

SWANBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 17th November 2021 at 7.00pm,
Swanbourne Village Hall

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Councillors Rosemary Andrew, David Brooks Wilson (Chair), Linda Sirett, Jo Tudor (Clerk), Andrew Wood.

In attendance: members of the public.

61/21 Apologies

Mike King, Jo Bowan-Hill, Deborah Barrow. The meeting was declared as quorate.

62/21 Declaration of interest

RA declared her interest as a homeowner in the parish.
DBW (Chair) declared his interest as a homeowner in the parish.
LS declared her interest as an employee of Swanbourne Estate.
AW declared his interest as an employee of Swanbourne Estate.

63/21 Minutes of meeting of Parish Council 29 September 2021

The minutes were approved as an accurate record. RA proposed and it was **resolved** that the list of Councillor names should appear in alphabetical order.

Update on actions in progress:

57/21b: Noted that Millennium Wood had been added by deed to the Swanbourne Playing Field lease.

57/21d: Ownership of New Walk to be ascertained [post meeting note: Estate property runs up to either side of New Walk; the footpath is believed to be the responsibility of BCC].

57/21e: Repair estimates for the tennis court are proving to be very expensive. AW to persist with obtaining quotes. The Council agreed that the Playing Field Committee should be reconvened to take such matters forward. AW

57/21f: It was acknowledged that there was a strong appetite across the village for a celebratory event for the Queen's Jubilee. Suggested that this should be coordinated in conjunction with the PCC.

57/21g: RA agreed to become the PC representative for the Swanbourne Community Association (SCA).

57/21h: DBW to follow up the action regarding traffic congestion and parking outside the primary school. DBW

58/21: MK was asked in absentia to see if the Councillor email addresses could be fixed. MK

64/21 Public Participation items

1. Swanbourne Estate

- Noted that the Estate were considering small areas of development. Plans will be circulated to the PC for comment.
- Noted that some rights of way pathways were still in need of repair.
- Options are being considered to improve accessibility of the footpath around the cemetery leading onto Nearton End.

2. Swanbourne Church

- Noted that the recent service of Remembrance hosted with Mursley had been very well attended.
- Following the resignation of the Benefice Rector, and until a new appointment is made, it was noted that the responsibility for the Church lies with the PCC during the interregnum.
- Christmas services have been organised and the PCC are looking forward to a positive year ahead.

65/21 Neighbourhood Plan

The Council referred to the paper previously circulated. The Chair expressed thanks to MK for producing a good position paper.

The Council concluded that construction of a plan would require resource and professional input which was likely to be expensive. It was also noted that the current planning approval process and close relationship with the Swanbourne Estate served current needs. The Council **resolved** not to pursue a neighbourhood plan, and would review in the future if funds were available.

66/21 OxCam ARC

Noted that Buckingham and Swanbourne lay in the centre of the OxCam Arc construction plans.

DBW **agreed** to keep a watching brief on this item.

67/21 Finance

Item 5 of the finance agenda was discussed first, after which members of the public left the meeting.

The Council received a finance headline paper as previously circulated.

1. The Council **ratified** all items of income and expenditure made since the last meeting.
2. The Council **approved** delegated authority for the approval of the Clerks salary and expenses to the Council Chair.
3. The Council **agreed** to fund membership to the SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks) at an annual cost of £120.
4. The initial estimated cost of repairing the village noticeboard was discussed. LS
LS agreed to undertake to source further quotes.

5. Financial support to the Village Hall which has suffered significant loss of income due to the Covid pandemic, was discussed. It was noted that despite recent donations, the Village Hall finances were unlikely to stretch into the new financial year (April 2022). The Council **resolved** to make a single donation to Village Hall funds of £200. The Estate agreed to match this funding and Ken Harris agreed to discuss matched funding with the SCA.
6. The Clerk raised the issue of budget planning for next year (22/23), and the initial draft was discussed. All Councillors were requested to notify the clerk of forthcoming/expected items of cost not currently in budget. The Council **agreed** that the precept should be increased next year by around 5%, to cover increasing costs. The Council **agreed** that the work for grass cutting around the village should be sought by tender [post meeting note: as the value of the contract is expected to be less than £5,000pa, quotes will be sought rather than tender]. AW and JT to take this forward. The Council also agreed that the donation for cemetery mowing should be increased to £1,200 for 22/23.

AW, JT

68/21 **Planning applications**

There were no planning applications at this time.

69/21 **Reports from Councillors**

1. RA reported that the water at the bottom of Nearton End is not mains water but is a spring emanating from the school. RA to raise with Swanbourne House School.
2. Repair to the playing field swings is in progress.
3. A gift of wildflowers from Kings College have been received and planted on the edge of Millennium Wood. Thanks expressed to Ken Harris.
4. Drains had been cleared in Nearton End. Thanks expressed to Trudy Timms.
5. Fencing on New Walk had been repaired.

RA

70/21 **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 12th January 2022.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

Jo Tudor,
Clerk to Swanbourne Parish Council
01296 720130

Signed

Chairman

Date