

SWALCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 21st JULY 2009 AT 7.30PM IN SWALCLIFFE VILLAGE HALL

Councillors Present

Julie Carpenter (JC)

Patrick Bradshaw (PB)

Mike Stanley (MS)

Mick Foley (MF)

Jane Gallick (JG)

Dan Parish (DP), Christine Coles, Parish Clerk (CC)

1. Apologies

Mike Taylor

2. Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of last meetings held on 26th May and 16th June

These were both agreed and signed as a true record of the meetings.

4. Matters Arising from the previous meeting

Registration of Swalcliffe Common - Ongoing.

Children At Play Sign for Bakers Lane - Ongoing.

CDC, Village Traffic Calming - Portable Speed Indicator Signage - The ground plate has now been put in by Tithe Barn. MS spoke about road humps that he saw on a B road between Witney and Charlbury although JC said this was probably allowed as it is a built up area. CC to ask Highways if Swalcliffe can have speed humps and also get the cost of a permanent speed sign.

Upkeep of church garden planted by Betty Panks - MS to speak to Mark Parsley.

Work at Jesters - The area in front of the garages is still a state. The Clerk to write to the owners and ask if the major work is complete.

Bench by bus stop - Mark has provided designs but is now on holiday. MF to email the designs to all for approval.

Parish Pit -. As a result of our letter to Graham & Rosen, they have responded with a prepared Memorandum of Agreement which the Parish Council agreed to in part. The main elements are that the council will retract its application for registration of the freehold title, they propose a lease of 999 years and rent of 1 peppercorn per annum if demanded and that Ms Haynes would have input into various aspects of the memorial garden to her father which the Council would insure and maintain at our cost.

The Parish Council would prefer to have the freehold title of the land. It appears that Ms Haynes would like to own the land for sentimental reasons and to keep the family attachment within the village. PB to draft a quick response to Graham & Rosen asking why Ms Haynes needs the freehold title.

Wall outside Backwater - Ongoing.

Freedom of Information - JC has sent details to be put in the village section of the Banbury Guardian on three occasions but the information has not been put in.

Removal of Sycamore Tree o/s Rock Cottage - MS to complete the relevant paperwork.

Tree by the Old Bakehouse - The Clerk has given the details to EON who will arrange for Fountains to look at the tree when they are next in the village doing their other work.

Cross Country Horses - JC has received another complaint but it was felt the complaints should be put to the people organising the events.

Allotments - The procedure is that six villagers have to contact the Parish Council before they are required to look for a suitable area. The Parish Council would need to contact land owners but they are under no obligation to give up their land.

Bin by the Church - This was emptied by Doug Seymour and thanks was given to him.

Vegetation on Bakers Lane - MS has cut back and sprayed with weedkiller.

5. **To consider the costs and benefits of setting up a Parish Council website**

MF had been able to get a quote for the setting up of a website from David McLindon. The cost is £600 to design an intermediate site, a two year hosting package @ £379.99 and a Search Engine submission @ £150.00.

PB had been able to get another quote which was £1500.00.

The council agreed that David McLindon should proceed with setting up the website. MF to liaise with him.

6. **Planning applications**

One new application had been received since the last meeting

- *09/00782/F, Proposed 3.6m high fence around tennis court at Upper Lea Farm, Swalcliffe Lea.* No objections were raised.

Two decision notices had been received from CDC

- *09/00571/F, Removal of rear lean-to extension and replacement with new room. Restoration of rear external wall of building and boundary wall at 2 The Green.* This had been refused by CDC.
- 09/00428/F, Conversion of two farm outbuildings to two dwellings at Upper Lea Farm, Swalcliffe Lea. This had been approved by CDC.

7. Financial Report

The following payments were approved at the meeting:

- £135.00 to Gerry Melvin (grass cutting)
- £231.61 to Parish Clerk (hours)
- £63.25 to Parish Clerk (expenses and mileage)

8. Correspondence

The following correspondence had been received and was distributed to the councillor's:-

- OCC, Revised Bus Strategy
- South East England Partnership Board, Formal submission of partial review to the South East RSS in relation to: Somewhere to live: Planning for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the South East
- CDC, Planning Futures Newsletter
- CDC, Cherwell Parish Liaison Meeting on 17th June, Questions and Answers
- ORCC Strategic Plan 2009-11
- CDC, Cherwell Seniors Groups Newsletter
- OCC, Speed limit review of 'A' and 'B' roads in Oxfordshire

The Clerk highlighted one item of correspondence:

OCC, Speed limit review of 'A' and 'B' roads in Oxfordshire. Although there are no plans to reduce the speed limit of roads in the parish of Swalcliffe, recommendations can be put forward by 8th August. JC to ask if the speed limit between Tadmarton and Swalcliffe can be reduced to 50mph.

9. Councillors Reports

- MF spoke of rental and for sale signboards which are kept up far longer than they need to be. This is for marketing reasons. If a councillor is sure that a house has sold or being rented the board can be taken down.
- MF reported a pothole down Park Lane. PB to report.
- JC and JG had attended a planning meeting which gave details of new planning permission rules which came into place on 1st October 2008. JC to copy the portal link for everyone to see.

10. Date and time of next meeting

Tuesday 8th September 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Meeting Closed 8.45pm