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.
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON July 16th. 2025

Present: Mrs.Sue Darling (Chair) Mr.Steve Williams Mrs.H.Mutimer (Vice-Chair)
Mr.T.Nelson Mr.C.Drayson Mr.J.Powles Mr.D.Harvey

In attendance: Mr.J.Graves - Clerk
Public – Sixteen

a) **Public Participation** Before starting discussions, the Clerk informed those present that the Parish Council would not be discussing a planning application at 12 Swan Close as this had been refused by Broadland DC earlier that day. Some present expressed their concern at various aspects that appeared to have been done already. The Clerk asked them to write directly to the planning dept. giving details. Residents also expressed their objections to the proposed solar farm at Alderford and urged the Council to lodge an objection.
b) **Police Report** There were no incidents reported.
c) **Norfolk County Council Report** Mr.Peck had circulated a report to members.
d) **Broadland District Council Report** n/a
e) **Full Council Meeting**

1. **Apologies** Mr.G.Peck (NCC), Mr.P.Bulman (BDC)
2. **Declarations of Interest** None
3. **Minutes** The minutes of the meeting on January 15th. were confirmed and signed.
4. **Reports** None
5. **Planning** 2025/1393 Double Cottage, Upgate – Erection of garage/annexe – No objection
   2025/1969 Land south of Hall Road, Alderford – Installation of solar farm – The Council expressed total opposition on the grounds that it would result in the loss of valuable arable land in a very rural area.
6. **Commons** Mr.Willams gave his report detailing work done by volunteers since the last meeting. He also stated that there was a dead ash tree on Alderford common and asked the Clerk to obtain a quotation for felling. It was likely that grass cutting required at Upgate would need to be carried out by a contractor as it was beyond the scope of volunteers.
7. **Benches** The Clerk had obtained quotes for various styles and construction. He was asked to obtain two further quotations from Norfolk manufacturers using local oak.
8. **E-mail** The Clerk reported that it was recommended that all Councils changed to a gov.uk email address and this was likely to be mandatory in the future. He could arrange this at no charge via Norfolk PTS. He was authorised to proceed with the change.
9. **Correspondence** None
10. **Finance** The Clerk had provided an update of the Council's financial balances.

Cheque signed between meetings:		
Nurture Landscapes	Mowing (inc.VAT)	£129.02
J.Graves	Salary & Exp. 1st.Qtr. (inc. PAYE)	£849.77
Cheques signed at meeting:		
Norfolk Cons. Corps	Works at commons	£19.50
Nurture Landscapes	Mowing (inc.VAT)	£129.02
Soanes Signs	Commons signs (inc.VAT)	£120.00
Norfolk ALC	Website Fee (inc.VAT)	£84.00
PLG Ltd.	Post for common (inc.VAT)	£19.66

11. **Clerk's and Councillors' Reports** The Clerk was asked to contact NCC Highways and ask for signs indicating motorists were entering Alderford. He would also chase up a report on the structural defects on the bridge in Swannington. The Clerk would write to a resident in The Street to ask for the front hedge to be cut back to improve visibility.
12. **Next Meeting** Swannington Church – Wed. September 17th. at 7.30 p.m.