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| **Swardeston Parish Council**  **Minutes of the March 2023 Parish Council Meeting**  **At Swardeston village hall, on Thursday 9th March 2023 at 7.30PM**  **Meeting 3/2023** | | |
| Present:  Members - Derek Barber, Justin Barber, Liz Brown, Dominic Everett, Wendy Middleton, Terry Stock, Graham Jermy  Cllrs Nigel Legg, Gerry Francis and Ian Spratt  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**  **Public Participation**  No Issues were raised.  **Councillor reports**  Cllr Francis advised that there was a £200 coronation grant available.  Cllr Legg reported that the district council had frozen council tax for the year.  The move to Horizon House was expected to take place in May although it would be used for the elections.  Nutrient neutrality issues had not been resolved there was a potential to develop reed beds to help deal with nitrate and phosphate levels, it could be another year before issues would be resolved. A further issue was the potential for biodiversity net gain when developers would be expected to pay a premium of 10% to offset the effects of their development.  Equinor had applied for a development consent order and the district council had supported this citing economic and employment advantages, the benefit was unclear.  The levelling up bill was going through parliament and would reduce government targets for building new homes this would be passed to local communities.  There was a proposal for a major trauma centre at the Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital as the maximum travelling time should be no more that 45 mins, Cambridge was the nearest and therefore additional provision was necessary.  A house in Bobbins Way had had a 6ft fence erected around the frontage with no planning permission. Mr J Barber said he would report it to planning enforcement.  Cllr Spratt reported there had been a meeting on 6th March about devolution, South Norfolk and Broadland Councils were opposed to it.  He said there had been a documentary about water authorities emptying sewage into rivers which seemed at odds with the issues on nutrient neutrality.  Country file had screened a 10-minute film on East Anglia GREEN. There were some contradictory reports on the costs of on-shore vs off-shore. Cllr Spratt had forwarded a letter about the potential costs of the 2 options. This was circulated to parish councillors.  Cllr Spratt said there were concerns about voter id which will be in place for the elections in May.  Broadland and South Norfolk had won a future councils funding £750k to improve digital and cyber improvement within the council. | **JB** |
|  | **To confirm minutes of the last meeting held on 9th February 2023 and to review matters arising**  The minutes of the February meeting were proposed as an accurate record of the meeting by Mr J Barber; Mrs Middleton seconded the proposal which was unanimously agreed. The chairman signed the minutes.  **Matters arising**  Mr J Barber had submitted the parish council’s comments on the village clusters consultation.  Nomination forms were being completed for the parish council elections. |  |
|  | **To review, consider and agree the new code of conduct**  Mr D Barber had written and circulated a new code of conduct.  Mr J Barber proposed new code of conduct be adopted, Mrs Brown seconded the proposal which was agreed by a majority vote. It would be uploaded to the website. | **CJ** |
|  | **To consider planning application 2023/0423 and agree any comments**  **Proposal: Demolish existing dwelling and creation of new dwelling**  **Location: Hadfield Main Road Swardeston Norfolk NR14 8AD**  After discussion it was agreed to support the application but to note asbestos was present on site and conditions should be attached for the correct management of this. | **CJ** |
|  | **To consider the purchase of a coronation commemorative bench**  After discussion Mr D Barber proposed that the parish council purchase a coronation commemorative bench with the King Charles III cypher, the bench would match the Queen’s platinum jubilee bench. Mr J Barber seconded proposal the which was unanimously agreed. The same installation method would be used with railway sleepers as a base. | **DB** |
|  | **To consider possible road-crossing options for Main Road**  No update had been received from Cllr Elmer. Cllr Legg said that the head of highways planning had offered to provide advice on what was required on new builds.  Mr D Barber would chase Cllr Elmer and the highways engineer. | **DB** |
|  | **To consider issues with speeding traffic**  See item 8. |  |
|  | **To consider and agree a generic email address for the parish council**  An update had been received from NALC that the progress from the cabinet office was slow but a local resolution was being considered and was hopeful that there would be an update by the end of March. |  |
|  | **To consider any action on the offshore wind and solar farms and East Anglia GREEN**  The Orsted work had commenced the field was being excavated. |  |
|  | **To agree to repair the grass in the play area**  There were several places that needed to be repaired, advice had been received to rake the ground, reseed and repeat if necessary. It was agreed to purchase some seed and MR D Barber said he would go and buy it. | **DB** |
|  | **To receive an update on the defibrillator**  The defibrillator had been checked on 10/03/23 and The Circuit had been updated. |  |
|  | **To agree a new bank signatory to replace Mrs Brown**  As it was not known who the new parish councillors would be it was agreed to adjourn this issue to the May meeting. |  |
|  | **To consider and agree the litter pick for 2023**  The date of the litter pick would be 22nd April 2023, Mrs Brown would register with the district council and it would be advertised in the newsletter ideally 15 to 20 volunteers would be found.  The May meetings were discussed.  The annual general meeting would take place at 7.00pm on 11th May 2023 followed by May meeting at 7:30  The annual parish meeting would take place on 25th May 2023 at 7.30pm |  |
|  | **Finance**   * 1. **To review and agree financial statement to 9th March 2023**   The financial statement was proposed as an accurate record by Mr J Barber, this was seconded by Mrs MIddleton and unanimously agreed.   * 1. **To agree invoices for payment in accordance with budget**   The following payments were agreed:  BACS £389.16 South Norfolk Council Dog waste collection  BACS £105.99 C Jowett Clerks salary  BACS £70.40 HMRC PAYE  BACS £660.00 Corido Commemorative bench  The payments were reviewed; Mrs Middleton proposed the payments be approved, Mrs Brown seconded the proposal which was unanimously agreed. |  |
|  | **To consider correspondence received**  Norse had written with an 8.4% increase although the quote received when it had been requested for the budget setting had not reflected this. The increase was accepted on the basis that there was sufficient in the budget to pay the additional amount. |  |
|  | **To adjourn the meeting for public participation**  No items were raised. |  |
|  | **To agree agenda items for the next meeting on 13th April 2023 commencing at 7.30pm at Swardeston village hall**  To consider possible road-crossing options for the Main Road and issues with speeding traffic  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 agree to repair the grass on the play area  **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/) | | |