

**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 18<sup>th</sup> March 2009 .

Present: Mr.Lightfoot, Mr.Cotton, Mr.Rush, Mr.Tyrrell, Mr.Coe, Mr.Nicol, Mrs;Shaw, Mrs Camp, Mr.Hindle, Mr.Laughlin.

Also present County Councillor Peter Bellfield and District Councillor Steve Hudson, PC Debbie Howgego plus two colleagues.

1. Apologies received from Mrs.Reynolds and Mr.Noble.
2. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved unanimously.  
Matters arising: The clerk had found out about provision of sand/gravel bins but it was decided not to do anything about them at this stage.  
The clerk reported that the fence repairs at the football field/play area had been finished.
3. Declarations of prejudicial interest. Mr.Cotton/Clerk's salary, Mr.Hindle, Winesham PCC grant payment, P3 – footpaths.
4. Finance: the following payments were approved unanimously:

|                              |         |   |
|------------------------------|---------|---|
| Clerk's salary               | £395.80 |   |
| Tomlinson Groundcare (mower) | £318.62 | R |
| Philip Keys – fence repair   | £320.00 | R |
| Petty Cash                   | £ 30.00 |   |

Mr.Cotton reported that we have £1400 in the bank currently. Our cash flow has been temporarily muddled by the non-payment of rent from WASPS and the Moon and Mushroom but it is hoped that these will be received soon.

Grant requests have been received from:

|                               |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| Winesham PCC                  | £385.00 |
| Swilland PCC                  | £227.25 |
| Winesham Pre-School           | £500.00 |
| Suffolk Accident Rescue Serv. | £100.00 |

These grants were agreed unanimously.

Village Projects; Mr.Rush reported that there is a new possible project in the pipeline – he is in discussions and will hope to report further at the APM.

5. Police report – this had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting and is attached to the minutes separately.  
Speedwatch: Mr.Lightfoot had attended a meeting at Clopton – there are currently 23 volunteers from the parishes involved, one of which is from Winesham, who are now awaiting training, accreditation, and finally the setting up of duty rotas.  
We have received a letter of apology from the Master of the Easton Harriers following the recent incident in Weyland Road and Mr.Lightfoot has been in touch with the police for guidance. There is little of specific import, but riders etc “must not cause a blockage on the road”. The dogs “must be under professional control of at least one handler”.  
Rose Hill: the possible speed limit is still under discussion – the technical team are currently considering their findings and are taking mean average speed checks to enable them to come to a decision.
6. County Councillors report: Mr.Bellfield reported that the Council Tax rise of 2.45% is the lowest ever increase.  
The County Council has made savings in the last 3 years of £60 million with additional savings this year to be a further £12m. The latter has enabled an additional:

£3.8m into safeguarding children  
£1.1m into vulnerable adults

To help in current circumstances:

Citizens Advice Bureau  
Credit Union

Holding charges for non residential: Home care, Day care, transport and Meals on wheels.

The Government inspectors (Audit Commission) have said that SCC is the top performing CC in terms of efficiency savings, the most cost efficient council in England and the best performing council for quality of service in the East of England.

Local Government Re-organisation: schedule –

19/3 Boundary Commission Draft Proposals

14/5 End of consultation period

15/7 Boundary Commission final recommendation to the Minister who then has 6 weeks to decide.

Instruments to introduce put before parliament in December.

There will be a County Council election on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mr.Bellfield also explained that there is a new process for funding Highways minor improvements – All County Councillors in Suffolk Coastal have £200,000 to share between them. That gives Mr.Bellfield £12,000 for his division.

District Councillors report. Mr.Hudson suggested that the Parish Council should resubmit its initial response to the Boundary Commission in light of the new deadlines etc. Mr.Lightfoot also said he would provide Mr.Hudson with our response to the LDF/site specific survey last month.

57 Weyland Road seems not to be a problem at the moment although Mr.Lightfoot has written to Suffolk Heritage asking that the matter of possible overcrowding, excess noise etc at the property should be looked into. He is waiting for their reply. PC Howgego said that she had been off work sick for a few weeks but that she is also going to contact Kate Rookyard, the person in charge of anti-social behaviour to try to sort out on-going issues.

7. Talitha Kum – Release Project.

The Parish Council welcomed representatives from this project who gave a presentation. The organisation is a Christian charity, and the proposed project, which is still in the consultation phase, is to provide a restoration post-detox home for women who are determined to start a new life having beaten their addictions whether drugs, or alcohol, or other addictive behaviours. It is hoped that a facility with approximately 10 beds can be developed at White House Farm in Wivesham. The hope is that outline planning can be applied for in 6 months time.

It is hoped that the Parish Council will be able to be of help by raising a correct awareness of what is planned, with local organisations helping with publicity etc and feedback of concerns that parishioners may have. It is hoped that the majority of the residents would be local people.

There will be a further presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

8. Highways: SORR – there was nothing to report.

The clerk reported that quotes for repairs to the entrance to the recreation ground have been received - £580 plus VAT , from Austin Holmes in Otley.

It was agreed to accept this quote.

9. Footpaths: Mr.Hindle commented that the current P3 scheme is being ended .

The path cutting is being replaced by a contract based scheme, either the Parish Council can undertake it themselves within the parish or the County Council will guarantee to do a maximum of 2 cuts per year. Mr.Hindle is willing to do any additional cutting which may be

necessary. It was agreed unanimously to pass the cutting to the CC service.  
Mr.Rush has provided a large survey map of the parish for which he received thanks.

10. Trees/hedgerows – nothing to report.
11. Planning: Mr.Lightfoot reported that there had been no planning meetings since the last council meeting. There are 2 appeals active, Mill Lane, Witnesham and Hill Head Bungalow, Mow Hill.  
Affordable Housing – work has now begun on site. A poll was taken to suggest a name for the new development – the winner was “Halfmoon Cottages”. Mr.Lightfoot warned that there was a possibility of Suffolk Coastal changing this if they did not like it.
- 12.PFMC: The Bottle Bank: a survey letter has been sent out by to nearby residents by SCDC to ascertain their views on the current site. We await developments  
WASPS: Nikki Gavin at the Moon and Mushroom was still unhappy about the Saturday morning parking, saying that it is affecting her trade on that day. The PFMC have put considerable pressure on Wasps to ensure they marshall the car parking and this will continue. We have also said that the Moon and Mushroom can have 6 designated parking spaces on Saturday Mornings but that they must organise this themselves with cones etc. The Finance Committee have agreed to defer the rise in rent for the car park From £1000 to £1250 for the current year in recognition of some of the difficulties being experienced by the pub at the moment.
13. VHMC: Jan Elmy is now the booking clerk for the Village Hall.  
The AGM for the Committee is on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April.
14. Website – Mr.Laughlin did not have much to report, other than there is a lot more information available now on the site.
15. SALC: Mr.Lightfoot attended the area meeting last Monday.
16. General Correspondence: Brian Williams, who is organising a Charity Fun day on May 31<sup>st</sup> at the playing field, has asked for permission to unload dogs for the dog show on the playing field (normally no dogs allowed area). This was agreed.  
Elmy Landscapes have quoted £846.00 + VAT for this years grass cutting in Swilland and Witnesham. This is for 6 cuts minimum. This was agreed to.

The Annual Parish Meeting is to be held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 7.00 N.B. time, for 7.30 p.m. at Witnesham Village Hall. It is hoped that as many parish councillors as possible can attend this opportunity to involve the villages in what we are currently doing.