

SWANNINGTON with ALDERFORD & LITTLE WITCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council – Jim Graves C.Eng. M.I.E.T. D.M.S. M.C.M.I.
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MARCH 16th..2022

Present: Mrs.Sue Darling – Chairman Mr.Steve Williams Mr.John Powles
Mrs.Helen Mutimer Mr.Trevor Nelson Dr.Mark Hassall

In attendance: Mr.Peter Bulman (BDC) Public – fourteen

Co-option The Clerk had confirmed that no other residents had offered their services and the Council resolved to co-opt Ms.Jayne Phillips to fill the vacancy. Ms.Phillips signed the declaration of acceptance and took her place on the Council.

- a) **Public Participation** An opportunity would be given for discussion before item 6.
- b) **Police Report** One incident had been recorded in January
- c) **NCC Report** n/a
- d) **BDC Report** Mr.Bulman confirmed that the BDC share of the precept had been frozen for 2022/23. He commented on various planning issues in nearby villages.
- e) **Full Council**
 1. **Apologies** Mr.Greg Peck (NCC) and the clerk Mr.Jim Graves who had tested positive for Covid.
 2. **Declarations of Interest** None
 3. **Minutes** of the meeting on January 19th. were confirmed for signature.
 4. **Reports** The Clerk reported that all banking matters had been resolved and he was now able to manage the accounts satisfactorily.
 5. **Planning** 20220068 Church Farm House Alderford (listed) there were no objections to replacement windows and modified door design. 20220364 12 Swan Close to demolish the conservatory and replace with a garden room, lobby and boot room. This application had only just been received and the response would be given once members had time to examine it.
 6. **Commons** The standing orders were suspended to enable the public to discuss the issue of what should replace the Ugate common boardwalk which was removed in 2020. After a lengthy discussion exploring the alternatives and projected costs the general consensus was that a rolled aggregate path would be the best solution and have lesser maintenance issues for the future. The Council meeting then resumed and it was resolved that a specification would be drawn up and three competitive quotations requested before a final decision could be made. Discussions with Natural England would also possibly be necessary before commencement. Parking adjacent to the track by large numbers of ramblers visiting Ugate common was also causing a problem, particularly with track maintenance. The Council would look at possibly funding some maintenance, placing logs to prevent parking in the wettest area and increased signage. This would be placed on a future agenda.
 7. **PCC Grant** It was agreed to give a grant of £400 to the PCC as a contribution towards maintenance of the burial ground. The Clerk would write to the PCC.
 8. **Platinum Jubilee** The Council resolved to purchase 200 mugs at £2.99 to give to local children and to sell the remainder to those wishing for a souvenir.
 9. **Overhanging Hedge** Discussion with the resident of the property on the junction of The Street and Broad Lane had not resolved the issue and it would now be referred by the Clerk to NCC Highways to deal with the visibility problem.
 10. **Correspondence** None
 11. **Finance** Cheques were signed as follows:

Norfolk Conservation Corps	Commons work	£42.75
PLG Posts and Nails	Commons work (inc.VAT)	£28.68
Norfolk Wildlife Trust	Cattle movements (inc.VAT)	£348.00

J.Graves 4th.qtr. salary & exp. (inc.PAYE) £742.83

Monies Received:

VAT reclaimed for 2020/2021 £402.65

Balances c/fwd.

Current a/c £1,180.69 Dep.a/c £17,523.15 Commons a/c £29,208.41

12. **Clerk's and Councillors' Reports** The Clerk had reported that the notice board by the bus shelter had been vandalised. He would obtain quotations for replacement alternatives for the next meeting.
13. **The Next meeting** would be the Annual Parish Council meeting preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting to be held at Swannington Church at 7.30 p.m. on May 18th.