

SWINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a virtual meeting of Swingfield Parish Council held on
Tuesday
29 September 2020**

PRESENT: Councillor Tony Hutt (in the Chair minute 6089-6097 part), Councillors Tim Allard, Andy Csiszar, Vic Harmer (in the Chair min 6086-6088 and min 6097 part), Ken Mitchell, David Monk, Les Palliser and Barbara Shaw.

Apology for absence: Councillor Steve Notley

Officer in Attendance: Mrs Tina Wiles

6086. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

6087. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 30 June 2020 were submitted and subject to the following amendment; Councillor Barbara Shaw asked for the minutes to include details of the update given at minute 6084 – Councillor Harmer responded that the Lych Gate update was on the agenda and the Black Horse had given permission for the defibrillator to be installed and this was also on the agenda for the meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Les Palliser
Seconded by Councillor David Monk and

RESOLVED: To receive the minutes subject to the amendments above.

(7-0-0)

6088. **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT AND SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

REPORT PC/20/04 provides the latest budget monitoring information and schedule of payments.

Proposed by Councillor Vic Harmer
Seconded by Councillor Steve Notley and

RESOLVED:

- 1. To receive and note Report PC/20/04.**
- 2. To authorise the Chairman of the Council to sign the bank reconciliation and statements in accordance with best practice.**

(Voting: For 7; Against 0; Abstentions 0)

Note: Councillor Tony Hutt joined the meeting and took the chair)

6089. PLANNING MATTERS

The Council considered the schedule of planning matters attached to these minutes.

6090. ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

REPORT: The Council noted correspondence from Swingfield Community Group regarding HGV's using Swingfield Street and causing damage to the roads and most recently a burst water pipe on the road adjacent to St Peter's Church. The Chairman said he had contacted Kent County Councillor Susan Carey about this and she was arranging for signs to be erected with the standard wording regarding not suitable for HGV's.

Proposed by Councillor Tony Hutt
Seconded by Councillor Ken Mitchell and

RESOLVED: To note request made by the Chairman and to write to Kent County Councillor Susan Carey to add the Council's support to this request.

(Voting: For 8; Against 0; Abstentions 0)

6091. PARISH MAINTENANCE

It was reported that there were some low hanging branches on a tree in the Church Yard to the left of the Lych Gate that could potentially cause damage to the roof of the gate. It was noted that the trees in the Churchyard were subject to a TPO and the Council undertook the maintenance of the graveyard but was not the owner of the land. Councillor Harmer said that he would look into the application process.

The Council thanked Councillor Harmer for the new Noticeboard at Densole News Shop.

Proposed by Councillor Tony Hutt
Seconded by Councillor David Monk and

RESOLVED: To ask Councillor Harmer to initiate the process for obtaining permission to cut back the tree in the churchyard.

(Voting: For 8; Against 0; Abstentions 0)

6092. CORRESPONDENCE

i) A request has been made for use of the speedwatch equipment by Hawkinge Town Councillor Glyn Hibbert in his capacity as the Hawkinge Speedwatch co-ordinator.

Proposed by Councillor Tony Hutt
Seconded by Councillor Les Palliser and

RESOLVED: To support the request and authorised the use of the equipment by Hawkinge Town Council and request that sites in Swingfield be included in the scheme.

(Voting: For 8; Against 0; Abstentions 0)

ii) Letter from Kent County Councillor Susan Carey re Electric Vehicle charging points.

Proposed by Councillor Tony Hutt
Seconded by Councillor Les Palliser and

RESOLVED: To thank Kent County Councillor Susan Carey for the invitation and respond that the Parish Council has no suitable sites and is therefore unable to participate in the scheme.

(Voting: For 7; Against 0; Abstentions 1)

6093. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Proposed by Councillor David Monk
Seconded by Councillor Tony Hutt and

RESOLVED: To exclude the public and press from the meeting for the following items of business by virtue of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

(Voting: For 8; Against 0; Abstentions 0)

6094. ST PETER'S CHURCH LYCH GATE

REPORT PC/20/06 sets out the position to date.

Proposed by Councillor David Monk
Seconded by Councillor Tim Allard and

RESOLVED: To receive and note Report PC/20/06.

(Voting: For 7; Against 1; Abstentions 0)

Note: Councillor Barbara Shaw wished to have her name recorded as voting against this item.

The Council considered a report circulated by Councillor Barbara Shaw detailing the background to St Peter's Church at Swingfield – Lychgate.

Proposed by Councillor Tony Hutt
Seconded by Councillor Tim Allard and

RESOLVED: To receive and note the report and ask Councillor Shaw to progress her research to find out who owns the Lychgate.

(Voting: For 8; Against 0 Abstentions 0)

6095. EVALUATION OF QUOTATIONS - DEFIBRILLATOR

REPORT: The Council considered quotations for the installation of a defibrillator on the outside of the Black Horse Public House.

Proposed by Councillor Ken Mitchell
Seconded by Councillor Les Palliser and

RESOLVED: To award the contract for the supply and installation of the defibrillator to contractor 3.

(Voting: For 7; Against 0 Abstentions 1)

6096. MAINTENANCE OF THE BMX TRACK – SWINGFIELD MINNIS

REPORT: In Autumn 2018, the BMX Pump Track was re-launched following a major restoration scheme sponsored by Jenner Construction.

The Council noted there is some on-going maintenance work required to keep the track in good order.

Proposed by Councillor Tony Hutt
Seconded by Councillor Les Palliser and

RESOLVED: To request an inspection report on the condition and required works.

(Voting: For 7; Against 0 Abstentions 1)

6097. CLERK'S APPRAISAL

REPORT: The Chairman requested the authority of the Council to undertake an appraisal of the Clerk. The Clerk requested that the Chairman did not form part of the appraisal process.

Note: At this point the Chairman stepped down as Chairman and the Vice-Chairman took the chair. Councillor Tony Hutt left the meeting.

Proposed by Councillor David Monk
Seconded by Councillor Vic Harmer and

RESOLVED: To appoint an appraisal committee of 3 Councillors; Tim Allard, Les Palliser and David Monk.

(Voting: For 4; Against 3 Abstentions 0)

Schedule of Planning Applications
29 September 2020

Application 20/1105/FH - Land West of Canterbury Road, Folkestone CT15 7HJY

Change of use of land to use as a residential caravan site for 4 gypsy families, each with two caravans including no more than one static caravan/mobile home, together with laying of hardstanding, erection of 4 No. amenity buildings, improvement of access and erection of fencing.

The Parish Council strongly objects to the above application on the following grounds;

- The land is not designated as a gypsy site
- The PPTS recognises that gypsy sites are likely to be located outside of existing settlements in the countryside. Sites should be strictly controlled away from settlements. This application sits between established residential properties
- The land is designated as agricultural land and an AONB. This use is not a permitted use for this land.
- It is understood an application to build two residential properties was previously refused on the grounds of road safety, in that the egress is onto a national speed limit single carriageway with restricted vision
- The application mentions two caravans for each of the four families, this totals 12 caravans/buildings when taking into account the amenity buildings
- The applicant's reference to hardship on the families and children should not be a consideration as permission has not been granted for them to be there.
- Any access required to the plot of ground behind the site could be used for future enlargement of the site
- A caravan site, whether gypsy, residential or holiday lets, does not sit within this residential ribbon of land and would be detrimental to existing residents, visually, noise levels, volume of additional traffic and serious road safety concerns on the A260 for all road users.

Ref: 20/0740/FH The Old Forge, The Street, Swingfield CT15 7HA

Erection of a rear/side extension and conversion of garage to form disabled annex

The Council objects to the application on the basis that it is not suitable for the area it is in.

Ref: 20/0800/FH Sunset View, The Street, Swingfield, Dover, CT15 7EZ Change of use of land to store 10 caravans to rear of the property

The Council has no objection to the application.