



MEETING OF SWIMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL
THURSDAY 8TH JUNE 2023 at 7.30 PM SWIMBRIDGE JUBILEE HALL

MINUTES

Public Session

Guest Speakers

Cllr Lane reported that 6 houses have been allocated for Afghan families and 66 bed spaces for refugees at the Chivenor site.

2023.49 Apologies and attendance – apologies received from Cllr Haworth-Booth. In attendance Cllrs Knill, Wadsworth, Ackland and Wright and District Cllr Lane

2023.50 Declarations of Interest – none received

2023.51 Minutes of previous meeting – these were agreed and signed

2023.52 Correspondence

SWW – works to be carried out to pumping station. This was discussed and it was agreed that we would request an on site meeting to discuss the following:

- a. The planings have been stored on the car park ready for the installation of the perimeter path so there is limited space available already.
- b. Access to the Air Ambulance landing site may become restricted.
- c. Possibly request a contribution.

Environment Agency – Water Dropwort – the clerk has reported this to the Environment Agency. They will clear the stream later in the summer.

2023.53 Speed consultation/Community Speedwatch update – this will be discussed at the next meeting as Cllr Haworth-Booth is not in attendance.

2023.54 Repairs to bench on square/installation of bus shelter. The bench on the square has deteriorated due to age, not vandalism. David Netherway has suggested that he would supply an oak bench, but the Council's preference would be to purchase a new bench made from re-cycled materials. Cllr Lane offered £200 toward this, the clerk will submit a grant application. It was not considered appropriate to have a bus shelter on the square.

2023.54 Committee Reports

1. Planning

77139 – Summermoor Vineyard

Comment : The planning committee of Swimbridge parish council visited the site on 1 June 2023 and discussed the proposed change of use with the owner, Mr Robert Penfold. The committee can see no reason why this application should not be approved. Declaration of potential conflict of interest: the chair of Swimbridge PC planning committee, Cllr M Haworth-Booth, lives within about 100 metres of the property at Hearson. He has spoken to the applicant from time to time as a near neighbour over the past few years.

The submission of planning responses was discussed. Councillors agreed that the planning committee should formulate the appropriate response to applications, and that this should be discussed and agreed by full council at the next available meeting. If the date of the meeting does not fall within the time frame of the consultation, the clerk will notify the planning department of this.

2. Finance

Proposal for purchase of laptop and printer for clerk. The clerk has previously explained to the Councillors that the PC used by her to carry out the PC business is also used privately, and has suffered a failure to the hard drive. It would seem sensible at this point to purchase a completely separate system, with a dedicated email address and Microsoft office account so that this can be passed on completely if a change of personnel occurs. Councillors agreed to this and suggested allowing a purchase of up to £1000 and that the system purchased should be of the highest specification.

3. Community Engagement/Glebe Field

One of the cross-members on the rope walkway has failed – Toucchwood were informed and have made repairs. At the same time they have checked all other pieces of equipment. Their report is attached.

The brash from the hedge clearance has now been cleared.

The fencing for the toddlers play area has been ordered.

Capital depreciation was discussed, and it was agreed that the PC should build up funds (together with Parklands committee) for replacement of equipment in 10-20 years. This will be discussed by the Finance Committee when budget setting.

4. Media Committee

Nothing to report.

2023.55

Payments for approval :

Clerks Salary	£301.69
Ian Rowsell	£60.00
Rhino Contractors	£50.00
EDF Energy	£186.06
A&M Contractors	£655.00

All payments agreed

2023.56

Items for discussion at next meeting

Quote for grass cutting from Andrew Mouton