# 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 MARCH 18th. 2026**

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

In attendance: Mr.J.Graves - Clerk Mr.P.Bulman (BDC) Mr.G.Peck (NCC) Public – One

a) **Public Participation** A resident expressed concern at speeding on Reepham Road in Alderford. This was discussed with Mr.Peck who explained the criteria and costs of change to the speed limit.
b) **Police Report** There were no incidents recorded in January.
c) **Norfolk County Council Report** Mr.Peck reported that NCC had completed a balanced budget with a Council tax increase of 4.99%. He confirmed that he would not be standing at the election on May 7th.
d) **Broadland District Council Report** Mr.Bulman confirmed that Broadland had left their part of Council tax frozen. The proposed Alderford solar farm had been refused by the planning committee but it could be the subject of an appeal.
e) **Full Council Meeting**

1. **Apologies** Mr.J.Powles
2. **Declarations of Interest** None
3. **Minutes** The minutes of the meeting on January 21st. were confirmed and signed.
4. **Reports** The Clerk reported that the new oak benches for the commons would be delayed as the supplier had recently been in hospital. The situation would be reviewed at the next meeting. The broken stile reported at the previous meeting was being dealt with by Norfolk County Council who were in discussion with the landowner to effect a repair.
5. **Planning** 2023/0366 Land adjacent to Winston House, Felthorpe Road – Replacement agricultural buildings etc. – No objection.
6. **Commons** Mr.Willams gave his report detailing work done by volunteers and the future work plan.
7. **Highways** A letter had been received from the highways engineer regarding the Parish Council's request for priority signage at Alderford Bridge. He stated that in the absence of reports of accidents, he was unable to put this forward for funding.
8. **Correspondence** Nurture Landscapes had confirmed a 7% increase in mowing costs for the 2026 season. A Letter had been received from Swannington Church regarding heating charges and it was agreed to pay £120 towards costs. The Council had also received details of the running costs of the Pilgrim Newsletter and the Council agreed to make a grant of £250.
9. **Finance** The Clerk had provided an update of the Council's financial balances.

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| J.Graves | Salary & Exp. (inc.PAYE) 4th. Qtr. | £874.79 |
| Broadland DC | Dog bin emptying (inc.VAT) | £286.40 |

10. **Clerk's and Councillors' Reports**
11. **Next Meeting** Swannington Church – Wed. May 20th. at 7.30 p.m.