

SWETTENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held
on 18 January 2021 using zoom.us

Present:	Councillors Andow, Shaw, Keen, Kirk & Martin; Clerk & RFO, Mrs P Sturrock; CEC Cllr Wray	
Item	Detail	Action
1	Apologies: None	
2	Declaration of interest. Cllr Martin declared an Interest in Item 8 c. as the owner of Long Lane Farm and would abstain from the vote	
3	Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 16 November 2020 The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 16 November were accepted. . Proposed: Cllr Andow Seconded: Cllr Keen Carried Unanimously	
4	Public Forum: There were no questions from members of the public.	
5	Matters Arising: There were none	
6	<p>Finance:</p> <p>a. Finance Report to January 2021 The RFO had produced a financial report for the period to 18th January 2021 showing balances of £4645.29 in the current account, after approval of payments on the agenda, and £2034.86 in the reserve account. In January 2020 it had been minuted that the Clerk’s salary would be reviewed in January 2021. The Clerk reminded the Council that the Clerk’s salary had been at Point 20 on the NJC payscale and this Point had been subdivided in 2019 into Points 9 and 10. It had been resolved that the Clerk’s salary would, with effect from 1st April 2019, be calculated by reference to Point 9 on the scale. After discussion it was RESOLVED that the Clerk’s salary would increase to Point 10 from April 2021 and would be reviewed in January 2022</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Proposed: Cllr Kirk Seconded: Cllr Keen Carried Unanimously</p> <p>b. Payments</p> <p>i. Payment of Clerk’s salary – December 2020 January 2021 - £376.48 Website staffing costs – December 2020 January 2021 - <u>£65.16</u> £441.64 All payments Proposed: Cllr Shaw Seconded: Cllr Martin Carried unanimously</p>	Clerk
7	<p>Cemetery & War Memorial</p> <p>a. The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Katy Jones at Peak Associates last week to ascertain that state of progress with Cheshire East and the Environment Agency. Unfortunately, she is having difficulty getting any response and will report back to the Clerk if there is any change. The Clerk has also had a request for a water meter reading and Cllr Andow said he would read the meter and advise the Clerk accordingly. The diseased hedging has been removed and Stuart Goostrey has sourced some new whips. Cllr Shaw said that the whips should be at least 3 feet high and of the same species as before even though the height of the whips means they would be more expensive than smaller ones. Stuart Goostrey has removed the external cemetery gates and has revarnished them.</p> <p>b. Damage has been caused to the headstone of Mr Davies. It is not clear how it has happened. The family have decided that they do not wish to replace the headstone at the moment</p> <p>c. No Applications have been received for any new memorials or inscriptions</p>	Clerk Cllr Andow

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8	<p>Planning</p> <p>a. Planning Application No 20/5278C Beechwood Bungalow, Forty Acre Lane Kermincham for removal of Condition 2 on approval 5/4/5290 for farmworker's cottage. This application has already been decided by Cheshire East and the application has been approved.</p> <p>b. Planning Application No 20/5553C and 20/555C The Old Smithy The Courtyard Swettenham for proposed two storey extension for additional kitchen and bedroom space and listed building consent. Following a discussion, it was resolved that the Parish Council had no comments to make on this application.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Proposed: Cllr Shaw Seconded: Cllr Keen Carried Unanimously</p> <p>c. Planning Application 20/5698C Long Lane Farm Kermincham for the erection of a replacement portal frame building used to stable horses. Following a discussion, it was resolved that the Parish Council had no comments to make on this application.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Proposed: Cllr Kirk Seconded: Cllr Shaw 4 for; 0 against; 1 abstention Carried Unanimously</p> <p>d. Planning Application 20/5804C Rowley Hall Forty Acre Lane Kermincham for an extension to garages. Following a discussion, it was resolved that the Parish Council had no comments to make on this application.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Proposed: Cllr Martin Seconded: Cllr Andow Carried Unanimously</p>	
9	<p>Highways Maintenance & Footpaths/Bridlepaths</p> <p>There was a long discussion about the state of various roads in the Parish and the poor repairs carried out by Cheshire East (notably Messuage Lane). The order to close Sandy Lane pending repair expires on January 31st but no work has started and the road is still deteriorating. CEC Cllr Wray suggested that the Parish Council prioritised the major issues and submit these to Richard Cooper who is the Area Highways Engineer. Cllr Kirk reminded the Council that there had been a site meeting with Richard Cooper in September 2019 but of the issues highlighted at that meeting, only Messuage Lane had been repaired and in such a poor way that the repairs are already breaking up so a waste of public money. Cllr Wray also asked the Clerk to advise him of the roads in question and he would put these through the appropriate channels at Cheshire East. The concern is that the state of certain roads could lead to a serious accident. Cllr Wray said he would enquire how often the roads are checked in rural areas.</p> <p>The main areas of concern are Congleton Road, which is the most heavily used road in the parish and is also on a school bus route – at the bend at the top of Mill Bank (where there are numerous potholes on one side and the carriageway is breaking away at the other) and also at the bridge over Swettenham Brook (where the camber of the road has dropped several inches since the bridge repair a couple of years ago); Swettenham Lane – where the camber of the road is falling away towards the steep hill down to Brook House Farm and also on either side of the newly resurfaced area near Folly Farm where potholes are appearing; Sandy Lane which remains closed despite being an adopted road and is the only alternative route out of Swettenham village should there be a blockage in Swettenham Lane between the top of Sandy Lane and Congleton Road.</p>	Clerk
10	<p>Standing Orders</p> <p>The Standing Orders of the Council were reviewed and it was agreed that no amendments were required. It was RESOLVED to adopt the Standing Orders as they stand</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Proposed: Cllr Shaw Seconded: Cllr Mrs Kirk Carried unanimously</p>	

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11	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Correspondence, received since the date of the last meeting, appended to these minutes (but not displayed on notice board), was noted by the Council.</p>	
	<p>Date of next meeting. Resolved: to note the date of the next scheduled council meeting as Monday 15 March 2021 which will commence at 7:30pm.</p>	

Signed.....RS Andow Chairman

18/01/2021