

# 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> April, 2026 at 7.30 pm in St. James Church Hall, Swards End

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**In the Chair:** Cllr. Knowles  
**Present:** Cllrs, Mack, Powell, Stokely, Ridler  
**Also present:**  
**Clerk:** Tracy Coston  
**Public:** 2

**41/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Kathleen Hutchinson and Mike Chitson.

**42/26 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 minutes):** None

### **43/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

### **44/26 FINANCE:**

#### **a) RECEIPTS**

EALC (Grant for fence at Village Green) £ 2,387.50

**Total Receipts** £ **2,387.50**

#### **PAYMENTS**

D/P Tracy Coston (April wages) £ 293.42

D/P Monthly bank charges £ 4.25

**Total** £ **297.67**

**b) Approval of the IT Policy (Circulated):** The PC approved the IT Policy.

### **45/26 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

To approve as a correct record the Parish Council meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026. The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

### **46/26 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

#### **a) Withdrawal of bus service/ECC consultation:**

The PC were really pleased that the bus service has been saved but it will be reviewed again in 2027 and the contract runs to 2028.

The passenger numbers have increased from Swards End and the PC will continue to push the bus service.

Love your bus Campaign:

### **47/26 FOOTPATH DOWN POUNCE HILL:**

**a) Update about the project and costings:** The owner of the field will allow the PC to put a permissive path alongside the existing footpath.

The length of the path is 401 metres.

Adrian Knowles has costed out clearing the path and putting the hardcore down when plant is available in May. £ 5,000.00

The PC to contact Cllr Platt (Highways) Julia Johnson (Senior Highway Officer), Check with insurance company. Permissive path. Ask insurance company about

asset.

Clerk to check the procedures and Adrain Knowles will obtain more quotes for the work.

**48/26 PLANNING:**

**a) Applications for discussion:** None

**b) Decisions:** None

**c) UDC Planning Committee 8<sup>th</sup> April:**

**UTT/25/1568/DFO**

*Details following outline application UTT/21/2509/OP - details of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for 233 dwellings with associated works*

**49/26 HIGHWAYS ISSUES**

**a) Moving the 30mph signs down Pounce Hill:** Now that the construction has started it is really dangerous that the Heras fencing is close to the road and dangerous when the vehicles are parked unlocking the gate. This is a safety measure. Martin Foley is going to have a site meeting with Sarah Tomlin from Highways.

**50/26 VILLAGE GREEN**

**a) Community Orchard trees:** Kelvin Newman will remove the dead trees.

**b) Replacing of Village Green Fence:** The fence has started to be replaced.

**51/26 CORRESPONDENCE:**

**a) Defibrillator:** An air tag and case has been purchased by the PC to track the defibrillator at the Village Hall.

**b) Cole End Lane:** Solar Farm: Low Carbon offered to fill the potholes in Cole End Lane and Highways didn't come back to the company.

**c) Nature Recovery Plan:** Clerk to circulate.

**52/26 EX-AGENDA**

➤ **District Councillors Report:** Local plan has been approved. Local Government Reform: Harlow and Epping Forest. Timetable 01/04/28 UDC and ECC will not exist. Unitary Council elections May 2027.

Housing maintenance contract has come back in house and some contracts have been issued to local companies.

➤ **County Councillors Report:**

Local plan cost £ 10 million pounds but it has been approved. 2-3 pm meeting with Sarah Tomlin on Thursday or Friday?

**53/26 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the Annual Parish Meeting will take place on 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2026 followed by the Annual Parish Council meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2026 at 8pm at St James Church, Swards End.

The meeting finished at 8.46 pm.

Signed

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Date

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