

SWALCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 2nd DECEMBER 2019 AT 7.30PM IN SWALCLIFFE VILLAGE HALL

Councillors Present

Neil Urquhart (NU), Chairperson
Ken Hodkinson (KH)
Ryan Smith (RS)
Victoria Taylor (VT)
Christine Coles - Parish Clerk and two villagers

19/90. Apologies

None.

19/91. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests to declare.

19/92. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21st October 2019

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

19/93. Public Participation Session

There was nothing to discuss.

19/94. To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only

Grass cutting – The Clerk has been in contact with the grass contractor to discuss the extra cuts in Green Lane and Park Lane.

Village Hall – The Chair produced an internal summary which was circulated.

19/95. To receive a report from the SWCPA Committee

Mr Foley gave the following report. It has been a fantastic first year by members of Swalcliffe and beyond. The official opening was in March and it has been utilised since. The committee is made up of 4-5 people who make sure the weekly checks are carried out. A breakdown of costs and estimated costs had been circulated. Money was raised from the Christmas Fayre held in the Church last week and more personal donations are being received.

The Parish Council are currently holding £4377.93 in their account. A contribution of £250.00 will be made next year by the Parish Council for maintenance. The Parish Council have agreed to take on responsibility for ongoing routine and maintenance.

The Chair thanked the small committee for their work and carrying out the weekly checks.

19/96. To receive an update on the village hall

Not much progress has been made. A useful session was held at the last Parish Council meeting and this detail has been circulated. The Chair has no capacity to drive this forward and nobody else on the Parish Council is able to. This will mean that little progress will be made. There is funding for new builds but concern was expressed again that if nobody comes forward to run the project, it will not be good use of parish money to pay someone to manage the project. The hall layout would be decided by the Parish Council and Village Hall Committee. Cllr Taylor had received heating quotes but these were received some time ago.

Action: Cllr Smith to get the costs of the modular building similar to the one at Swalcliffe Park School.

Cllr Taylor to ask for updated heating quotes. The Parish Clerk to contact the Community Building and Shop Advisor at Community First for advice. The Chair to produce a basic hall requirement which could be sent to three local architects.

19/97. To receive an update on digital connectivity

Cllr McCallum has met with Colin Hill. There are currently two providers, BT and Voneus. For those living close to the cabinet, the BT service is good. It gets worse the further away the properties are. BT cannot provide fast fibre to the outlying houses. Voneus give good speeds but the issues are downtime and customer service. They have installed new hardware and speeds are good. There are currently 15-16 people signed up to Voneus. Two villagers moved out and Voneus did not contact the new people. Voneus is a good option if BT is poor but it is not a long term solution and subject to weather conditions. A survey was carried out before Sugarnet came to the village and Colin Hill has that information. It was agreed a new survey should be carried out. Cllr McCallum has written a piece for the website.

Action: Cllr McCallum to put something on Facebook. Survey detail to go in the February Link and a presentation to be given at the Annual Parish Meeting in April.

19/98. Financial Report

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:

- £201.96 to Virginia Merritt (Plants for new play area)
- £600.00 to A Bathe (grass cutting)
- £38.99 to ABC Advertising (Website)
- £234.00 to Playdale Playgrounds (Annual Inspection)
- £100.00 to Taylors & Sons (Christmas Tree)

19/99. To receive an update on Planning

Two applications had been received since the last meeting:

- 19/01604/F, Amendment to approved application 18/01620/F to include change to roof of single storey extension, inclusion of velux window to rear elevation roof of two storey extension at Barn Court Cottage, Park Lane. No objections. Approved.
- 19/02261/DISC, Discharge of conditions 3 (Construction Traffic Management Plan) 4 (landscaping scheme) & 6 (biodiversity method statement) of 19/00171/F at SPE. No comment.

19/100. The following correspondence was received and circulated:

- OALC, VE Day 75th Anniversary May 2020
- CDC, Council Support Grant 2020/21
- CDC, Prior notification of a Partial Review of the Cherwell Local Plan consultation
- OALC, Dissolved Parliament, Purdah

19/101. Councillors' Reports

The defibrillator is still receiving regular checks. The battery may need replacing at a later date.

A villager has suggested having a litter pick up the cutting. It was agreed to do one on 23rd December at 11am.

19/102. Date and Time of next meeting

Monday 20th January 2020 at 7.30pm

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.