

# SWALCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 27<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2022 AT 7.30PM IN SWALCLIFFE VILLAGE HALL

### ***Councillors Present***

Neil Urquhart (NU), Chairperson  
Ken Hodgkinson (KH)  
Karen Riordan (KR)  
Ryan Smith (RS), arrived late  
Christine Coles - Parish Clerk and three members of the public

### **22/39. Apologies**

Cllr Collett (holiday), Cllr Gandy (holiday), Cllr Taylor (personal)

### **22/40. Declarations of Interest**

There were no interests to declare.

### **22/41. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

### **22/42. Public Participation Session**

No matters were raised.

### **22/43. To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only**

Jubilee Grant – The money was received from CDC and the completed report returned on 11<sup>th</sup> June.

Electric Car Charging points – This will be considered again in the Autumn.

Banbury Charities – The Chair applied for a grant for the village hall refurbishment and it was being considered on 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

Noticeboard – The current noticeboard has been repaired and is useable for the time being. Photos of new boards (wooden and metal) will be circulated.

### **22/44. To receive an update on the village hall project including grant and loan applications**

The Lottery Fund have confirmed a grant of £9.5K which is good news. DC Services will start work on 1<sup>st</sup> August and it should be complete by mid September. The whole project will cost £65K and funding to date is £51.5K. This leaves a small shortfall.

The Chair has written to Banbury Charities for a grant and it was agreed at the last meeting to give £30K from Parish Council and village hall funds. Ideally it will be nice to get the toilets refurbished at the same time as the other work but the funds may not stretch that far. Tracy Lean suggested a village working party doing work to save money but this would only make a marginal difference in cost and complicate the management of the project.

A loan has been discussed. The Rural Buildings Communities Loan fund will only give loans to charities. It can be repaid over seven years. The Village Hall have the income to pay the interest and the Parish Council are back up; the capital would be repaid through fundraising. The alternative is to apply for a Public Works Loan Board loan, and this will be considered if the Parish Council is not eligible for the RBCF.

It was agreed to authorise spend up to £51K. The Village Hall will transfer their share of the money to the Parish Council when it is needed.

*Action: Cllr Gandy to ask DC Services for a breakdown of costs and query terms of payment. Cllr Collett to look at guidance on charity status for the hall.*

**22/45. To review the Platinum Jubilee Events**

The events were well attended. 50 people attended the church service. A thank you note was put in the recent link. The Beacon lighting event in Shutford went well with three villages and thanks was given to Mr Taylor for supplying the tractor to take people up the hill. The events were under budget. The Parish Council are still waiting for permission re the placing of the bench and tree outside Swalcliffe Tithe Barn. The bench is currently being stored in a safe place.

**22/46. Financial Report**

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:

*Jubilee Expenses*

- £150.00 to V Taylor (food for Jubilee lunch)
- £88.20 to M Collett (plaque)
- £128.00 to C Warrington (printing)
- £484.62 to K Riordan (miscellaneous)

*Other*

- £91.19 to ABC Advertising (Website certificate)
- £20.00 to N Urquhart (bench preservative)
- £600.00 to A Bathe (grass cutting)
- £516.54 To Parish Clerk (hours)
- £129.00 to HMRC
- £39.60 to Parish Clerk (mileage)
- £55.89 To Parish Clerk (expenses)
- £7.64 to R Smith (weather strip to repair notice-board)

**22/47. To receive an update on planning**

Two applications had been received since the last meeting:

- *22/01445/TCA, T1 x Acer Pseudoplatanus - Fell, due to severe lean and is being held up by the surrounding trees. The baseplate of the tree looks to be shifting and the tree on the whole looks unsafe at The Manor House, Main Road. It was agreed to support the application.*
- *22/00023/F and 22/00024/LB, Demolish the existing single storey modern extension, raising the existing chimney stack, replacement of the existing rear dormer, two conservation type rooflights set into the rear thatched roof, erection of timber stud walls within the first floor bedroom and bathroom, replacement roof to outhouse at Old Thatch Cottage, 2 Park Lane. Refused by CDC.*

A new application was received after the agenda had been issued.

- *22/01735/F, Single storey rear extensions at Lime Tree House, Main Road. It was agreed to support the application.*

**22/48. To receive Councillors' Reports**

Speedwatch – The sites are to be approved by Thames Valley Police (TVP) and training for users is to be carried out. This can be done in one session in the village hall. The bottom speed sign is not working.

*Action: The Parish Clerk to get approval from TVP for the site. Cllr Taylor to make contact with the villager who charges the batteries for the bottom speed sign.*

A villager asked who was registered to use the defibrillator? It was explained that anyone can use the defibrillator even if they are not trained. Training was arranged in May but very poorly attended by six people. The defibrillator has a new battery.

The undergrowth around the village sign at the Banbury end requires cutting back. A Cllr will do this.

Swalcliffe Park School will open a new building in mid July. They are planning an event to celebrate with parents in the day and the village in the evening.

**22/49. To note next meeting date and time**

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 7.30pm

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.22pm.