

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF SWANTON ABBOT HELD ON  
1<sup>st</sup>. SEPTEMBER 2015 at 7p.m. IN THE WESLEYAN CHAPEL,

PRESENT –Cllrs. C. Belsham (chair), S. Taylor, M. Vaughan, R. Gee, G. Williams,  
S. Underwood, the Clerk, G. Kimmerling, & three members of the public.

**Open session for members of the public to speak.**

Mr. Abel explained that the Planning Application for The Forge, Aylsham Road had been amended as he had discovered that there was no mains sewer in that area. There will be a self- contained sewage tank installed.

Mr. Christman asked why there was no mention of Affordable Housing on the Agenda. No-one was able to attend this meeting so they will be invited to the November meeting.

		<i>Action</i>
15.44	<p>A. <u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> – None. Cllr. Belsham explained that Cllr. Plews had resigned from the Parish Council with immediate effect. NNDC had been advised and the position will be advertised as soon as possible.</p> <p>B. <u>DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA</u> None.</p> <p>C. <u>TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON JULY 14<sup>th</sup>.</u> <b>Resolution.</b> Proposed by Cllr. Taylor &amp; agreed by the Parish Council to accept the Minutes of the meeting held on July 14<sup>th</sup> as a true record. These were signed by the Chairman.</p>	
15.45	<p><u>CLERK’S REPORT AND UPDATE ON ITEMS FROM THE MINUTES</u></p> <p>a) Footpaths – These have been cut. Cllr. Gee said some had not been cut back and others were in a bad state. She had reported these. Cllr. Vaughan felt that the footpaths could not be kept in good order all the time &amp; this year had been particularly bad for continuous growth of vegetation. Cllr. Taylor said it is not always the land owner who manages the land. Cllr. Belsham said the Parish Council was doing all it could.</p> <p>b) The Clerk had written to Mr. Riley-Smith about the overhanging trees on the Aylsham Road but had no response. She will chase. Mr. Shaw will cut the hedge by the bus shelter in the near future.</p> <p>c) The firebreak on The Hill Has been cut.</p> <p>d) The Post Box on The Hill has been replaced and is operational.</p> <p>e) The Doggie Bins are emptied weekly from the beginning of April to the end of September and then fortnightly.</p> <p>f) The mandate to change bank signatories has been sent after some problems with Barclays Bank and the correct forms to use.</p> <p>g) NGF Play will carry out the repairs to the zip-wire on the Play Park in September. The Clerk to find out the exact date.</p> <p>h) Cllr. Vaughan &amp; the Clerk met with Norse at the Play Park to discuss cutting back the hedges and the oak tree. The Clerk has a site meeting with Steve White – Norse Tree specialists – tomorrow to find out what can be done and to get a quote for the work.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p>
15.46	<p><u>FINANCES</u></p> <p>A. <u>To consider the present financial position.</u> The Clerk had prepared half yearly figures which showed the accounts to be in good order. She had also prepared a financial statement showing up-to-date figures including outstanding invoices.</p>	<b>Page 98</b>

	<p><u>B. To consider and resolve whether to approve outstanding invoices for payment.</u></p> <p><b>Resolution.</b> Proposed by Cllr. Williams &amp; approved by the Parish Council to pay the following invoices.</p> <p>The following two invoices had been paid before the meeting –</p> <p>Chq. No. 100775, dated 08/08/15 payable to David Bracey for £90.00 for Play Park inspection (VAT £15.00)</p> <p>Chq. No. 100776, dated 08/08/15 payable to NNDC for £561.60 for emptying Doggie Bins (VAT £93.60)</p> <p>All cheques dated 01/09/2015 &amp; signed by Cllrs. Belsham &amp; Williams.</p>	
	<p>Chq.no. 100777 payable to G Kimmerling – Clerk’s expenses £ 7.47</p> <p>“ 100778 “ Wesleyan Chapel – hire of hall £ 10.00</p> <p>“ 100779 “ C Belsham – Chair’s allowance £ 30.00</p> <p>“ 100780 “ URM/UK/Ltd – bottle bank £ 21.80</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(VAT £3.63)</p> <p>“ 100781 “ Macmillan Nurses – 137 Payt. Recycling £132.60</p> <p>“ 100782 “ Mrs Scofield – inspecting Play Park £ 50.00</p> <p>“ 100783 “ C Belsham – newsletter £ 62.00</p> <p>“ 100784 “ cash – Mr. P Hodson for firebreak £ 30.00</p>	
15.47	<p><u>PLANNING</u></p> <p>a.) <u>To consider any planning applications received.</u></p> <p><b>PF/15/1164 The Forge, Aylsham Road, Nr10 5AH</b></p> <p>Conversion of former forge to holiday accommodation.</p> <p><i>Meeting closed to allow members of the public to speak.</i></p> <p>Various concerns were raised :- the overhanging oak tree. Mr. Abel can cut this back; the sewage system and any excess liquid. Permission is needed if this is to go under the road. The sewage will be dealt with either by septic tank or other self- contained unit; the access onto the Aylsham Road as there are junctions with Long Common Lane, Swanton Abbott Road &amp; the road past the Jolly Farmers close to the site. Highways will be asked to approve this. The Clerk had not received any objections to the plans.</p> <p><i>Meeting closed to the public and returned to the Agenda.</i></p> <p>The Parish Council had no objection to the Planning Application providing the sewage was satisfactorily dealt with and Highways approved the access onto the Aylsham Road.</p> <p>_____ b.)<u>To notify of any planning decisions by NNDC</u> None.</p> <p>_____ c.)<u>To consider any other planning issues.</u> None.</p>	
15.48	<p><u>DEFIBRILLATOR. – update</u></p> <p>The Ambulance Trust is waiting to hear about funding for Defibrillator for this area. Cllr. Vaughan felt the Parish Council should go ahead and fund the defibrillator from Council funds but it was agreed to wait a little longer. The Clerk will contact the Ambulance Trust again to try to get confirmation that funding will be available to them and to e-mail the answer to the Councillors.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Page 99</b></p>

15.49	<p><b>PLAY PARK</b></p> <p><b>a.) Report on the Play Park Inspection and any issues arising from this.</b>  The following issues had been raised by the inspection report:-  1) The trees should be inspected annually – in hand  2) The gates – need to infill rot to post and replace the self-closer spring  3) The slide – need to replace the rotten platform and tighten the loose climbing block  4) Step posts – need to remove/replace the 8 posts which have rot to bases  5) Generally infill with soil where necessary and avoid weed killer by equipment  6) Check the levels of woodchip and replace as necessary – next year.  Steps will be taken to implement these issues.  The Clerk will contact Mr. Allan Wright to replace the small slide. Cllr. Underwood suggested rubber spikes over the swings to deter birds &amp; Cllr. Vaughan suggested a canopy for the large slide. Clerk to find out prices.</p> <p><b>b.) Update on repairs to the zip-wire.</b>  NGF Play will carry out the repairs this month. The Clerk will find out the date.</p> <p><b>c.) Report on inspection of the hedges around the Play Park.</b>  Cllr. Vaughan &amp; the Clerk had met with Norse on site to discuss cutting back the hedges to 6-7ft and to cut back branches from the oak tree. The Clerk is meeting with Steve White –Norse tree specialists – on Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>. to find out what can be done and to get a quote for the work</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
15.50	<p><b>UPDATE ON SUPER-FAST BROADBAND.</b></p> <p>Cllr. Gee said parts of the village should get 40megabits per second but out-lying areas of the village will not get this (parts of Long Common Lane, The Hill &amp; Aylsham Road) She is continuing to press for all of the village to be covered. There is a box in Aylsham Road near the cross-roads to Skeyton but this has not been updated. Cllr. Williams said his broadband is slightly better in Long Common Lane.</p> <p>Cllr. Gee had also spoken to Norman Lamb about mobile phone coverage in the village. Swanton Abbott has been identified as a village suitable for a mobile mast and a site needs to be found. Land owners are paid to have a mast.</p>	
15.51	<p><b>ON-GOING ISSUES</b></p> <p>a) Cllr. Vaughan had attended the SNAP meeting but had nothing to report that related to the village.</p> <p>b) Cllr. Williams had spoken to the land-owner re the Village Green site and it was agreed that nothing would happen at the moment so the file is on hold but could be re-visited in the future. He will invite someone from Affordable Housing to speak at the next meeting.</p> <p>c) Cllr. Vaughan said there had been complaints about anti-social at The Poplars. The Police had been at the site on 4 consecutive days. Cllr. Williams will look into this.</p> <p>d) Cllr. Gee said 3 people had raised concerns with her about the turning from The Street into Aylsham Road and asked if it would be possible to have a mirror here to help people turning right. Cllr. Williams said mirrors are not supported by the Highways Authority as they can distort distances which may cause accidents. Cllr. Belsham said that the Speed-watch team had caught 23 motorists driving over 37mph along the Aylsham Road during 6 one hourly sessions. An un-marked mobile Police unit had attended because of this and prosecuted 2 drivers. The Clerk will look into the cost of a traffic mirror.</p>	<p>Cllr. Williams</p> <p>Clerk Page 100</p>

	Cllr. Taylor reported on the increased rat population believed to be because of the increased growth of maize for the bio-digester. Cllr. Williams said there could be another bio-digester plant in the area. There is a problem with large agricultural vehicles driving too fast through the village. Even if they are within the speed limits they should still be driven with due care and attention to the condition of the roads.	
15.52	CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED. None	
15.53	DATE AND ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING Next meeting on November 10 <sup>th</sup> 2015 in the Wesleyan Chapel at 7p.m.	

Meeting closed at 8.05p.m.

**Page 101**