

**SWALLOWCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING**

held at
Swallowcliffe Village Hall

on
Wednesday 14th December 2016 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr. D Atkins (Chairman)
Cllr. S Banas
Cllr. P.J.d'A Willis
Cllr. G Blundell
Cllr. N Cooke

In Attendance: Mr Simon Pritchard (Parish Clerk)
Cllr. Jose Green - County Councillor

Members of the Public: 1



ITEM	
16/39 A	<p><u>Apologies for Absence:</u> All members of the Parish Council were present. P.C. Cathy Byers had emailed the Clerk to say that she was unable to make the meeting</p>
16/39 B	<p><u>Acceptance of Apologies for Absence:</u> N/A</p>
16/40	<p><u>Declaration of Pecuniary Interests & Dispensations:</u> It was confirmed that all members of the Council had a pecuniary interest in agenda item 16/48 as all members of the Council are council tax payers. The Clerk confirmed that all 5 members had applied for a dispensation for this item and that he had granted all 5.</p>
16/41	<p><u>Adoption of Minutes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 14th September 2016 • Friday 11th November 2016 (Extraordinary meeting) <p>The minutes of the previous two Council meetings were confirmed as accurate and duly adopted by the Council.</p>
16/42	<p><u>County Councillor's Report:</u> Full Council agreed to take up the offer of a 4 year settlement from Central Government. Knowing in advance what the funding will be should enable WC to set the budget with greater clarity. The proposal that Town and Parish Councils who have precept's above £500k should carry out a referendum was not supported by WC. Small PC's should be able to set their own precept's and this message has been strongly conveyed from WC to Government.</p> <p>There are 528km of roadways across the SW Wilts area. The backlog of works is being addressed since Ringway took over from Balfour Beatty. Either way there is still a lot to do with a likely reducing budget. The Peer review of Highways had some positive results. Special mention was made about the Steward scheme and CATG. The MyWiltshire App is getting well used and is a good method of tracking the report once it has an issue number. It is far cheaper to report faults on line than by a phone call!</p> <p>It is always worth speaking to the Stewards when they are in the locality, not only can it signpost jobs to them but is a good opportunity to see if their work is up to the standard we would like. The work that they do is discretionary and has to be approved by their supervisor. The Clerk fills the 'Jobs to do' list.</p> <p>Ann-Marie Dean and Val O'Keefe have been appointed the Health and Wellbeing Champions in this area. They are a source of information. Emails. anne-marie.dean@wiltshire.gov.uk and valerie.o'keefe@wiltshire.gov.uk also contact Stephen.Harris@wiltshire.gov.uk for further information.</p>

	<p>A further £3m is to be spent on achieving Ultra fast BB. 80k homes across Wiltshire have access to fibre and rising. As we come to rely more and more on IT the speeds are having to increase considerably for the future uses; even 50mgbts will be considered slow!</p> <p>The Cranborne Chase AONB has successfully been awarded a £1.7million grant from the HLFund. This will enable them to support, conserve and enhance this exceptional landscape we are privileged to live and work in. 89% is described as farmland and there are 1500km of ROW.</p>
16/43	<p><u>Police Report:</u> P.C. Byers had been unable to attend the meeting as she was on early shifts this week. It was noted that due to the tightening police budget, cutbacks and changes that have had to be made, a police presence at Parish Council meetings was now unlikely. The police do issue a monthly report that is emailed to members and posted on the Council website.</p>
16/44	<p><u>Parish Councillors' Reports:</u></p> <p>A Chairman's Report & Notices – Cllr Atkins: None The Clerk confirmed that he had removed AOB from the Council Agenda, but if members did have an urgent item of business they could ask the Chairman to bring it to the meeting under this agenda item.</p> <p>B SW Area Board – Cllr Atkins: None</p> <p>C Nadder Centre & TCSP – Cllr Cooke: No funding for the TCSP after March 2017, maybe looking to the Parish Councils to pay. Meeting in March to decide if to disband TCSP or approach the parishes. Possibility of restarting neighbourhood watch.</p> <p>D Transport – Cllr Willis: None</p> <p>E Footpaths & Rights of Way – Cllr Willis: Possible rerouting of a footpath in Lambing session. Clerk advised that landowner would need to apply to Wilshire Council and that the Parish Council would be consulted.</p> <p>F Highways – Cllr Banas: The new Parish Steward, Andy Roper, is doing a good job; an issues list has been agreed with WC. The list is managed by Cllr Banas. Areas requiring attention in the last period have included pot holes, road delamination by the Manor, dangerous tree removal, missing/ worn painted signs on the road, white junction lines by the church. An issue with road drains has been reported outside the Royal Oak. First meeting of the new Traffic Group on Thursday 5th Jan @7pm Defibrillator training is now complete, with 24 people having attended over the three sessions. The Council sends its thanks to Roy Mc Crudden</p> <p>G Village Hall – Cllr Atkins: Insurance cost will have to increase as the hall has been undervalued. New value £450,000</p> <p>H Local Planning & Development – Cllr Blundell: A Neighbourhood plan was again discussed. It was again conformed that a NP was about shaping development and could not be used to block it. Swallowcliffe has no development planed under Wilshire Councils local plan. It was agreed that the parish did not need a NP.</p>
16/45	<p>A <u>To Approve Payments:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cllr S Banas – A4 Leaflet Printing - £10.50 (000434) PV7 2. Andrew Green – Defibrillator Installation - £195.00 (000435) PV8 3. Village Hall – Hall Hire, Defibrillator Training - £15* (000436) PV9 <p>*The Council noted that item 3 was £15 not £24 as on the agenda The Council Resolved to Approve all payments</p> <p>B <u>Income & Expenditure report:</u> The Clerk informed members that there had been no change to the Councils financial position since the last report, other than a bank charge of £25.00 for 'Safe Custody Hold' (PV10). The Clerk reported that he was not sure what this charge was for, but suspected that the deeds of the Village Hall are being held in a bank safe somewhere and this was the annual charge for the service. The Clerk undertook to investigate. It was questioned if the Council needed to be paying the bank to safe keep the deeds and was agreed that they could be stored in the Village Hall.</p>

C	<p>The Clerk also confirmed to members that he was now receiving bank statements and had been confirmed as a cheque signatory.</p> <p><u>PAYE Report:</u> The Clerk informed members that he had encountered a problem with the Councils Inland Revenue account. The account had been closed a number of years ago and no report had been received by Inland Revenue since then. It was confirmed that payments had still been made into this closed account over the last few years. The Clerk said it was important to bring this to the Council's attention as Inland Revenue could formally investigate the Council, but at this time he was satisfied that it was just a case of poor administration rather than anything dishonest. However, a formal investigation would have time cost implications.</p>
16/46	<p><u>Village Phone Box – Consultation:</u> The Parish Council has received notification from Wilshire Council that BT wish to remove the BT phone box. The Council has already sent a letter of objection. It was noted that BT are carrying out the same process in Dorset. It was Agreed that, if at the end of the consultation, BT say they will remove the phone box the Council will move to adopt it at the cost of £1 in order to preserve it. The responsibility for maintenance would then fall on the Parish Council; it would not continue to have a working phone in it.</p>
16/47	<p><u>Village Hall annual returns:</u> The Village Hall annual accounts had been circulated to Members. The Clerk confirmed that he had completed the return with the Charity Commission. Income: £3431 Expenditure: £1608</p>
16/48	<p><u>Setting of the Parish precept:</u> The Clerk had prepared a budget that Members had considered at the meeting in November. The final budget report was issued on the agenda. It was Resolved to set the Precept for April 2017 – March 2018 at £3,495</p>
16/49	<p><u>Items for the next agenda:</u> The Clerk advised that he would be seeking input from members as to the format and agenda for the Annual Parish Assembly.</p>
16/50	<p><u>Future meeting dates & days:</u> The suggested list of dates was considered and it was agreed to have the next Parish Council meeting on 8th March 2017 The Annual Parish Assembly on 12th April 2017. The Annual Council Meeting would take place on a date to be agreed in June or July unless the Elections in May 2017 brings a change to the Membership of the Council, that being the case the Annual Council meeting will take place on 17th May 2017. It was noted that the Annual Parish Assembly and the Annual Council meeting should not be confused and that it is the Annual Parish Assembly that is well attended by residents each year and is not a formal meeting of the Council. The Annual Council meeting is just the first meeting of Council in the new municipal year (after May 1st).</p>

Meeting Closed at 9:00 pm

Signed Chairman: _____ Date: _____

Email: Swallowcliffepc1@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.southwilts.com/site/swallowcliffe-parish-council-news/>