

SWALCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 2ND MARCH 2010 AT 7.30PM IN SWALCLIFFE VILLAGE HALL

Councillors Present

Julie Carpenter (JC)
Patrick Bradshaw (PB) - arrived late
Mike Stanley (MS)
Mick Foley (MF)
Mike Taylor (MT)
Dan Parish (DP),
Christine Coles, Parish Clerk (CC) and two villagers

1. Apologies

Jane Gallick

2. Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of last meetings held on 19th January 2010

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising from the previous meeting

Registration of Swalcliffe Common - Ongoing.

Children At Play Sign for Bakers Lane - Ongoing.

Upkeep of church garden planted by Betty Panks - Ongoing.

Work at Jesters - o/s garage area - MT has submitted an invoice.

Parish Pit - Ladders have amended the Memorandum of Agreement. The Land Registry have advised that the application has been cancelled and they will reject any renewal of applications connected to this one until it is resolved.

Action: Cllr Bradshaw to make contact with Graham & Rosen Solicitors as soon as possible.

Wall outside Backwater - This is now in urgent need of repair.

Action: The Chair to ask Mr McNally to quote for the repair work and MS to also get a second quote to compare.

Tree by the Old Bakehouse - This has not been removed yet.

Action: The Clerk to chase Fountains.

Village website - Work is ongoing.

Action: The councillors to activate their own email addresses which have been provided by David and provide photos of themselves for the site.

Village Hall update - The Village Hall Committee have been successful in receiving a grant for projection equipment. Doug Seymour had also asked if the Parish Council could reconsider resurfacing the car park area with shingle to stop the mud being trodden everywhere which was requested at the last AGM. This suggestion will be kept under consideration.

Wall around the Green - Mr McNally has been back and compacted the asphalt. Doug Seymour has agreed to advise the council if it lifts again.

Swalcliffe Park School - Various emails have been exchanged between the school and the Clerk. In conclusion, the school have advised that the situation with members of staff smoking has been resolved and no staff will need to go near the Barn, Tithing Cottages or offsite to smoke as they have a designated area away from all buildings. The parking plans are moving forward and they will only need to use the Barn for parking on special occasions such as Open Days, Sports Day (on 15th July) and Graduation Day (on Friday 25th June) by arrangement. They will notify local residents of the special occasion dates in due course. MS advised that building work on site had been delayed because of the bad weather.

Church Tower Appeal - A letter of thanks was received from Peter Beddowes. This would be kept on file.

Cutting back of forsythia bush overhanging the footpath between the Square and Bakers Lane - MS to cut back.

To extend the parking area by the Green - As the area appears not be be large enough to accomodate an additional parking spacethis work will be left for the time being.

Sky Dishes - Action: MS agreed to speak to CDC about where they can be placed.

5. To discuss traffic problems and occurrence of accidents during recent bad weather

The Clerk had emailed OCC Highways to ask about attending a site meeting. They replied and advised there is no funding to carry out works at this location and Louise Harrison from the Traffic team would be visiting the area to see if some further lining/signing could be used to help. Since the site visit, OCC have proposed the following:

- Move the adverse camber sign nearer the junction - it should be 45m from the hazard.
- Consider re-instating the centre line. If people are using this as a guide they could possibly be nearer the edge when they go round the bend and it could increase speed. The edge is well defined across the two junctions so should be visible.
- Install a series of marker posts around the verge edge.

There appears to be two problems, the speed of vehicles and the physical structure of the road which is sinking. It is not a new problem as the telephone box which was installed ten years ago has been hit twice in the past. Mrs Couch asked the council to consider contacting BT to see if it could be removed as it is never used. She also reminded the council that her planning application at Lime Tree House, Main Road, which has been approved, will include another exit onto the Main Road. This should be considered if marker posts are going to be put in.

Gerry Melvin (GM) had attended the NAG meeting on 21st January but felt it was not of benefit for him to attend again. GM will let Sergeant Evans know of his decision. GM spoke about the meeting which had been organised by Thames Valley Police on 26th February and advised that a petition had been handed over to them. A copy was passed to the Clerk to file. Gerry Melvin will contact the Banbury Guardian, copying the PC on any press release he composes and send the petition to County Cllr Keith Mitchell and Steve Wood of OCC Highways. It was felt to be more effective for villagers to hand over the petition as it directly affects them but the Parish Council agreed they would fully support their actions. Doug Seymour (DS) had also attended the meeting but felt it was a waste of time. The police do not have their own measuring equipment and suggested that villagers club together to share the use of one which costs about £2500. Villagers need educating about speed and once it is proved by data, the police will do their enforcement part. The police advised they could not get involved in highway business and in their experience highways acted after fatalities. The question was asked why Swalcliffe was tenth on their list of priorities. This was based on how many people were spoken to during a survey which had been conducted by them and as they carried out the survey during the day only five people were spoken too. DS felt there was no link between the NAGs/police and highway authority.

Action: MT to speak to Simon Marsden, a local Highways engineer and the Clerk to contact BT about removing the phone box.

Salt bin - The Clerk advised that new salt bins ordered via OCC Highways are now yellow and not green as previously advised. It was agreed that one should still be ordered.

6. Planning applications

One new application had been received since the last meeting

- ✓ 10/00016/TCA, fell 1 Eucalyptus tree at 3 Madmarston View, Green Lane. JG/MS to look at plans.

Decision notices had been received on the following applications:-

- ✓ 09/01771/F & 09/01772/LB, Internal and external alterations to outbuildings, associated landscaping proposals, and a replacement swimming pool at Swalcliffe Manor, Main Road. This has been approved by CDC.
- ✓ 09/01846/F & 09/01847/LB, Erection of oak framed garden room at Slade House, 5 The Tithings. This has been approved by CDC.

7. Financial Report

The following payments were approved at the meeting:

- ✓ £167.50 to Taylor Farms (to complete work in front of garage area and supply of Christmas tree)

- ✓ £213.99 to Parish Clerk (Dec - March '10 hours)
- ✓ £17.82 to Parish Clerk (expenses)
- ✓ £204.54 to Parish Clerk (Jul - Oct ' 09 hours)

8. Correspondence

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

- ✓ CDC, Recycle with Spring Clean 2010. Passed to MS (?).
- ✓ Energy Saving Trust
- ✓ CDC, The Local Authorities (Members Allowances) - Parish Allowances Schemes
- ✓ ORCC, 90th Birthday details
- ✓ NSPCC, Protecting children from abuse and neglect
- ✓ Sacha Barnes Associates
- ✓ Lodders, details of new charges
- ✓ St John Ambulance, donation request
- ✓ CDC, Draft Core Strategy - Public Consultation

The Clerk highlighted two items:

- St John Ambulance, donation request. It was agreed a donation of £50.00 would be given. The cheque to be raised at the next meeting.
- CDC, The Local Authorities (Members Allowances) - Parish Allowances Schemes. The panel's report was considered and the council agreed that allowances would not be paid and a Members Allowance Scheme would not be adopted. The report would be published on the notice-board.

9. Councillors Reports

- Potholes were reported on Green Lane, near to the garage area and on Grange Lane by Swalcliffe House. The Clerk to report to OCC Highways.
- MF spoke about the car driver who hit the Wall on the Green during the recent icy weather. It was agreed he should forward the contact details to the Clerk who will advise the driver that the Parish Council would be getting a quote for repair work to the wall.
- Action: The Chair to ask Mr McNally for a quote. MF to forward the drivers details to the Clerk.*

10. Date and time of next meeting

Tuesday 20th April. Parish Council meeting at 7pm and Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting Closed 9.45pm