

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 19th September 2007 at
Winesham Village Hall.

Present: Mr.Lightfoot, Mr.Cotton, Mrs.Reynolds, Mr.Rush, Mr.Noble, Mrs.Shaw,
Mrs.Camp, Mr.Butler, Mr,Nicol, Mr.Lea, Mr.Tyrrell Mr.Laughlin.

Also present: Councillor Peter Bellfield, Mrs.Peggy Kemp.

1. Apologies: received from Mr.Coe and Mr.Hindle
2. Minutes of previous meeting were approved.

Matters arising: Notice Boards – there was discussion about possibly moving the board from Weyland Road to the other side of the road near the bus shelter.

Standing Orders: Mr.Lightfoot asked that we postpone discussion on these until the next meeting.

3. Declarations of interest: Mr.Cotton in respect of clerk's salary.
4. Finance: the following payments were approved:

a) clerk's salary	£345.25		
b) East Anglian Air Ambulance donation	£50.00	R	
c) Youth Group village hall hire x3	£30.00	R	
d) W Archer April-June	£50.00	R	
e) Suffolk Acre AGM JL attendance	£12.50	R	
f) Elmy Landscapes cuts x 3 June-August	£475.89	R	
g) SPS Planning training day – JL	£35.00	R	

h) Suffolk Acre insurance renewal	£793.21
i) SAFE Youth group insurance	£ 30.00

5. County Councillors report: Mr.Bellfield said there was not much to report. There was disappointment about the announcement that Ipswich has won unitary status. It is possible that IBC may ask to increase the size of the Borough boundaries. The government have accepted the pathfinder bid which means that all Suffolk councils will work in partnership – this is already happening in the legal departments. There has been debate about the County Council’s policy towards nuclear power – they are now broadly endorsing the government’s policy on nuclear energy but this does not mean that the CC are committed to any particular site development in the county.

Mr.Noble asked if there was any information on Debach Enterprises re: SORR. The enquiry has now been put back until October and Mr.Bellfield is working very closely with the senior planning officers in the county. No decisions have yet been made and any opposition to the application will lead to a public enquiry which means that the CC decision will have to be defensible.

6. Police Report: WPC Gilmore was not present and had not sent a report. There remains general frustration at the lack of police inter-action in the Weyland Road disturbances since the SNT meeting in August. Mr.Rush said he would follow this up. The mobile Police unit had also failed to turn up this week. There was some discussion about an incident recently involving some gun-shots being heard in the vicinity of Weyland road plus some empty cartridges being found in a garden but it was unclear exactly what had happened. Mr.Rush suggested that perhaps the Parish Council could be used as a medium for communicating with the police to try to provide them with more information about disturbances occurring in the village. Mr.Lightfoot said he would approach the police and explore options including the possibility of CCTV in sensitive spots, as this had been raised with him by immediate neighbours on the main road.

7. Affordable Housing: Mr.Lightfoot had sent a briefing note prior to the meeting. He has spoken recently to the planning officers; the Planning Committee are of the opinion that Hastoe should now proceed with the application for the housing in Swilland.

8. Highways: on SORR, Mr.Noble had nothing further to add to Mr.Bellfield’s earlier remarks. Mr.Cotton reported that visibility at road junctions seem better.

Re: Rose Hill – Mr.Lightfoot has had a call from the road safety office who accept that both the volume and speed of traffic in increasing – they are doing a study of the corner. They do not think it appropriate to move the speed restriction further up the hill at the present time.

Mr.Rush mentioned the drainage problem at the bridge in Winesham – the clerk

would contact the Highways department to ask them to look at this before the winter sets in.

9. Youth Group: Mr.Lea hopes he has found volunteers for the 10-13 age group.

Meetings will be held in the village hall again. The view is that it is not worth trying to start a club for the older age group. The Rev.Tubbs has suggested having a drop in centre at the Baptist Chapel and this is currently under discussion. He may ask for support from the council.
10. Footpaths: Mr.Hindle had asked that it be noted that the work on Strawberry Hill is complete . Mr.Lightfoot has reservations about the materials used.
11. Playing Field: Mr.Coe was not present. There is a meeting of the PFMC on Monday 8th October when the site of the Swiland bottle bank will be discussed, as well as the kick about area. We still need to find out what is actually needed and wanted – Mr.Lea will try to get some feedback from the youth group members.
12. Planning: the last minutes had been circulated to the council – nothing to add.
13. SALC: Mr.Cotton and Mr.Nicol had attended Budget Training meetings. It was agreed that at the next meeting **Mr.Cotton** would bring suggestions as to how we start a sinking fund for replacement of playground equipment etc.
14. VHMC: Mrs.Shaw reported that at their meeting the night before it was noted that the bill for the new cooker had not yet been paid. The clerk has not received it but will pay it as soon as the bill is presented to her.
15. Village Website: Mr.Laughlin is happy with the the existing content and interactive aspects – he suggested that a few volunteers from the council might come and be shown how it all works etc. He will hold a couple of evening sessions for those who are interested.
16. Correspondence: We have received a letter from the Parkes at Berghersh about the blocked ditches etc. There is still a dispute as to who the land belongs to.

Mr.Rush mentioned that there is a second oak tree behind no.1 Weyland Road which may be in danger of being felled during the development which is currently taking place there. The question of getting a tree preservation order put in place was raised. Mrs.Reynolds would ask SCDC about this.
17. AOB. None
18. The next meeting is on Wednesday 21st November at 7.30