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| **Swardeston Parish Council**  **Minutes of the January 2023 Parish Council Meeting**  **At Swardeston village hall, on Thursday 12th January 2023 at 7.30PM**  **Meeting 1/2023** | | |
| Present:  Members - Derek Barber, Justin Barber, Liz Brown, Dominic Everett, Wendy Middleton, Terry Stock, Graham Jermy  Cllrs Nigel Legg, (Ian Spratt & Gerry Francis from 8.15pm)  2 members of the public attended | | |
|  | **To consider apologies for absence**  There were no apologies for absence. |  |
|  | **To receive declaration of interests in items on agenda**  There were no declarations of interest. |  |
|  | **Resolution to adjourn the meeting for public participation and district/county councillor reports**  **Councillor reports**  Cllr Legg said the village clusters consultation had been announced. The battery application (2022/0867) was approved at DMC the day before. Another application had been submitted for a site near Dunston it was not clear how it would affect the Bloys Grove solar farm.  Sites had been identified for Gypsy and Traveller element of the GNLP. The proposal included the current council depot at Ketteringham which would be kept in reserve should one of the other designated sites not be able to come forward for inclusion. There would be consultations on these proposals.  There was no increase in council tax proposed for the coming year.  There was work to be done on Horizon House including replacing gas boilers with air source heat pumps using a grant with matched funding.  There had been restrictions with public attending meetings due to covid but it was confirmed that anyone could attend with no restrictions.  **Public Participation**  No Issues were raised. |  |
|  | **To confirm minutes of the last meeting held on 8th December 2022 and to review matters arising**  The minutes of the December meeting were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting, the chairman signed the minutes.  **Matters arising**  The council had cleared the earth banks beneath hedges in Main Road which showed that several residents’ hedges were clearly significantly overgrown, the chairman said this would be monitored and residents written to in the future if required. |  |
|  | **To consider possible road-crossing options for Main Road**  Mr D Barber had~~.~~ emailed Cllr Elmer for an update but had not received a response. |  |
|  | **To update the remedial works to the play area**  The work on the matting under multi-climber had been completed, and the seesaw repaired. |  |
|  | **To consider and agree a generic email address for the parish council**  No update had been received on the email address but the website had been updated. |  |
|  | **To consider any action on the offshore wind and solar farms and East Anglia GREEN**  The chairman had received a phone call from rep of Equinor yesterday to advise that the company had been encouraged to add batteries to their substation. There would be work done to consider the viability but this was likely to be next year before any decision would be made. |  |
|  | **To consider and agree any comments on planning applications**  **9.1 2022/2350**  Proposal: Installation of underground electrical connection and communication cables between Bloy's Grove Solar Farm and Norwich Main Substation, with Temporary Construction Compound and associated infrastructure  Location: Highway and Verge Between Brick Kiln Lane Swainsthorpe, To  Ipswich Road Dunston Norfolk  The application was discussed, the cables would come out of site to Brick Kiln Lane which would significantly affect the roads along its route to the National Grid substation. It was agreed not to submit any comments.  **9.2 2022/0867**  Proposal: Proposal: Construction and operation of Energy Balancing Infrastructure (EBI) comprising energy storage technology, to form up to two areas of modular or containerised structures. To include containerised or modular battery array, transformers and inverter area, switchgear and control room building(s), connection of EBI plant to the Hornsea Three Onshore Converter Station (ONCS), required access and internal roads, drainage systems, perimeter and internal fences, and required external lighting and lightning pylons. Development is located within the Hornsea Three ONCS area as consented by the Hornsea Project Three Offshore Wind Farm Development Consent Order (DCO) in December 2020. The application is accompanied by an environmental statement.  Location: Land East of Main Road Swardeston Norfolk  The application had already been approved (see Item 3 above).  **9.3 2023/0005**  Proposal: Retrospective planning application - 2 shower rooms, and new permission for conversion of garage to a breakfast room.  Location: Mangreen Hall (South) Mangreen Swardeston NR14 8DD  It was agreed not to submit any comments. |  |
|  | **To receive an update on the defibrillator**  The defibrillator had been checked on 12th January 2023 and The Circuit will be updated on 13th January 2023. |  |
|  | **To consider issues with speeding traffic**  There had been traffic lights on Main Road whilst the trod was being installed, it was expected these would be removed on 13th January 2023.  The highways engineer had asked to meet the chairman to inspect the trod and discuss some potential speed signing for the main road. |  |
|  | **Finance**   * 1. **To review and agree financial statement to 12th January 2023**   The financial statement was proposed as an accurate record by Mr J Barber, this was seconded by Mrs Brown and unanimously agreed.   * 1. **To agree and set the precept for 2023/24**   The budget had been agreed in December after discussion it was proposed by  Mr J Barber that the precept be set at £6227.00 which would mean residents would pay the same amount as the current year. This was seconded by Mr Stock and unanimously agreed.   * 1. **To agree invoices for payment in accordance with budget**   The following payments were agreed:  BACS £2616.00 Action play & Leisure Ltd Play area work  BACS £105.99 C Jowett Clerks salary  BACS £70.40 HMRC PAYE  The payments were reviewed; Mr Everett proposed the payments be approved, Mrs Brown seconded the proposal which was unanimously agreed. |  |
|  | **To consider correspondence received**  13.1 Planning application 2023/0009 had been received which would impact on the village and was discussed.  Proposal: 240 MWp Battery Energy Storage System (EIA Screening Opinion)  Location: Land South of Cantley Lane Ketteringham Norfolk  It was agreed a response would be submitted as an EIA was essential due to the potential impact this could have. The chairman would submit the comments.  13.2 The coronation would take place on 6th May 2023 members had been asked to consider any ideas to celebrate. Mrs Middleton had a suggestion but after discussion it was agreed not to host an event for the coronation.  13.3 Warm hub and warm spaces had been considered by the parish council, the village hall and the church but had all decided not to create one. A couple in the village wanted to set something up and had obtained funding; volunteers were being sought to help create a committee to set up a warm space in the Cavell Room. The chairman gave information out for the first meeting on 13th January 2023. | **DB** |
|  | **To adjourn the meeting for public participation**  A question was asked about the plans for a pavement from the bus stop to Gowthorpe Lane but the chairman explained the cost had been too high so a trod had been agreed.  Cllr Spratt had arrived at the meeting and reported he had attended an online National Grid briefing on the East Anglia GREEN plans. There had been a good response to the surveys and they were aware of the concerns about pylons and the support for offshore. He said there seemed to be a bias towards the pylons but they would follow government guidelines. A further consultation would take place in the spring. It had been clarified that the latest EBI application (2022/0867) was nothing to do with the pylons but was driven by Orsted to ensure its feed to the grid could be regulated.  The district council was considering introducing a public protection order on vehicle related issues as there had been an increase in anti-social behaviour involving cars.  There was a police and crime commissioner meeting at Wymondham library on 13th January about the police budget for 2023-24.  Voter identity changes were being introduced for the next elections in May and the council was working through the issues to implement the changes.  A police sergeant had attended Mulbarton Parish Council meeting last Monday had said there would be 5 officers focussed on communities to give a better service to the area. |  |
|  | **To agree agenda items for the next meeting on 9th February 2023 commencing at 7.30pm at Swardeston village hall**  To consider possible road-crossing options for the Main Road  To consider and agree a generic email address for the parish council  To consider any action on wind farms, solar farms and East Anglia GREEN  To confirm the check on the defibrillator  To consider issues with speeding traffic  **The meeting closed 20:45** |  |
| Signed: Mr D Barber  Chairman to Swardeston Parish Council  [https://swardeston-parish-council.norfolkparishes.gov.uk](https://swardeston-parish-council.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/) | | |