

SWALLOWCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting
held on Zoom (Videoconferencing)
on **Thursday 14th January 2021** at 7:00pm

Present: Cllr. Stephen Banas (Chairman)
Cllr. Gerald Blundell
Cllr. Nigel Cooke
Cllr. Patrick Willis
Cllr. Lyndsay Boothman



In Attendance: Cllr. Jose Green (Wiltshire Councillor)
Barry Fitzpatrick (Flood Warden)
Adrian Clarke (Footpaths Warden)
Simon Pritchard (Parish Clerk)

Number of Members of the Public in Attendance: Three

Public Participation:

- A Member of the Public had attended the meeting to introduce herself to Members as the future owner of Mulberry Cottage and to present a planning application that has now been submitted to Wiltshire Council to extend the Cottage to make it suitable to be a family home.

Item no:	
43	<u>Apologies for Absence:</u> None
44	<u>Declaration of Pecuniary Interests & Dispensations:</u> None
45	<u>Adoption of Minutes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Council - Thursday 15th October 2020▪ HR Panel - Wednesday 4th November 2020 <p>It was proposed by Cllr Willis to adopt the two sets of minutes, seconded by Cllr Cooke and resolved unanimously.</p>
46	<u>Wiltshire Councillor Jose Green's report:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Many Officers at Wiltshire Council have been seconded to other posts due to the Covid crisis.▪ Fovant and Sutton Mandeville have been connected to highspeed broadband by Openreach.▪ Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) survey is being undertaken now - this sets out local priorities and thus where resources and money are directed.▪ Tis the Future (shop bus) is looking for places to park .▪ The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is carrying out a survey - encourage everyone to participate. <p>Q: Is there any Wiltshire Council support for keeping permissive paths open?</p>



A: The Parish Council can apply to the Area Board for money.

47 Parish Councillors' reports:

A. Chairman's Report: Cllr. S Banas.

- Attended flood, snow and emergency training over three days with the Flood Warden.
- The defibrillator pads have been changed as they were coming up to their expiry date. Investigating refresher course for residents in its use.
- The work to the Bus Stop Bench and the two noticeboards will start in the summer when the weather is better.

B. The Village Hall Committee: Cllr. G Blundell

- The Hall is in good condition. It has not been used much this year. The 50/50 club is the best hope for income this year, would be good to get a bigger take up. £8,000 is in the bank.

C. Wiltshire Council South-West Area Board: Cllr. S Banas

- Since the last meeting have attended two Area Board meetings.
- Higgins Lane spy cameras (to deter fly tipping) cannot be put up by a public body without a magistrate's court order.

D. Footpaths / Rights of Way: Cllr. P Willis & Mr A. Clarke

- Covid has delayed works to the footpath by The Mill.
- Will continue to pursue the landowner of the permissive path on the Downs to keep it open.
- All footpaths in Parish are in a good condition.

E. Highways (Inc Parish Steward): Cllr. S Banas

- The shared Speed Indicator Device (SID) is temporarily located outside Mulberry House on Common Lane. This was identified as the location with highest speeds in the March 2017 survey by Wiltshire Council (WC).
- Have been talking to one of the landowners along Higgins lane and they have started work to clear back the overhanging trees. Will be in contact with other two landowners soon.
- Have brought the issue of excess rainwater flowing from Common Lane to Higgins Lane to the attention of the Highways Engineer. Plan is to improve the ditch and pipe bypass arrangements. Also requested that blocked gully outside Nut Tree House be investigated further.
- Have applied to WC CATG for a grant and erection of village gates on Common Lane. These will include the official 30 mph signs. The project has made it to the "top five" active projects list.
- Lake House pothole, have raised ticket for WC to fix as this appears to be on council land.

F. Local Planning & Development: Cllr. G Blundell

- Wiltshire Council is currently consulting on its Traveller & Gypsy strategy - The site proposed are all around the large towns.
- Have noted that the Local Plan does allow some provision for housing in the Villages.

G. Financial Policy: Cllr. G Blundell



- The general policy has been to decrease the PC tax rate while increasing the general reserves.

H. South-West Wiltshire Community Safety Group: Cllr. N Cooke

- No meeting of this group has taken place since the last Parish council meeting.
- Have been in contact with the police about speeding along Common Lane. Response is that policing is spread very thinly. A community speedwath was again suggested as this would help build up information. Cllr Banas pointed out that the SID does also collect statistics.

I. Flood Warden / Emergency Planning: Cllr. L Boothman & Mr. B Fitzpatrick

- There has been a lot of rain, but the ditches have been kept clear.

J. Litter Management: Cllr Boothman

- Due to Covid it is not possible to plan a community litter pick but encourage everyone to do what they can when they have the time.

K. Ultrafast Broadband in the Village:

- This is being installed now. Some residents are already online and say they have noticed the improvement.

L. Village Communications Group:

- The Chairman expressed his thanks to all six members of this group.
- Information now available includes:
 - A newcomer welcome letter and local information leaflet
 - A quarterly Swallowcliffe newsletter
 - A local business directory
- The group also oversees our electronic village communications:
 - Village Email Group
 - Covid Support Facebook site
 - General Village Information Facebook site
 - WhatsApp Community Group

48 FINANCE:

A. Payments:

1. Milborne Port PC - Contribution to CiLCA registration - £25.00
2. SP Services - Defibrillator pads - £50.34
3. Cllr Banas - SID post concrete - £20.88 (Payment already made on 28th Nov 2020)
4. Cllr Blundell - Newsletter printing - £110.00 (Payment made on 28th Nov 2020)
5. Mr S. Pritchard - Annual salary - £1,308.48
6. HMRC - PAYE annual payment - £327.00
7. Milborne Port PC - Zoom meetings (Apr 20 - Mar 21) - £30.00
8. Mr S. Pritchard - Annual Expenses - £20.97

The Chairman proposed that the payment was made, this was seconded by Cllr Blundell and resolved unanimously.

B. Bank reconciliation, payments and spend against budget to date:

Received. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for the way the information was so clearly set out.



49	<p><u>Planning and Tree Applications:</u> To receive and resolve upon any local tree & planning applications made to Wiltshire Council: (None)</p>
50	<p><u>Privacy Notice:</u> This had been circulated to members ahead of the meeting. Comment was made that it should have an explanation in the front cover as to what it is. It was agreed to defer this agenda item to a future date.</p>
51	<p><u>Appointment of Internal Auditor 2020/21:</u> The Clerk recommended the reappointment of Nicky Phillips if she is willing to undertake the work. It was proposed by the Chairman to reappoint Mrs Phillips, seconded by Cllr Blundell and resolved unanimously.</p>
52	<p><u>Parish Council Meetings Dates 2021/22:</u> Agreed as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 22nd July 2021 ▪ 14th October 2021 ▪ 13th January 2022 ▪ 17th March 2022 <p>12th May 2022</p>
53	<p><u>Village Phone Box - Decommission & Adoption - Update:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Clerk reported that the next step was for BT to remove the phone and they would be in contact with him again when this had been done. The Chairman reported that the phone had been removed in the last few days. ▪ It was agreed that the electricity should be disconnected. ▪ A resident has agreed to straighten the box, charging only for any materials used. ▪ Noted that the internal shelving could be improved. ▪ It should be kept (post office) red. The clerk is investigating a painting kit from BT.
54	<p><u>Village Gateways:</u> It was proposed by the Chairman to spend (up to) £715 on a set of village gateways along Common Lane and an extra 30 mph repeater sign, seconded by Cllr Willis and resolved - For: 4 Abstention: 1</p>
55	<p><u>Tis' the Future Refill Project:</u> It was agreed that the Parish council was generally supportive of this project, but there were very few places that it would be able to park in the village. Outside Post Office Cottage was suggested or the project could contact The Royal Oak to see if its car park can be used. The council is happy to post a list of the dates that the van would visit the Parish, but not so keen on the suggestion that the van may play an ice cream van style chime.</p>



56

Parish Council Precept & Budget 2021/22:

The proposed budget had been circulated to members. It was noted that this would see a reduction to the householder of 5%

The Chairman proposed that the 2021/22 precept was set at £4,318, seconded by Cllr Blundell and resolve unanimously.

Meeting Closed at 20:47

Signed Chairman: _____ **Date:** _____

Email: Swallowcliffepc1@gmail.com

Website: www.swallowcliffeparishcouncil.org.uk/

Next Meeting: Thursday 18th March 2021

