

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 7th May, 2024 at 7.30 pm

in St. James Church Hall, Swards End

In the Chair: Cllr. Howlett

Present: Cllrs, Powell, Ridler, Stokley and Briggs

Also present: John Moran

Clerk: Tracy Coston

Public: 0

53/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Foley, Cllr Dean

54/24 ELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR: Nigel Howlett was duly elected as Chair and Richard Ridler as Vice-Chair.

55/24 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 minutes): None

56/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

57/24 PLANNING

a) Applications for discussion: None

b) Decisions: None

58/24 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

To approve as a correct record the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd April, 2024. The previously approved minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

59/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: None

60/24 HIGHWAYS ISSUES

a) Update about highway issues: All below.

b) Footpath down Pounce Hill: The Clerk will check that the path is on the cutting schedule with ECC. Clerk to ask Tom Cunningham about rearranging the site meeting at Pounce Hill footpath that was cancelled by ECC. Some of the residents of Swards End are cut off, from walking into Saffron Walden as they cannot push a pushchair or ride a mobility scooter down the path and it is dangerous to try to use the path.

c) Accident down Pounce Hill and report to Highways: Tom Cunningham (Highways) has informed the PC that following a survey of the road on 29th February the defects were recognised, but they weren't classed as urgent works, but in the light of the accident the carriageway repairs are being assessed by Essex Highways and a job will be raised to resolve the issues identified. The location has also been added to the jetting schedule, which will require a road closure which will take 12-14 weeks to arrange.

The Clerk will ask Tom Cunningham for a copy of the survey from 29th February. Clerk to ask Bob Barnes if a letter was sent to Kemi Badenoch.

61/24 WEBSITE

a) Update: The Clerk will meet with Sue Powell to discuss the addition of a calendar on the website and further updating.

62/24 VILLAGE GREEN

a) Tractor and trailer installation: The tractor and trailer was installed today. The installers spent more time taking out the old safety matting and they have agreed a £ 500.00 credit off the final invoice. Kelvin Newman will put in additional soil and turf around the end of the equipment as soon as possible.

b) Picnic tables for play area: The Parish Council thanked Trevor Start for putting the picnic tables together at the play area. Thank you for Trevor for putting together. Phase 2 is to put a base under the tables.

c) Entrance to the Village Green: Tim Wells has offered to drain the entrance and the Clerk will ask about the possibility about laying a path.

d) Phase 2 of the play area improvements: The surfacing underneath the tables to be investigated and further improvements. Further improvements to be discussed.

e) Village Triangle: The PC will ask Kelvin Newman to cut the village triangle more regularly. The PC also discussed putting two planted tubs or a small tree in the middle of the triangle. The wooden posts are to be recemented in, Adrian Knowles to assess.

63/24 CORRESPONDENCE: All emailed.

64/24 EX-AGENDA

➤ **District Councillors Report:** The Local Plan was discussed.

➤ **County Councillors Report:** Not present

65/24 FINANCE

RECEIPTS

ECC vergecutting £ 1,020.09

TOTAL RECEIPTS £ 1,020.09

PAYMENTS

D/P Tracy Coston (May wages) £ 282.57

D/P Larhar Ltd (Waste removal) £ 282.00

D/P NBB Recycled Furniture £ 1,704.00

Total £ 2,268.57

b) Financial Regulations/Standing Orders: The Financial Regulation and Standing Orders were reviewed and approved by the PC.

66/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Parish meeting is 4th June, 2024 at 7.30pm at St James Church, Swards End.

The meeting finished at 9.30 pm.

Signed (Chair)

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Date

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