. One plot was in need of attention.

Action: PL to contact the allotment renter in the New Year to discuss a timetable for improvements.

PL reported that the lamppost at the bus stop (Swaffham Bulbeck end of the village) is still not working.

Action: PL to get the lamp post number and pass on to SKP for to follow up.

c) DG reported that the 3 year contract with CGM for grass-cutting has now concluded and that he would like to negotiate a 12 month role-over of the contract to cover the coming time of financial uncertainty. The PC agreed to this

Action: DG to negotiate a potential extension of the current contract and put to the PC for approval.

- d) AC reported that the missing sign on Rogers Road had not been replaced. SKP confirmed that it is on the low maintenance list so will be replaced when enough jobs have been reported in one area to make it efficient.

The meeting closed at 8.57pm

134/22-23 Open Question Time

A member of the public asked for the position of the B1102 speed signs and asked if the field between the Dyke and the heating scheme had some kind of special status. PH noted that the cable from the solar farm could run along side the road if this was the case.

Business concluded at 9pm.

Appendix 1.

Sustrans meeting 6th December 2022 2.30-4pm Gardiner Hall, Burwell

Present: Sustrans, Fordham, Reach, Burwell, Swaffham Prior, ECDC

Sustrans = charity, collection of engineers, designers etc who want to improve the cycle network. Asked to look at schemes for the area. ECDC putting money into developing cycle/walking routes, also involved in Cambridgeshire Greenways.

Local Transport Note 1/20 = guidance for best practice on designing these routes e.g. segregation of cyclists/cars/pedestrians, minimum width of 3m, sealed surface, proscribed width of segregation depending on volume and speed of traffic etc. Target of 50% walking/cycle journeys by 2030 – needed for climate targets but mainly aimed at urban areas; need much higher funding to cover rural.

Active Travel England police what is done by Highways and Local Authorities – if doesn't comply with guidelines, all funding has to be repaid.

Swaffham Prior to Burwell or SP-Reach-Burwell.

Most direct route is B1102, other most direct route involves using the old train track. B1102 will require buying of private land to get separation required for busy, fast road, difficulties crossing the dyke (can't cut through, heritage may object to expensive bridge), difficulties moving through villages themselves as narrow twisty roads don't allow for segregation. Suggested one way system in Burwell using Isaacson Road, Newmarket Road, High Street triangle.

Old train track: Highly protected ecology/habitat – high risk that planning would be refused after expensive surveys, environmental reports etc BUT it is the obviously route – separate from road, direct, one of 3 places where dyke is breached (other 2 in Reach and at B1102). Suggestion of using cinder to make track as that is part of the unique habitat there already and would not require as much digging or use of tarmac. Sustrans suggested this could be looked at if there was enough support

Discussion of routes between Burwell-Fordham-Soham Station and Wicken-Soham

Need to persuade people – perhaps with mock-ups of segregated roads would look like, recognisable examples of where similar set-ups have worked.

Need for fully integrated systems e.g. hubs where can cycle to, then get train/bus. Need to entice people to use rather than force them out of cars. Good system will be used, poor system will not and need to be accessible at as many as possible for good cost/benefit.

Also need crossing to Waterbeach Station, particularly if Cambridge North is within the congestion zone.

What were ECDC looking for? Projects they can invest in that will give results. Can't fund whole projects but could contribute to preparation for applying to those who can.

Next steps:

- Need short, medium and long term ideas – can get “quick fixes” while working on other projects.
- Don't think of cycling in isolation; joined up, speed reduction schemes, consult with all, get CCC on board.
- Choose preferred routes and look at how to get them.
- 5 years proposed before congestion charges arrive, so need to find solutions in that time.

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