SWANNINGTON with ALDERFORD & LITTLE WITCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council – Jim Graves C.Eng. M.I.E.T. D.M.S. M.C.M.I.
3 Lawn Close Horsford Norwich NR10 3DJ
01603 898621 salwparishcouncil@gmail.com

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON January 17th.2024

Present: Mrs.Sue Darling (Chair) Mrs.Helen Mutimer (Vice-chair) Mr.Steve Williams
Mr.John Powles Mr.Trevor Nelson Mr.D.Harvey

In attendance: Mr.J.Graves - Clerk Public – Seven Cllr.Bullman (BDC)

a) **Public Participation** Members of the public gave their views on dog fouling at Upgate Common, logs used to protect the SSSi area and speeding in the parish. They were also concerned at the rubbish at the front of a property in School Road.
b) **Police Report** There were no incidents recorded in October and two in November with cases closed.
c) **Norfolk County Council Report** N/a
d) **Broadland District Council Report** Cllr.Bullman spoke on the budget review at BDC and the potential closure of the nearby Bernard Matthews processing plant.
e) **Full Council Meeting**

1. **Apologies** None
2. **Declarations of Interest** None
3. **Minutes** of the meeting on November 15th. were confirmed and signed.
4. **Reports** The Clerk reported that the Council had contributed 10% of the cost of the new play equipment (£1505.04) with the rest being paid by a grant from Biffa. The Council's contribution came from s.106 planning agreement funds. BDC would not provide a dog bin at Upgate Common. The Council then resolved to purchase and install a bin at the entrance near the notice board and contract with BDC to empty it weekly.
5. **Co-option** The Council resolved to co-opt Mr.Douglas Harvey as a member of the Council
6. **Planning** No applications to consider
7. **Special Motion** Following a written request from three members, it was agreed to rescind the decision made at the November meeting to remove logs from the verge of the access track at Upgate common. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that the logs should remain in place to assist the Council in it's obligations to protect the grassland forming part of the SSSi. Concern was expressed about the mowing on the high ground to the left of the track and the Clerk would write to the person concerned requesting this to cease as it was contrary to the Council's obligations under the HLS agreement.
8. **Commons** Mr.Williams presented his commons report outlining the work recently carried out and future plans for the new year. This would include a significant amount of scrub clearance by a specialist contractor.
9. **Defibrillator** The Council decided that a site in the church porch would not be an easy access for those with less mobility and an offer from Mrs.Darling to site it on the wall of the Lodge at the end of the Manor drive was accepted. The Clerk would arrange purchase.
10. **Notice Board** It was agreed to accept the Clerk's report to purchase a new board made from "man made timber" to replace the one next to the bus shelter which was beyond repair.
11. **Parish Precept** Members considered a report from the Clerk on predicted expenditure for 2024/25 and decided that the precept should remain at £6,000.
12. **Correspondence** None
13. **Finance** The Clerk had provided an update of the Council's financial balances.

    Cheques signed between meetings:

Biffa Play area grant	10% from Council	£1.505.40
J.Graves	Salary and exp. (3rd.qtr. inc. PAYE)	£918.00
Cheque signed at the meeting		
Norfolk Conservation Corps		£33.00

14. **Clerk's and Councillors' Reports** NCC would be contacted regarding mud in Ketts Lane.
15. **The Next Meeting** will be at Swannington Church on Wednesday March 20th. at 7.30 p.m.