

**Minutes of the Swaffham Prior Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
at 7.30pm in Swaffham Prior Village Hall.**

Present: Cllr John Covill (JC) (Chair), Cllr Alan Durrant (AD), Cllr David Greenfield (DG), Cllr Sandra Gynn (SG), Cllr Peter Hart (PH), Cllr Kent-Phillips (SKP), Cllr Paul Latchford (PL) and Cllr Kate Muscroft (KM).

In attendance: Jude Griffiths (Clerk)

There were 6 members of the public in attendance.

**215/23-24** To receive apologies for absence and to approve reasons for absence where appropriate.

Apologies received from Cllr Ruth Lambert.

**216/23-24** Members' declaration of interest for items on the agenda and requests for dispensations

None.

**217/23-24** Public participation for items on the agenda

A member of the public asked for clarity on what would happen to current bus routes under Item 225/23-24.

*The Chair allowed Item 225/23-24 to be brought forward.*

**225/23-24** To support the position of the A-B1102 group regarding the proposed new bus routes.

DG outlined the current situation regarding proposed changes to the bus routes and introduced Jon Cook, chair of the A-B1102 group, lobbyists on behalf of the B1102 parishes for improvements in connectivity between Cambridge, the parishes and beyond.

*7.35pm The meeting closed to allow Jon Cook to speak, informing the PC on the current state of affairs with the bus routes and taking questions from the councillors.*

*7.55pm the meeting reopened.*

*DG proposed that the PC write to Cambridge and Peterborough Combined Authorities in support of the proposals for the bus routes; seconded SKP, passed unanimously.*

Action: DG to draft letter in consultation with Jon Cook.

*The Chair allowed Item 224/23-24 to be brought forward.*

**224/23-24** To hear from Mr George Hurrell regarding affordable housing proposals for the parish

Mr George Hurrell and two associates discussed potential proposals for the building of affordable housing on 3.9 acres behind 69 High Street, Swaffham Prior and whether the PC would support a survey of housing needs.

*The meeting was closed at 8pm to allow free discussion of the issues raises.*

*8.53 pm The Chair reconvened the meeting.*

DG summarized the PC's position that it agrees the need for affordable and social housing, but does not support the use of this specific site for building due to issues of suitability for further housing and the historic setting of the two churches. The PC declined to support the survey as it felt that once a housing need had been established, it would prove extremely difficult for the PC to object to this specific site.

The PC thanked the three for the presentation.

#### 218/23-24 Reports

- a) Cambridgeshire County Council. A report was circulated by email. Cllr Charlotte Cane noted that a decision on Sunnika had been put back from April to June.
- b) East Cambridgeshire District Council. A report was circulated by email. Cllr Cane attended. Cllr Cane noted that a meeting had been arranged between herself, Cllr John Trapp and a new, senior member of staff for Sanctuary Housing, who seemed keen to be actively involved with them.

#### 219/23-24 Approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

PH noted that he had missed been from the 'Present' list at the beginning of the minutes.

*SKP proposed that with the above correction, the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting; seconded PH, passed with 2 abstentions.*

#### 220/23-24 Matters arising from previous minutes (for information only)

None.

#### 221/23-24 Correspondence for consideration/circulation.

- a) Email from Cllr Charlotte Cane with bus route proposals. Noted.
- b) Email from CAPALC including affiliation pack. Noted.

#### 222/23-24 Consideration of planning applications received:

Approved:

- a) 23/01330/LBC and 23/01329/FUL Amended plan/additional information.  
Changes to approved garage conversion. Changes include, internal layout, external window and door fenestration, addition of rear timber decking, changes to the existing glazed link roofs – retrospective.  
The Smock Tower Mill Mill Hill Swaffham Prior Cambridge CB25 0JZ  
Noted.
- b) 24/00256/TRE T1 Walnut - Reduce by 3-3.5m down to approximately 1.5m below previous reduction points. Due to multiple areas of hollowing, decay and fungal activity on main limbs. Risk of structural failure over adjacent house and parking area  
Well House 50 High Street Swaffham Prior Cambridge CB25 0LD  
Noted.

#### 223/23-24 Accounts for payment including:

a) Clerk's salary and taxes	£560.00
b) Vodafone – mobile	£34.17
c) Eastern Tree Surgery – Coopers Green	£516.00
d) CAPALC membership renewal	£435.88
Total	<u>£1546.05</u>

Wave water bill (Direct Debit) - £25.30

nPower electricity bill (Direct Debit) - £355.22

Income.

Ivett and Reed - £50.00

*SKP proposed that the accounts be paid in full; seconded SG, passed unanimously.*

*SKP proposed a transfer of £2000.00 from the Business Account to the Community Account; seconded PH, passed unanimously.*

- 226/23-24** To send a letter of support to broadband providers regarding parts of the parish not covered by the proposed service.

DG explained that Gigaclear were presently intending to supply Fibre to all the village except the High Street. DG had spoken to the Community Engagement officer, who believed that a letter from the PC asking Gigaclear to cover the High Street would be helpful.

*DG proposed that he draft a letter to Gigaclear asking them to reconsider covering the High Street, for the Clerk to send next week; seconded SKP, passed unanimously.*

Action: DG to draft letter and forward to the Clerk for sending.

**227/23-24** Report on Heating Scheme

DG reported.

- a) Noise issues. Present actions appear to be working but the issue continues to be monitored.
- b) There have been some problems with installation to a property, but these were due to a contractor, not the Heat Scheme.
- c) Installation to the Village Hall. This is waiting for confirmation of interest from the school as the feed to the Village Hall comes from the school. The option of getting the pipework to the Village Hall with an option for the school to join later from it is being explored.
- d) People are expressing frustration at waiting for connections. A number of connections are needed for a contract offered to be economically viable. A new member of staff was responding to enquiries.

**228/23-24** Clerk's Report

- a) Allotments. A renter of a Lower allotment requested that the PC look into maintenance of the edges to the field, entranceway and paths around the unrented plots.
  - b) The Clerk suggested that the PC look into the possibility of supplying Bleed Kits for community use.
- Action: SKP to look into the cost.

**229/23-24** Parish Councillors' Reports

- a) PL noted that when wind danger to a lamppost was reported, it was repaired 20 minutes later – for information.
- b) JC noted that the condition of Heath Road is increasingly poor.

*The meeting closed at 9.16pm*

Open Question Time.

None.

*Business concluded at 9.19pm.*

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