

Swainsthorpe Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13
March 2024 at 7.30pm

In Attendance: Cllr Nicki Craft, Cllr Claire Tuttle, Cllr Geoff Curran, Cllr Andy Haggith (Chair), Cllr Margaret Robins, Cllr Joe Casey

Also present: Parish Clerk Nicola Ledain, 4 members of the public

1. To consider apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Ann Chandler and District Councillor Jon Cook.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17 January 2024 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

- a) Councillor training – various dates and options would be circulated for in-person training.
- b) The SAM2 had been ordered and delivery awaited.
- c) The village gates were still going to be installed. There had been a temporary delay due to issues with the Council's bank account.

4. Public Open Forum including reports from District and County Councillors

- 4.1 There were no district or county councillors present. It was agreed to thank Jon Cook for the grant of £300 for seats on the Green and Jubilee Garden.

5. Planning

5.1 Local Green Energy Applications

Ann Chandler and Margaret Robins had met with Tim Barker, Planning Officer SNDC on 21st February 2024 to discuss the concerns repeatedly raised by Adrian Jacklin (Highways consultee) regarding the Traffic Management Plan (TMP) for the construction phase of the Bloys Grove Solar Farm. Mr Barker was sympathetic to the village's concerns and repeated that the onus was on Engena to address the concerns before the TMP was approved. AC and MMR have arranged a meeting with Adrian Jacklin in the village on March 28 to discuss the issues further. With regards to the application from Hornsea, the developers had offered to visit the parish councils, and it was suggested that they were invited to the July meeting.

- 5.2 There were no new planning applications to consider.

6. Finance

- 6a. The financial report was agreed.

- 6b. The following payments were agreed:

TT Jones: Apr, May, June £30.88 for street light maintenance. NL to chase the repair of the faulty light.

HMRC

NL salary
VAT to be reclaimed at end of financial year.

7. Policies

The following policies were agreed:

Code of Conduct
Lone Working Policy
Planning Policy

8. Village Plan

Elaine Parkinson joined the meeting to explain further regarding the village plan. The plan would last until 2032 and contain what the residents of Swainsthorpe wanted for the village. South Norfolk Council have given approval for the plan to be formed. A leaflet had been sent out to all households in the village asking for volunteers for the steering group but only 2 people responded. In view of this, it was proposed that the parish council would become the steering group, and this was AGREED. Others outside the parish council could also be involved. The next step would be for the steering group to meet and delegate areas to focus on within the plan. Elaine would still write the plan and co-ordinate it. It was suggested that other villages who had developed/were developing a plan could be contacted such as Newton Flotman.

9. Bollards on Millennium Green

This would be deferred until the next meeting due to there being a delay with the EDF work starting in the village for the Solar Farm, and therefore it was less urgent. The verge near the railway had also become damaged due to railway workers' vehicles but the consensus was that bollards would be inappropriate there. If there were future damage photos should be taken so NL can complain to the contractors.

10. Jubilee Garden

The heavy stuff has been moved from leaning against the fence, but there were still light things leaning, and the owner of the fence was being sought. Still heavy things leaning.
The funding received from Jon Cook was being put towards the erection of the new seat in the garden.
The evergreen clematis has died over the winter but will be replaced by a flowering Jasmine.

11. Telephone box and defibrillator

No work has been carried out but would start when the weather will improve.
AC to send the invoices to NL for reimbursement.

12. Update on play area

The play area working group have held a meeting and have organised meetings with two play area companies who they hope to meet in the next few weeks. Brochures have also been received from them in the meantime. An application from the National Lottery for funding had been started, but it needs a quote before it can continue. A discussion would need to be held at the next meeting regarding the surrounding trees and the impact of them on the play area and the safety of those using the play area. It was agreed to involve the Swainsthorpe Community Charity Trust (SCCT) in the discussions.

13. Speedwatch

Geoff Curran reported that there had been 8 sessions since 29/9/23 and 19 motorists had been caught travelling at more than 37 mph, but none recently

14. Appoint internal auditor

An internal auditor was appointed at a cost of £85.

15. Annual Parish Meeting Arrangements

The Annual Parish Meeting would take place on 8th May at 7pm. Refreshments and nibbles would be served afterwards. It would be advertised on Facebook, in Partnership and on the notice board. Reports would include the SCCT, the PCC, Parish Council, and Speedwatch. Jon Cook should be invited.

16. Items for next agenda

Time capsule for Jubilee Garden.

Items to be considered: maintenance of footpath signs; D-Day anniversary.

17. Dates of next meeting

The next meeting would be Wednesday 8 May 2024.

Meeting finished at 9.10pm