

# SEWARDS END PARISH COUNCIL

*Parish Clerk – Tracy Coston*

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## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Swards End Parish Council

held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 at 7.30 pm

in St. James Church Hall, Swards End

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**In the Chair:** Cllr. Howlett

**Present:** Cllrs, Dean, Stokley and Prichard

**Also present:** James de Vires

**Clerk:** Tracy Coston

**Public:** 0

**27/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Paul Allington, Adrian Knowles, Mike Dean and Martin Foley.

**28/23 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 minutes):**

**a) Update about Affinity Water regarding water softening:** Regulation 31 came in 2021 and have a resin-based water softener and membrane softener has worn out but no membrane and no water company will replace on at huge expense. No one softens water anymore and it was unique to Saffron Walden. It would be cost prohibitive if it was available.

**29/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive any pecuniary interests relating to items on the agenda: None

**30/23 PLANNING**

**a) Applications for discussion:** None

**b) Decisions:** None

**c) Community Governance Review – Parish Border:** UDC will process the boundary review after the elections in May.

**31/23 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

To approve as a correct record the Parish Council meetings held on 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2023: The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

**32/23 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

**a) ECC booking system at Refuse centre:** The booking system is going live in March as a trial.

**b) Request for funding for a noticeboard for the Village Hall:** The PC will buy the noticeboard for the village hall and the Village Hall will make a contribution towards the cost.

**33/23 HIGHWAYS ISSUES**

**a) 30mph speed limit – Pounce Hill:** Speed limit is in the validation process.

**b) Footpath down Radwinter Road:** ECC to add to the cutting schedule.

**c) Railings down Radwinter Road:** Highways haven't inspected the railings.

**d) By-Way from Cole End Lane/Thaxted Road:** Clerk to contact UDC about

the decision made.

e) **Weight limit for Redgates Lane:** No further information has been received.

**34/23 WEBSITE**

a) **Discussions about upgrading the website:** The PC agreed to pay for a new website costing £ 500.00. Judith Bonser will build the website. A meeting will be arranged with representatives from the Church and Village Hall.

**35/23 VILLAGE GREEN**

a) **Replacement play equipment:** The playground inspection will be carried out by the Play Inspection Company.

b) **Community orchard:** Clerk to speak to Bob Barnes about the trees.

c) **Village Green maintenance contract:** Clerk to check about spraying the play area. Kelvin Newman has informed the PC that the prices will not be increased this year.

**36/23 CORRESPONDENCE:**

a) **Election:** Clerk to advertise on Googlegroups and the Village Facebook

b) **Kings Coronation:** Clerk to apply for the £700.00 grant through UDC.

**37/23 EX-AGENDA**

➤ **District Councillors Report:** Coronation grant to apply for. UDC Budget £ 5.00 per year increase. Voter ID changes. UDC are looking for households for Ukraine families.

➤ **County Councillors Report:** Apologies sent

**38/23 FINANCE**

**PAYMENTS**

|     |                            |          |               |
|-----|----------------------------|----------|---------------|
| D/P | Tracy Coston March Payment | £        | 182.55        |
| D/P | Tracy Coston Expenses      | £        | 226.20        |
|     | <b><u>Total</u></b>        | <b>£</b> | <b>408.75</b> |

**39/23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**The date of the Annual Parish meeting followed by the Parish Council meeting is TUESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 at 7.30pm in St. James Church Hall.**

The meeting finished at 9 pm

Signed

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Date

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