

SWAINSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Swainswick Parish Council held in Swainswick School Upper Swainswick on Monday 2nd February 2015 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)

1. Minutes of previous meeting held 3rd November 2014

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) **Ref: 14/05163/FUL** Down Farm Gloucester Road Swainswick Erection of front and rear extensions. Swainswick PC Comments submitted. B&NES Decision – Permit.

Previous Applications

None outstanding

4. Other Planning Matters

- (a) **Enforcement Ref: 14/00385/UNDEV** – Gillan Cottage Blacksmith Lane, development works and creation of an access on adjacent land. No application for development has yet been formalised and the clerk continues to monitor the status of this issue.
- (b) G Davies reported that a Planning pre-application submission had been made on behalf of the owners of Pitland Farm. This involved the conversion of a barn into two residential properties.

5. Review of Housing Development Boundaries

BANES have requested further information to assist in the development of the Placemaking Plan. Documents relating to this had been circulated. The nature of Swainswick which is ‘washed over’ by the Green Belt limits opportunities to acceptable infill which must not “compromise the openness of the Green Belt”. The Housing Development Boundaries are defined in such areas as “the filling of small gaps within existing development e.g. the building of one or two houses on a small vacant plot in an otherwise extensively built up frontage. The plot will generally be surrounded on at least three sides by development sites or roads”.

6. Local Green Space Designation

In addition to item 5 there is a requirement to submit details of any land in the parish that could be protected for local community use. In reviewing this any submission had to be made in conjunction with a Neighbourhood Plan. No such plan is proposed therefore no submissions will be made.

7. Swainswick School Transport

The relevant correspondence has been circulated. It appears there is little that can be done to alter the outcome of the B&NES transport requirement and routing evaluation.

8. Highways.

(a) **Deadmill Lane / Ferndale Road project**

Although no formal notification has been received it is understood that some sort of one way routing is being proposed. The clerk to contact Highways for exact proposals and to seek reasons for the apparent lack of promised consultations

(b) **Innox Lane – Drainage issue near The Old School House**

B&NES have scheduled the work to start on the 9th March 2015.

(c) **Gulley Clearance**

R Foster reported that all gullies had now been cleared.

(d) **Hedge Management / Verge maintenance**

The beech hedge on the left side of the Gloucester Road next to the entrance to the village needs reducing in height. E Charrington said that she would contact John Burgess about this and if possible obtain a quotation for the task.

9. Finance.

(a) **Precept Requirement**

The current precept is £2800.00 pa. and it was agreed to submit a request for the same amount for year 2015/2016.

(b) **Status Update**

The clerk circulated a report showing the current financial status.

10. School Governors

R Shackell reported that the Chairman of the Governors had resigned and that the Vice-Chair would now take this responsibility. Some external works had been undertaken and one Alder tree had been removed.

11. Correspondence

Nothing to report.

12. Any Other Business

(a) E Charrington reported that the costs of the repairs necessary to the church tower roof area were likely to be in the region of £15k. An application for a grant was currently being prepared. A contribution of £500 from the Parish Council can be made once final costs are known. If required the previously agreed additional contributions will be available over a period of the next 3 years.

(b) R Foster pointed out that the condition of the road surface along Langridge Lane needed much work on numerous potholes. The clerk was asked to pursue this matter with BANES.

(c) R Foster reported some digger activity at an entrance in Deadmill Lane. The clerk to investigate.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 7th April at 7.30pm in Swainswick School

Note: Original Date was Monday 6th April – changed by agreement

Meeting Closed at 8.50pm

Note: Following meetings are-

Monday 1st June 2015