

# SWANNINGTON WITH ALDERFORD AND LITTLE WITCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council held at St Margaret's Church, Swannington on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>  
July 2016 at 7:35pm**

**Present:**

Ed Jones (chairman)	
Trevor Nelson	
Malcolm Rust	Hazel Nelson (minutes)
Steve Griggs	2 parishioners

**1. Apologies** HM, on holiday; SW, another meeting; TP, wife leaving hospital; Chris Liles, insufficient information for a report

**3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2016**  
It was resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record

**4. Matters Arising.**

- Play area lease – a recent failed inspection has given impetus to cementing the future of the play area. Laura Marfell-Williams (play area committee) has been in contact with Mr. Buxton with regard to gifting the land, as promised, leaving access to land that may be developed later. The committee has funds to cover legal costs. LMW will keep contacting Mr. Buxton.
- Compulsory purchase not to be pursued at present
- Bus shelter – ongoing **Action SG**
- CIL – 15% to parish council but self build is exempt. £832 received last financial year was from “New Homes Bonus”
- Village sign – ongoing **Action SG**
- Report on better broadband – ongoing **Action Chris Liles/EJ**
- Token of thanks given to internal auditor
- Donation toward *Pilgrim* costs delivered 11/6/16
- Parishioner kept informed re: “triangle”
- Leaflet not to be pursued

**5. Finance – Accounts attached**

**It was resolved to agree the following payments:-**

	<b>£</b>
• Insurance - (retrospective)	572.73
• Grass cutting June (retrospective)	202.80
• Token appreciation	8.00
• George Taylor work on commons HLS	97.00
• Repairs to playground equipment	85.32
• APC pest control; moles on play area	108.00
• Oil for strimmer	13.50

Audit was successful and VAT has been reclaimed

**6. Commons**

- Quotes for new boardwalk
  - 1) Remove existing boarding and leave as natural. Low cost but difficult to walk when wet.
  - 2) Replace. 3 contractors approached. Cost in order of £14K for wood, artificial replacement would incur prohibitive costs
  - 3) Replace using volunteers/ community payback. Cost approximately £5K. Would require much organisation.

- 4) Recommendation to undertake temporary repairs while funding sought.

**It was resolved that temporary repairs are carried out.**

- Report attached – thank you SW for an excellent report
- Strimmer quotes – 4 quotes obtained Stihl FS130, Husqvarna 135R, Stihl FS100, Cobra BC450K. The Cobra is the cheapest.

**Resolved to buy a Cobra** - This comes recommended and is lighter in weight than the current model

- A parishioner asked when the common opposite his house in Upgate would be cut. This will be done in due course.
- A parishioner asked if the lane from Upgate to Reephams Road could be strimmed. This is not common land and the landowner should be approached. Reply **Action HN**
- Tree and pump. Pump was listed in 1984 when it was thatched; however early photographic evidence indicates it originally had a shingle roof. 2 other villages have reverted to a shingle roof. Roots could be the main problem to the pump. David Prior has given permission to fell the tree, if necessary.

**On next agenda**

7. **Highways**

- Highways will not sanction an island in the centre of the village, for various reasons including problem of telegraph pole. The cost of kerbing would be almost £12,000, half of which would come from the council. A discussion produced the following views:-
  - tarmac half
  - leave as it is
  - kerbing will be destroyed by heavy vehicles
  - tidying up required

**On next agenda**

- Highway rangers will be visiting Swannington and Alderford in September.

8. **Planning** - nothing

9. **Correspondence**

- Environment Agency - work planned in the Lower Wensum River System

10. **AOB**

- Dong Energy, researching routes for an underground cable, requested permission to survey Upgate Common. Told they could but it is an SSSI, with great crested newts, and has ponies grazing.
- Next meeting Thursday September 29<sup>th</sup> 2016

Meeting closed 8:25pm