

**MINUTES OF THE SWYNNERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 27 MAY 2021 in SWYNNERTON VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr (Mrs) N Adams (Chairman)
Cllr S Amison
Cllr P Bickerstaffe
Cllr (Mrs) J Malkin
Cllr (Mrs) K Ong (Acting Clerk)
Cllr B Price

In attendance Cllr R James, Stafford Borough Council (SBC)
Two members of the public

Apologies: Cllr E Mateu
Cllr J Pert, Staffordshire County Council (SCC)
Cllr J Nixon, SBC

1. Welcome and Introduction by the Chairman

Cllr Adams welcomed everyone to the first face-to-face meeting since last September. As Maria Adams, the Parish Clerk, had submitted her resignation on Tuesday 25 May, Cllr Ong offered to be Acting Clerk for the time being.

2. Public Participation Time

2.1 One member of the public asked if it would be possible for Swynnerton Village Hall to have broadband installed as Tittensor Village Hall Committee have with help from SPC. This will be put on the Agenda for the next meeting. **ACTION: Clerk**

Reports of County Councillors and Borough Councillors

2.2 Cllr James reported that Stafford Borough Council Planning Department had experienced difficulties because of Covid-19 and staffing issues but is getting back to normal. Tim Clegg has been appointed CEO of both Stafford Borough Council and Cannock District Council.

3 Close of Public Participation Time at 8.15pm

Parish Council Meeting

1 **Apologies for absence** Cllr Mateu sent his apologies which were accepted.

2 **Declarations of Interest and to consider written requests from Councillors to grant a dispensation S33 of the Localism Act 2011)** There were no Declarations of Interest.

3 **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 22 April 2021**
Minute 6.2 of the Swynnerton Parish Council meeting held on 25 March remains **unresolved**. Cllr. Malkin has been following the accounting paper trail but needs to see the funds arriving in our account to ensure we did receive all the money due. This should be finalised prior to the next meeting when a decision regarding payment can be made. **However, other unrelated items in the same Minutes need to be actioned and the Minutes signed minus Minute 6.2.**

ACTION: Clerk/CllrNA

4 **Matters arising from the Minutes and not covered in the agenda**
There were no matters arising from the minutes that were not covered later in the agenda.

5 **Clerk's Report, Items not on the agenda**
The street lamp at the top of Weavers walk is still being investigated.

6. **Financial matters - May 2021 accounts for payment.** Please see attached Accounts Statement **RESOLVED** – That the accounts for May 2021 should be approved for payment.

6.1 A new laptop for the Clerk has been approved up to £700 cost. Cllr Ong has decided which one but needs to see it first.

Date

Cllr N Adams, Chairman.....

6.2 **Administration of Payroll**

The services of DM Payroll Ltd which has just been renewed for another year may need to be cancelled as Cllr Ong as Acting Clerk will not be paid. **ACTION: Clerk**

6.3 **Banking Matters**

Cllr. Ong will contact NatWest shortly to sort out the signatories and pursue Banking Online.

6.4 **National Savings Account**

It was **RESOLVED** that the National Savings Account book be sent to the NS&I to be made up, the account closed and the balance be returned to SPC to go into our current account. **ACTION: Clerk**

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7. **Traffic issues in the Parish**

7.1 **Chase Lane, Tittensor.** HGVs have been using this lane despite the 'unsuitable for HGVs' sign at the A34 end. Councillors asked for confirmation whether there is or has been a weight limit on this lane. Also to investigate the possibility of building rumble strips on the hill. **ACTION: Clerk**

7.2/3 **SIDS for Whitmore Road Trentham, Northwood Lane, Trentham and Tittensor.** The units are with a Tony Jones, an Eccleshall builder. We need to purchase jubilee clips and padlocks for him to complete the installation. **ACTION: Clerk**

7.4 David Butler has requested the purchase of new batteries for the old SID in Swynnerton. It was reported that there is an increased number of HGV lorries travelling through Swynnerton despite the weight restriction signs. There was a request for County Highways to be contacted to cut back overgrown trees and shrubs where the Speed Watch is carried out as their signs cannot be seen. **ACTION: Clerk**

8. **Ward Matters**

8.1 **Ferndown Play Area, Trentham** Cllr Adams will report back to the Council with photos of damaged play items and which items may need replacing. **ACTION:CllrAdams**

Tittensor Play Area Cllr Malkin reported that there was also considerable wear and tear at their play area and perhaps we should consider replacing some items.

8.2 **Swynnerton - Williams Walk path and lighting.** It was reported that the pathway was breaking up and dips/lifts were appearing which are dangerous especially at night as the light is broken and needs replacing. This is a Stafford and Rural Homes development. **ACTION: Clerk**

8.3 The Weavers Walk corner light is not working again. Highways to be informed. **ACTION: Clerk**

9. **Parish Council Vacancies**

After informal interviews two applicants will be invited to join the Council and will sign their Acceptance and Declarations of Interest forms at the next Parish Council Meeting.

10. **Leveson Charities** – Parish Council Representative. Cllr Leeson has also resigned from this position. Cllr Adam expressed an interest and will contact the charity.

11. **Website /Facebook** – Cllr Bickerstaffe requested Councillors' email him with their addresses for inclusion on the website and he will let Cllrs have their web email addresses. **Facebook** – Cllr Amison wanted to know who will be the administrator of our Facebook page.

12. **Correspondence and circulars received by the Clerk**

An invitation has been received from Stone Mayor for the Chairman and Consort to attend the Civic Service and Parade in Stone followed by a reception, on Sunday 11 Jul 2021.

13. There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting. The date of the next Meeting of Swynnerton Parish Council will be Thursday 24 June 2021 at 7.15pm in Swynnerton Village Hall.

Date

Cllr N Adams, Chairman.....