Swallowcliffe Parish Council

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held at the Village Hall on Thursday 19th October2023 at 7pm

19.10.01 Those present and apologies for absence

Present: Cllrs. S. Banas (Chairman), N. Oborne, N. Cooke, A. Brockway, P. Willis

In attendance: T. Culver-James (Clerk), 3 members of the public.

Apologies: Wiltshire Cllr. N. Najjar, B. Fitzpatrick.

19.10.02 Declarations of Interest

None made.

19.10.03 Chairman's Introduction

The Chairman opened the meeting, paying particular note to the telephone box library refurbishment, thanking David Lunn for the carpentry expertise. This skill was also gratefully noted on attending to water ingress to the village noticeboard. He also made mention of the continued care and maintenance of the defibrillator and a recent training session held for staff of the Royal Oak public house .

19.10.04 Resolution of minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th July 2023 were approved and signed into the record.

19.10.05 Report from Wiltshire Councillor

Apologies having been received from NN, none made.

19.10.06 Planning matters requiring Consideration/Resolution

PL/2023/07895 Poles Farm, Swallowcliffe, Wiltshire SP3 5NX. Demolition of existing barns and erection of new four bed residential home and detached car/port/garden store.

PL/2023/07876 Poles Farm, Swallowcliffe, Wiltshire SP3 5NX. Proposed rear extension, replacement conservatory and conversion of attached outbuilding to an existing grade 2 listed farmhouse, with other internal and external alterations. Conversion of listed curtilage barn to ancillary accommodation. Alterations to listed curtilage existing office, demolition of existing implement store and replacement with an attached WC and garage/car port. Alterations to the highway to add bollards.

PL/2023/08256 Poles Farm, Swallowcliffe, Wiltshire SP3 5NX. Works to a Listed Building as detailed above.

Councillors resolved to object to these applications, comments submitted to Wiltshire Council 22nd October 2023.

19.10.07 Financial matters requiring Consideration/Resolution

£1020 VH woodworm treatment; £753.88 VH emergency generator wiring; £1152 to be transferred to reserves (deposit account) for future charges by Wiltshire Council for pedestrian gates; £119.99

Hampshire Generators (SB) for generator cover; £150.82 telephone box materials; £70.00 finger post repair (NC); £240.00 Website Hosting 2021-25; £45 for daffodil bulbs. All approved unanimously.

Clerk to action VAT recovery. Whilst awaiting the tax base figure from Wiltshire Council, consideration to be made regarding precept application and draft budget for the next meeting.

19.10.08 Village Hall report

Noted that it is the Parish Council acting as a corporate trustee, not individual councillors. The current years accounts need to filed with the Charities Commission-Clerk to action. Confirmed that the Village Hall committee is liable for insurances.

19.10.09 Footpaths/Rights of Way

Ongoing audit and survey of issues arising, including signage.

19.10.10 Village maintenance

Note made of the fingerpost-capping being installed and split post by church triangle needing repair.

19.10.11 Environmental initiatives

Confirmed that a litter pick to be organised on November 18th. 720 daffodil bulbs planted around Bottom Road and Gigant Street.

19.10.12 Highways matters

Reported that tree at junction of Bottom Road/A30 has been removed by Wiltshire, although there remains brambles and scrub to be cleared. Remedial works also undertaken at Village Hall and West End road surfaces.

The Speed Indicator Device programme continues, although an element of volunteer fatigue is a risk. Quotation for a new device is being sought. Also noted that road closure notification is erratic.

19.10.13 Emergency Planning/Resilience

Generator for hardwiring into the Village Hall has been delivered, and the emergency circuit for this will be undertaken, costs to be met by the PC.

19.10.14 Matters arising and date of next meeting.

Next meeting is 11th January 2024, the main focus of which will be precept and budget issues.