

SWAINSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Swainswick Parish Council held in Swainswick School Upper Swainswick on Monday 11th September 2017 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Mr J Miles (Chairman): Mr G Davies (Vice Chairman): Mr R Shackell: Mr I Roberts: Mr R Clist (Clerk)

1. **Apologies:** B&NES Ward Councillors -A. Millar: G Ward & M Veal
2. **Minutes of previous meeting held 12th June 2017.**
The meeting approved the minutes and they were signed as a true record by the Chairman.
3. **Matters arising**
There were no matters arising.
4. **Planning**
New
No new applications received

Previous Applications

Ref: 17/02423/FUL Bluebell Cottage Gloucester Road Swainswick
Erection of single storey extension to side of cottage. Swainswick PC = No objection. B&NES Decision – Permit.

Ref: 17/02599/TCA 1 The Batch Tadwick Lane Swainswick
1x Cherry T1 - crown thin by 20%, crown lift to 8 feet and reduce long lateral branch on house side, tip prune to contain and balance shape. 2x Fruit TG1 - thin by 15%, reduce and reshape by 2-3 metres and prune to shape.
B&NES Decision – No objection.

Ref: 17/02542/LBA / 17/02743/FUL Beech House Tadwick Lane Swainswick.
External and internal work to reinstate a window opening on the west elevation.
Swainswick PC – No objection, B&NES Decision– Permit

Ref: 17/01310/FUL Parcel 1555 Gloucester Road Swainswick Bath
Erection of agricultural store and livestock shelter. Swainswick PC –
Comments/objections submitted. B&NES Decision – Refuse

Pending

Ref No: 17/00156/UNAUTH Pitlands Farm Gloucester Road Swainswick Bath.
Enforcement investigating - Potential Unauthorised Use. B&NES Decision – No further action to be taken.

1. Notice Boards – Condition

Further investigation on potential costs confirmed that approximately 1£k would need to be spent to purchase a suitable new notice board for the wall on the green. J Miles suggested that one could be made for less. The clerk would investigate this option. Regarding funding the clerk reported that there may well be an opportunity to get help from the Ward Councillors Initiative scheme and this was being followed with Councillor Alison Millar.

2. B&NES related Topics

(a) Highways, Verge Maintenance and footpaths

The clerk reported that the hedges and verges had, to a degree, been cleared from the footpath. The route was now clear. Previous works had cut the verges back to reveal the full footpath width and this needed repeating.

(b) Bathavon Forum Meetings – revised structure

Swainswick is in the Bathavon North group and the first meeting had been held on 19th July in the Guildhall.

J Miles and the clerk gave a brief update on the first of these new regional meetings. The sessions are much more focussed and with good input from the ‘northern’ parishes the next meeting in November should be worthwhile. Among the suggested items are planning, enforcement and highways!

(c) Park and Ride Proposals Batheaston

In the interim period since the June meeting B&NES had announced that plans for the Eastern Park & Ride had been cancelled.

This generated a debate on the road markings at the Gloucester Road/A4 junction. I Roberts thought that these were temporary and were in place only for the duration of works for the electrification of the railway line.

G Davies repeated his concerns about the restrictions placed on outward bound traffic and said that the old markings should be reinstated. The clerk also added an update on the impact on Larkhall, Brooklyn Road and Ferndale.

It was agreed that a formal letter about these issues should be sent to K Packer at B&NE Highways department.

(d) Parish Charter

Copies of the revised charter had been circulated and there were no specific issues with it. In tackling the objective it will be vital to ensure that areas such as response times and general communications with parishes on all subject matter improves significantly. The Councils view on this had been documented in its response.

7. Councillor P Shutter – departure update

J Miles stated that during July P Shutter had formally resigned and an appreciation of her time with the Council had been given. The clerk would now start the task of seeking a replacement.

8. Finance.

(a) **Audit 2016/2017**

The completed Audit papers for the financial year 2016/2017 had been approved by the external auditors and were presented to the Council. Grant Thornton will not be the auditors next year. No information yet available on their replacement.

(b) **Financial Report – September 2017**

The clerk issued a spreadsheet detailing this.

9. School Governors

Nothing to report.

10. Correspondence

Relevant material previously circulated.

11. Any Other Business

13. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 13th November 2017 at 7.30pm in Swainswick School

The dates for the following meetings are:

12th February 2018

9th April 2018

11th June 2018

Meeting closed at 8.50pm