

SWAINSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Swainswick Parish Council held in Swainswick School Upper Swainswick on Monday 3rd February 2014 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Mr J Miles (Chairman): Mr G Davies: Mrs E Charrington: Mrs P Shutter: Mr R Foster: Mr R Shackell & Mr R Clist (Clerk)
Apologies: M Veal (BANES – Ward Councillor) G Batts (BANES - Ward Councillor) K Packer (BANES – Highways)

1. Minutes of previous meeting held 4th November 2013

The meeting approved the minutes and they were signed as a true record by the Chairman.

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Planning

New Applications

- (a) **Application Ref: 13/05579/FUL** Mulberry Mountain Blacksmith Lane Erection of two storey extension and replacement of flat roof with hipped roof over kitchen. Swainswick PC – Conditional Approval. BANES - Decision Pending.

The quality and the lack of detail on the submitted plans was a concern and comments on this were included in the Swainswick PC submission.

- (b) **Application Ref: 14/00040/TCA** Mackena Blacksmith Lane Remove low growing branches of Magnolia and other species.

Swainswick PC – No Objections: BANES decision – Permit.

- (c) **GVP – Woolley Valley Developments**

Application Ref: 13/03374/CLEU Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing alterations to access and formation of hard-standing and track around existing building.

- (d) **Application Ref: 13/03358/FUL** Alterations and extension to existing agricultural building, formation of farm track, construction of stock pond and ancillary works (Retrospective) (Resubmission of 12/05660/FUL)

The Development and Control Committee Meeting held on the 20th November approved both of the above items.

These decisions were discussed at length with concerns being raised at the potential for GVP to request planning for a new stock barn. It is understood that GVP now wish to install a ‘Field Shelter’ and BANES are reviewing this with regards the potential need for further planning permission.

E. Charrington informed the Council that the GVP site in South Gloucestershire had been granted permission for livestock. A similar procedural pattern was evolving!

Older Applications:

- (e) **Application Ref: 13/01476/FUL** Rosebank Gloucester Road Conversion of outbuilding to artist studio.

BANES Decision – Permitted subject to a section 106.

J Miles expressed concern over this and cited examples of where similar requests had been approved without being subjected to section 106. G Davies outlined government strategy in respect of such matters with the objective of reducing overheads and delays.

- (f) **Application Ref: 13/03947/FUL** Lansdown View Kent Lane External alterations to terrace to include removal of existing timber balustrading and decking and replace

with new timber decking and stainless steel balustrading with glass infill panels.
Extension of the decking to form an undercroft at lower level for storage.

Swainswick PC – Conditional Approval: BANES Decision – Permit

- (g) **Application Ref: 13/03198/FUL** Red Thorn Blacksmith Lane Swainswick,
Erection of single storey extension to north elevation with accommodation in
additional roof space.

Swainswick PC – Conditional Approval: BANES Decision – Refuse

*Note E Charrington left the meeting at this point (8.05pm)

Other Planning Matters:

- (a) **Enforcement Ref: 13/00320/UNDEV** Tree Tops land usage.
The clerk has followed this matter up with Philip Miller (BANES – Enforcement).
Following a visit to the site P Miller is to start enforcement proceedings in the next
week or so.

4. Core Strategy Review/Placemaking Plan

As Swainswick Parish had been categorised as RA3 (very small) there would be
little impact on it. At present the related documentation would be considered as
information only. J Miles stated that he was aware that one Council had held a
referendum on similar policies. G Davies circulated a press cutting that reported a
practice of demolishing dilapidated and unused barns to enable house building at that
location. It was unclear as to what types of barns were involved and whether this could
be considered ‘sustainable development’.

5. Highways.

- (a) **A46 – Hartley Bends Safety Measures.**

Endless lobbying regarding the safety of these bends and the recent fatal accident
accident have resulted in the Highways Agency proposing improvements in signage
and the road surface. At present temporary 30 mph restriction signs exist which will
help. There is strong opinion that the 50mph limit is excessive and should be
reduced.

- (b) **Deadmill Lane/Ferndale Lane Traffic Study**

Due to illness Kelvin Packer (BANES – Highways) was unable to provide the
scheduled update. It was agreed that the matter be raised at the next cluster meeting
to be held on the 26th February.

- (c) **Solar Sign on the Gloucester Road**

The speed sign has now been turned (1st December 2013) to monitor northbound
traffic.

- (d) **Swainswick Village Lighting**

P Shutter reported that she had been contacted by a resident (L Toghill) about the
provision of street lighting. There was no lighting on the Gloucester Road and it was
considered that any major provision would urbanise the village. Some localised lighting
had been provided on properties by owners and this was considered to be the appropriate
solution. P Shutter to update L Toghill.

Some concerns were raised regarding the excessively bright lighting on the outside
of the new house on the site of the old garage but it was felt that no actions were
necessary or could be taken.

- (e) **Tadwick Lane Flooding**

R Foster reported that the drains had been cleared.

(f) **Conservation Footpath and Damaged Bollard**

The bollard and surrounding material had been repaired but the loose stones on the footpath remain. The clerk to press BANES for an urgent repair.

6. Finance

The clerk circulated the balance sheet for year to 31st January.

The annual precept request had to be submitted to BANES and it was agreed that it should remain unchanged at £2800.

7. School Governors

R Shackell reported that complaints were being made about the parking difficulties near the school during the busy periods. In such a space restricted area it was felt that little could be done about this.

8. Correspondence

Lloyds Bank had written to the Council encouraging the use of online banking. The financial affairs of the parish were not complicated and as such no actions were proposed.

9. Any Other Business

(a) R Foster reported that there was an inhabited van on the land behind the A46 sand trap, the area being accessible from Solsbury Lane. The clerk to investigate and if necessary report to BANES.

(b) P Shutter enquired on the progress of developments on the Charmydown barns. J Miles said that this was still ongoing.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 7th April 2014 at 7.30pm in Swainswick School

Meeting Closed at 9.38pm