

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 6th February, 2024 at 7.30 pm

in St. James Church Hall, Swards End

In the Chair: Cllr. Knowles
Present: Cllrs, Powell, Stokley and Briggs
Also present: Cllrs Moran and Foley
Clerk: Tracy Coston
Public: 1

14/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Mike Dean, Nigel Howlett and Richard Ridler.

15/24 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 minutes): Nothing to report.

16/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

17/24 PLANNING

a) Applications for discussion: None

b) Decisions: None

18/24 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

To approve as a correct record the Parish Council meeting held on 8th January, 2024. The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

19/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: None

20/24 HIGHWAYS ISSUES

a) Update about highway issues: All reported to Highways.

b) Report following the cancelled meeting with Highways concerning the footpath: The meeting was cancelled by ECC due to the Officer having to attend another meeting. Martin Foley met with the Officer at a later date and discussed the path with him and showed them photographs and a video. Cllr Foley will continue to chase up the issues with ECC.

c) Flooding in Pounce Hill: ECC have been notified of all the issues and there are live reports on the ECC reporting page.

The water is coming off the fields and the water management isn't designed to carry enough water. The Clerk will contact the owner of the field to see if they can improve the ditching.

It was suggested that the PC keeps a log of the land owners, but this needs further investigation.

21/24 WEBSITE

a) Progress report and evaluation of the site from test page: The PC agreed for the website to go live and to be advertised on the Googlegroup on each message.

22/24 VILLAGE GREEN

a) Tractor and trailer delivery date: The delivery will be made when the ground has dried out. The Clerk will try and schedule a date around 5th March asking it to be completed by 26th March, weather dependent. The playground will be closed for a week to carry out the work.

b) Discussion about Phase 2 of the playground refurbishment: A quote for all the remaining equipment has been carried out by Online Playgrounds. The Clerk will try and find another quote for the work, but it is difficult to find another comparative quote. The Village Hall have agreed a donation of £ 2,500 towards the cost of refurbishment.

c) Insurance claim for picnic table: During the summer a BBQ was lit on a picnic table, which damaged the tabletop. A quote has been received for £ 289.00, £ 50.00 delivery and £ 75.00 for installation. There is a £ 100.00 excess on the insurance.

23/24 CORRESPONDENCE: All emailed.

24/24 EX-AGENDA

➤ **District Councillors Report:** UDC has a 10% drop in spending power and has to make efficiency savings. The budget hasn't been approved yet. A new bin lorry will be purchased.

Improvements to communication need to happen. More sessions have been opened at the Refuse site. The consultation for car parking increases has completed. The local plan publication to the consultation will be out by June and then the Regulation 19 will be activated.

➤ **County Councillors Report:** All discussed in Highways.

25/24 FINANCE

RECEIPTS

HMRC (VAT reclaim)	£ 233.22
UDC (Community grant for tractor/trailer)	£ 2,500.00
EALC (ECC grant for play area)	£ 7,600.00
Total Receipts	£ 10,333.22

PAYMENTS

D/P Tracy Coston (Feb wages)	£ 282.57
D/P HMRC (Tax)	£ 137.00
D/P Kelvin Newman (2 x Village Green maintenance)	£ 2,262.50
Total	£ 2,682.07

26/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the Parish Council meeting is 5th March, 2024.

The meeting finished at 9.30 pm.

Signed (Chair)

Date

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