

Swilland and Winesham grouped Parish Council  
Clerk: Mrs.Libby Cotton, The Old Vicarage, Swilland, IP6 9LP  
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Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2007 at  
Winesham Village Hall.

Present: Mr.Lightfoot, Mr.Cotton, Mr.Hindle, Mrs.Camp, Mrs.Reynolds,Mr.Butler,  
Mr.Noble, Mr.Rush, Mr.Laughlin, Mr.Lea, Mrs.Shaw, Mr.Nicol.  
Also present: County Councillor Peter Bellfield and Mr.Bob Farrow.

1. Apologies received from Mr.Tyrrell and Mr.Coe.
2. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved unanimously.  
Matters arising: 1) Notice boards. The replacement board for Weyland Road will be erected by the bus shelter at Coopers Close. The clerk would like to remind those responsible for notice board clearing etc that this should be done regularly. **Mr.Cotton, Mrs.Shaw, Mr.Butler and Mrs.Camp.**  
**Standing Orders : Mr.Lightfoot** reported that these had been circulated to all members of the PC with one or two amendments to the previous set. Mr.Hindle pointed out that para 1b regarding smoking is irrelevant and asked that this be deleted. Mr.Lightfoot said he had now received amendments for paras:58-70 from SALC concerning the new code of practice. There will also be a possible appendix for the Planning Committee standing orders which Mr.Lightfoot will do by the next meeting. The Standing Orders were adopted unanimously.
3. Declarations of interest: Mr.Cotton in respect of the clerk's salary.
4. Finance: the following payments were approved unanimously:
  - a) clerk's salary £345.25
  - b) W.Archer July-Sept 50.00 R
  - c) Suffolk Acre insurance '07-'08 £793.21 R
  - d) SALC Budget seminar DC, RN £ 58.75 R
  - e) SAFE – Youth Group £ 30.00 R
  - f) VHMC new cooker £343.49 R
  - g) Suffolk Acre Youth group insurance. £132.00 R
  - h) Elmy grass cutting 15.9.07 £158.63 R
  - i) SALC meeting JL supper £ 12.00 R
  - j) REJB & Co. School playarea inspection £ 35.25 R
  - k) Suffolk County Council bus shelter £5,713

Financial Standing Orders: Mr.Cotton had circulated a resume of the NALC standing orders to the PC with proposed amendments. These were adopted unanimously. Mr.Cotton suggested that a) we should address the position of a reserve account. He made a suggestion that we reserve £5,000 p.a. to cover items eg car park, play area ,playing field etc. He feels there should be an official policy with the amounts specified. He also felt that b) we should look at the subject of risk management within our assets and that our procedures should be checked regularly. Areas such as the mower, football pitches, play area, car park and village hall should all be looked at. **Mr.Cotton** would approach SALC for guidance in this matter.

The clerk's salary was also due for review. All these matters would be considered at the next Financial Committee meeting in January and reported back with recommendations at the January PC meeting.

5. County Councillor's report. Mr. Bellfield reported that £16million worth of savings have to be made within the County Council's budget for the next year. These will come largely from a reduction in Home care services for the elderly although these will be means tested to protect the less well-off, and a reduction in the "free" school bus travel provision for the over 16's. Ipswich's bid for unitary status seems 99% certain to go through – this will result in a 20% loss in the CC's income.  
Waste: The CC has decided to go ahead with incineration of waste using one plant only. Mr. Hindle expressed his unease at this situation. Mr. Bellfield mentioned that Kate Waddell, our District Councillor, has recently gained promotion and is under some strain with her work load, and he offered to do anything he could to help her if necessary. Mr. Noble asked for an update on SORR/Debach Enterprises. The date has not been fixed for the hearing as the County have not yet sent in their final report. It is vital they have a water-tight argument when pressing for refusal of the planning application. He reported that compliance orders had been issued to DE.  
Concern was expressed by Mr. Hindle and Mr. Nicol about cuts to music in schools and the discouragement to the over 16's that reducing free travel might cause.  
Mr. Rush asked, with ref. to the SNT meeting he had just attended, whether the PC might approach Mr. Bellfield for money from the Locality Budget towards a speed gun. Mr. Bellfield thought this might be possible.

District Councillor Kate Waddell had circulated her report to the PC with apologies for being unable to attend. Mr. Hindle asked re: para 4 whether the district council might consider planting some trees in Winesham. **Mrs Reynolds** would approach Ann Westover.

6. Police Report: WPC Gilmore had also circulated her report as she was at the SNT meeting in Wickham Market. Mr. Rush reported on this meeting which was largely concerned with problems of speeding, anti-social behaviour in the villages and petty crime such as burglaries. There is to be a speed watch initiative set up with the suggestion that parishes combine to buy a speed gun, be trained in how to use it and that volunteers would then do speed checks within their own villages when they wished. The cameras would cost £2,200 to buy and would be kept by our SNT representative. The question of a possible application for money from the Locality Budget has already been mentioned.  
**The clerk** was asked to let the SNT team know the dates of our future meetings to try and avoid a clash next time.
7. **Affordable Housing.**  
Mr. Lightfoot reported that the planning application is now with SCDC and the Planning committee will be looking at them on 26.11.07. The case officer is Bob Chamberlain. The Hastoe representative Melanie Stephan,

who is dealing with the application is coming to the January meeting to report on progress.

8. Highways: SORR – Mr.Noble had little further to report but there is an Issue in connection with the avian flu outbreak about the duck waste from Gressingham Foods which is transported throughout the county: SORR would like to know where it is being taken with regard to the risks of spreading the avian virus. Re: Debach Enterprises, a notice had been issued asking DE to state their understanding of use of the land. Mr.Lightfoot reported that SCC Highways department are working on proposals for reducing speeds on Rose Hill. There is also an issue with Tuddenham Lane where there have been a number of serious accidents recently. The parish council have received a letter from Mrs.Woolnough asking for our support in bringing the dangers of Tuddenham Lane to the attention of the Highways department and the **clerk** would write accordingly.
9. Youth Group: Mr.Lea reported that this is meeting weekly with numbers ranging between 5-20, in the age group 11-14. There is a hope that a drop-in facility might be started at the Baptist Chapel. Mrs.Reynolds noted that there is a new website for the youth of Suffolk which is also mentioned in the district councillors report: this is [www.sctv.org.uk](http://www.sctv.org.uk). This is being funded by the Suffolk Coastal Local Strategic Partnership.
10. Footpaths: the clerk reported that we have had confirmation of the re-routing of Swilland no.1 footpath. The clerk had received a letter from the Environment and Transport department at the SCC asking if we as a parish are interested in a new countryside access community scheme to encourage wider participation as a result of the ROWIP consultation in 2004. The council agreed that we should express an interest in the new scheme.
11. Playing Field Management Committee. Mr.Coe could not be present, but Mr.Lightfoot reported that the PFMC had met in October and that all was in order. There had been some complaints about noise from the new bring site at the school, and this had now become a formal complaint to SCDC so we will await events. Mr.Lea asked that whoever is responsible for emptying the bins outside the playarea should be reminded of this. At present it appears not to be happening. **The clerk** will contact Winesham School.
12. Planning: the minutes of the last meetings had been circulated to the councillors.
13. SALC: Mr.Lightfoot has attended various events recently including the Suffolk Acre AGM, the SALC area meeting on 19.11., and the Green conference.
14. VHMC: Mrs.Shaw reported that there is to be a meeting next week. Colin Webb is still investigating the telephone issue.
15. Website: Mr.Laughlin has shown various councillors how it works. He has put correspondence about the Post Office closure on it – it was noted that there are clearly notice-board possibilities e.g. agendas, minutes etc., which he is happy to put onto the website for us.
16. Correspondence: Mr.Lightfoot reported on the imminent Post Office closure. He has been in touch with Postwatch but it is more than likely that it will close in the new year. At present there is the possibility of a

replacement outreach service in a vehicle or one of the village buildings. Someone, or a group, would need to run this. So if anyone is interested...  
Trees: Mrs. Reynolds had nothing to report having not met with Ann Westover as planned. The oak trees at no.1 Weyland Road are not currently protected.

Mr. Lightfoot had received a letter from Adrian Cross at White House Farm, about the possibility of a residential "restoration" facility to be started at White House Farm, for the rehabilitation of women with a history of drug abuse, alcohol dependency and prostitution. This is under the auspices of Release Ipswich, a church run charity. We will await further information.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30p.m.