

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 16th September, 2009 at Winesham Village Hall.

Present: Mr.Lightfoot, Mr.Rush, Mr.Cotton, Mr.Hindle, Mrs.Reynolds, Mrs.Camp, Mrs.Shaw, Mr.Noble, Mr.Laughlin, Mr.Tyrrell. Councillor Bellfield also attended.

1. Apologies received from Mr.Coe, Mr.Nicol , Councillor Steve Hudson and PC Debbie Howgego
2. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved unanimously.
3. Declarations of interest: Mr.Cotton in respect of clerk's salary.
4. Finance: Mr.Cotton reported formally that the audit has been done and signed off. He pointed out that, due to his inability to read his writing some time ago, there had been a discrepancy of £20 in the accounts for some time – thus the closing balance on last years accounts is £20 less than this year's opening balance.

Following the last meeting and the matter of insurance which arose Mr.Rush had nothing to report on that at the moment. He would look into it.

Approval for the following payments was given: Clerk's salary
£274.02

Zurich Insurance 09-10	£826.33	
W Archer Apri-June	£ 60.00	R
Elmy grass cutting	£162.15	R
Phil Keys, Swilland noticeboard	£265.00	R
BDO Stoy – Audit	£155.25	R
W Archer July-Sept	£ 60.00	

Mr.Cotton reported that we currently have a balance of £9,000 in the Barclays acc. and he proposed that the Council agree to moving £5,000 into the Ipswich Building Society account. This was agreed unanimously.

Mrs.Reynolds raised the question of the village sign in Winesham which is in need of repainting. She has also removed some branches around the sign and suggested that we might consider felling the adjacent sycamore to allow the chestnut tree beside it to prosper unimpeded. Mr.Cotton also said that the Swilland sign needs repainting and some branches adjacent to it need lopping. **Mr.Hindle** will get a quote for felling the sycamore if this seems justified and the **Clerk** would ask Richard Moore at Property Aid in Ashbocking for a quote for repainting etc the signs.

5. Police report: the was none.
Speedwatch: Mr.Lightfopot reported that the scheme was up and running albeit with some early teething problems.
6. County Councillors report: Mr.Bellfield is no longer on the Finance Scrutiny Committee but is chairman of the Pension Fund. He is still heavily involved with Roads and Transport and the questions of HGV's using our rural roads. Following the report last year there has been little action and he is pressing for something to be done.

Discussion followed about problems with problems arising from lack of road infrastructure with large new developments around Martlesham .

Regarding Finance, Mr.Bellfield reported a briefing last week from the Chief Executive regarding cuts in funds to local government – there is an assumption that the budget deficit will rise to £48m next year – there is an urgent need to try to make some savings.

7. Highways: Mr.Noble had nothing to report from SORR.
Mr. Cotton reported that following a complaint about the unfinished BT work to repair a man-hole cover on the corner by Acre Close, he had managed, with great difficulty, to contact someone at BT who assured him that the work would be done soon. This in fact happened. Thanks to Mr.Cotton.
8. Footpaths: Mr.Hindle reported that the mowing programme adopted by SCDC seems to be working well. There had been a problem with horse use of the footpath exiting opposite the Moon and Mushroom but SCDC had put up appropriate signs which have solved the problem. Mrs.Camp reported that a couple of the bridges were slippery and needed more wire netting – she would report this to SCDC. There is also a motor cyclist who is using the footpath from Weyland Road across to Henley via the muck heap.
There was discussion about the Parish Council mower which Mr.Hindle currently has. It was agreed that he should keep it for the moment in case some footpaths might need extra mowing. It would be discussed next summer.
Mr.Rush reported that the three-way sign near the muck heap is missing.
9. Planning: the minutes of the meeting on 10.8.09 have been distributed to councillors.
10. PFMC: there is to be a meeting tomorrow – 17.9.09 – it is hoped that Mr.Coe will be back for this. Mr.Rush asked about the emptying of the rubbish bin at the playarea – the **clerk** would contact SCDC again about this.
11. SALC: nothing to report.
12. VHMC: there is to be a meeting on 21st October.
13. Affordable Housing: Mr.Lightfoot reported that councillors have an opportunity to look round the houses on 18.9.09. It is hoped that occupation will go ahead towards the end of November.
14. Moon and Mushroom – WASPS parking problems. Mr.Rush has emailed Colin Richards of Wasps about the parking problems which occur on at weekends during football matches – the Moon and Mushroom are indicating that they are losing trade because of the parking difficulties. Mr.Lightfoot and Mr.Rush will go and talk to Nikki Gavin. Mr.Rush reported a request from a burger van owner who wishes to sell on the pitch on Saturday mornings – this will be investigated. The **clerk** would send Mr.Richards an invoice for the WASPS rent of £750 for the 09/10 season.
15. Talitha Koum – there is to be a meeting at the Village Hall on Monday 19th October at 7.30 – this will be run by the Talitha Koum organisation – the aim is to present a progress report on the project and explanation and reassurances to the community.
16. Correspondence: Mrs Camp reported on the possibility of getting a water supply to the allotments – this would cost around £1000 for a tap. The supply would be metered. She will canvass the allotment holders to establish demand for a water supply. Some are still not being properly used and these will be reallocated where possible.
17. The clerk announced that as she and Mr.Cotton are moving away from Swiland in November she would have to tender her resignation as clerk to the council.
Mr.Lightfoot would compose an advertisement to place in the newsletter to look for a replacement.
18. The next meeting is on Wednesday 18th November

