

## **Swilland and Winesham grouped Parish Council**

Clerk: Mrs Sarah-Jayne Bailey, 38 Weyland Road, Winesham, IP6 9ET

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### **Parish Council Meeting**

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.30pm held at Winesham Village hall

## **MINUTES**

1. Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. In attendance Mr Everett, Mr Henley, Mrs Camp, Mrs Bartolome, Mr Lightfoot, Dr Nichol, Mr Wilks, Mrs Pace, Mr Rush, Mr Darell-Brown. Also Councillor Fryatt, Officer Sally Thomas and Officer Gerry Abigail.
2. Apologies Ms Reeve, Mrs Shaw and Mr Laughlin
3. Minutes from meeting 17<sup>th</sup> September 2014 approved as true record. Proposed Mr Lightfoot and seconded Mr Wilks.
4. County Councillor Bellfield not able to attend due to ill health.
5. District Councillor Fryatt – Reported that application for housing at Land North of Elm Cottage has been approved by planners and was considered good example of how development rules should be applied. Chairman expressed concern that decisions were not being communicated back to Parish Council that our comments concerning the SHLAA sites to Hilary Hanslip planning policy officer had not been acknowledged or given consideration. Mr Fryatt agreed to look into both areas of concern and report back and advised that a further meeting was scheduled for 8<sup>th</sup> December which he would make sure we were advised of. Regarding funding for a potential new bus shelter at Burwash Councillor Fryatt reports that there is £5000 in Councillor Hudson's locality budget and in addition, the Suffolk Coastal Capital grant scheme for good works may be also be an option. Councillor Fryatt to give clerk the details of these particular grants for further consideration. Mr Henley raised the tree issue in Burwash which needs attention but ownership is unclear. It was suggested that Heritage Housing may be owners as they were the original developers. Clerk to contact Heritage Housing to clarify responsibility for trees.

#### **Police Report**

PCSO Sally Thomas and Officer Gerry Abigail outlined that levels of crime very low. Swilland crime free and four crimes in Winesham. New PCSO will be joining the team in three weeks Speeding remains a priority area for SNT. Police Connect messaging service is being rolled across Suffolk and Norfolk out to replace the previous Police Direct messaging service to advise of local crime and traffic issues. Anyone wishing to re-register should contact SNT or view the Parish Council website for the links.

#### **6. Finance Update**

Dr Nichol confirmed there had been a meeting of the finance committee. In previous years the budget was set to cover every day expenditure and reserves were used for any additional spend but this had resulted in a major Precept increase a couple of years ago. More recently the Council has decided to avoid such a large increase it was better increase the precept by a very small amount to simply cover the annual expenditure. It is likely we will have just over £1000 under spend at the yearend mainly due to some planned works being delayed. Clerk was asked to compile a specification and obtain quotations for the Parish grass cutting for award next year. Dr Nichol presented next year's budget forecast for consideration and advised that we were again setting a balanced budget and

increasing precept by £250 to accommodate future projects which will need to be approved at the January Parish Council meeting.

7. The following payments were approved

- a. Elmy Landscapes £174
- b. Website training x 2 £108
- c. Elmy Landscapes £159
- d. Payroll £50.40
- e. External audit £120
- f. Hall hire £40
- g. Playground inspection £48
- h. Insurance £750.18
- i. September salary £213.95
- j. Daffodil bulbs £100
- k. Tax £87.80
- l. Daffodil bulbs £75
- m. Mower repair £265.67 (handle)
- n. Stationery £29.22
- o. Salary October £182.99
- p. Daffodil bulbs £50
- q. Mower repair £271.29 (belt)

8. Footpaths

Footpath at back of Berghersh Hall has been raised with Mr Hindle as bridge is in poor condition and hand rail is broken. Chairman reported that footpath from Wades Lane Swilland to Toad Hall seems to have been blocked off and requires a stile of some kind installing. Mrs Camp reported that some of the foot bridges are very slippery and dangerous. Mrs Pace said there is another behind Pump House in Swilland that has no chicken wire and is slippery. Mr Darell-Brown said that he had spoken to two horse riders about using footpaths and asked that a letter be written to local stables to ask that riders do not use the footpaths particularly in the winter months. Mrs Bartolome reported the pavement in Weyland Road. Clerk to report this to highways and Heritage Housing.

9. Planning

Mr. Lightfoot has reported that there has been two planning meetings on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> November and minutes distributed and available on the website. Mr Lightfoot and Mr Rush had attended a meeting with Suffolk County Council about the SHLAA designated sites and a series of communications had been sent to outline the Parishes views.

10. Highways (B1078, speeding, footpaths)

Mr. Everett reported that some improvement work has been undertaken on the B1078 including the installation of slow signs and road markings, but there are no buff patches on the road as promised. One of the slow signs has been put outside Browngates Kennels when it should arguably have been put further down. In addition, the subsided roadside ditch has been cleared but the obstruction in the ditch still remains. Mr Everett will contact Highways to remind them of these outstanding issues. Highways have confirmed that the blocked drains on B1077 will be rectified sometime after Christmas but it will require a road closure. It was also noted that flooding at the bridge in Witnesham has been really bad this past weekend and Mr Everitt would ask Highways to consider clearing the blocked gullies in that area. Mr Rush advised that the SNT could be asked to instruct the Safecam Partnership team at Suffolk Police to install speed radar devices to record traffic speeds which could be used to support requests to Highways for improvements. These had been undertaken in Swilland and the results were awaited.

Mr Everett also reported that complaints had been received concerning the pavement footpath from the Barley Mow to the Witnesham School is severely overgrown and narrow in places and he has emailed Highways and they have acknowledged this issue which hopefully will receive attention.

There was some concern expressed by a member of the public over the length of time the B1078 had been closed to undertake what appeared to be very small

amount of work and without much notice to local residents. Mr Rush explained these issues were not the responsibility of the Parish Council and suggested any complaints should be directed to the Highways authority but agreed it would be helpful for more notice to be given in future,  
Mr Henley reported that Graham Seward is now the local speed watch Co-ordinator and is keen to have more volunteers to assist him with this work.

11. Recreation Ground

Bid for play equipment is in and being considered by Suffolk Coastal.

12. Playing Field Management Committee

Mr. Wilks confirmed there was a meeting last month. A letter has been written to Councillor Graham Newman outlining frustration concerning the poor condition of the access road to the school and a reply and action is eagerly anticipated.

Mrs Pace reported that there is a tree root near the disabled car parking space that is causing the surface to distort which will be investigated by Mr Wilks.

13. Allotments (Wildlife area)

Mrs. Camp reported that the meeting with Leonie at Woodland Trust about the wildlife area had been very informative. Mrs Camp explained that a redundant allotment plot would need to be cleared and a shallow pond installed with, insect hotels, frog shelters etc. There will be help from the scheme but a working party could be put together. Jo Reeve very keen to support and get the local children involved. Mrs Camp to ask for comments from allotment holders and Clerk to send this information to plot holders with invoice letters.

14. Tree Officer

Mr. Henley mentioned potential grant aid from Suffolk Coastal supporting a tree planting scheme. This could include some replenishment of the trees planted at Weyland Road. Mr Wilks and Mr Henley to discuss this.

15. Communications Group

Mr. Rush confirmed that clerk has now got a new number which is a designated Parish Council mobile phone and is now the official contact number for the Parish Council. Clerk reported that website is progressing and happy to receive information of any kind for inclusion from residents and local organisations.

16. Community Group

Mrs. Camp reported that AGM has taken place. Glut fest was cancelled as there were very few entries and Hanger Dance was a loss as not many tickets were sold. Music and crafts weekend is now just a music weekend. Village show and garage sale will happen again next year and happy to receive any ideas from residents for future events. Mr Henley reported that Xmas panto rehearsals were progressing well and notices will be put up in various areas around the village including verges and private gardens. There was some debate concerning funding support and it was suggested that funds could come from either the Community Group or by a raffle or refreshment stall of some kind.

Mr Henley suggested that community group could consider presenting accounts to Parish Council. Mrs Camp confirmed that current balance is £160 and the Chairman confirmed that a report along with financial details had been provided at the Annual Parish meeting.

17. AOB Mrs Bartolome raised the issue around dog fouling on the footpaths A

reminder to go in to go into the 'In Touch' magazine for dog owners to clear up dog mess. It was also noted that people are parking on grass verges in Weyland Road which is spoiling the verges and cars are often parallel parked on the road which leads to dangerous driving conditions. Clerk to send letter to Flagship asking for reminders and notices to be issued. Meeting closed at 9.26pm

