

MINUTES OF THE AGM OF SWIMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

THURSDAY 8th MAY 2025 at 7.30 PM SWIMBRIDGE JUBILEE HALL

Public Session

Guest Speakers

Cllr Lane reported that he had attempted to find out who owns the streetlights in Archipark but has had no luck. No further action will be taken.

Cllr Haworth-Booth reported that the White Cross wind farm proposal has been approved by the Planners. He has reported several potholes at Yarnacott, but has been told that they do not warrant repair. The HATOC meeting has not yet taken place, so he will wait for that, but also suggested passing this problem to the new County Councillor.

2025.53 **Apologies and attendance** – no apologies received all in attendance

2025.54 **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Knill declared an interest in Item 2025.66 (1)

2025.55(a) **Minutes of previous meeting**

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 11th April 2025 – agreed and signed

(b) **Any matters arising from the minutes** – no matters arising

2025.56 **Chairmans Report**

I would firstly like to thank all the councillors – parish, district and county for all their hard work this past year. Together we have achieved some amazing things - the Party in the Park last year was fantastic, helped by the glorious weather. We will try and build on that success at this year's event which is being held on 14th June. We are struggling to get volunteers to help on the day, so please ask friends and family if they are available for a couple of hours to help out. The Green Team has been a great project – thanks to Susie and Andy Hind and also thanks to David Netherway and Cllr Haworth-Booth for helping with projects in the Park. The Glebe Field is looking great now that we have a new maintenance contractor – thanks to Rob Parish for doing a fantastic job, and thanks to Cllr Wadsworth for sorting out the contract. Lots of potholes have been repaired in the area thanks to Cllr Haworth-Booth, but there are still more waiting to be filled. We are also proud to support the Churchyard maintenance – it does make a difference as our churchyard is in the centre of the village and many people walk through. We are also looking forward to the building of a new school. All Councillors are in support of this project despite there being a few initial problems. There is a meeting next week to talk through some of the issues.

At this point I will stand down as Chairman.

2025.57 **Election of Chairman** – Nominations for Chairman – Cllr Knill was nominated and seconded and elected unanimously. Cllr Knill will now re-take his seat as Chairman.

2025.58 **Election of vice-chairman** – Nominations for Vice-Chairman – Cllr Wadsworth was nominated, seconded and elected unanimously.

2025.59 **Appointment of representatives on Committees** – it was agreed that all Councillors will remain on the same committees.

2025.60 **Reports from Community Groups**

Reports received from The Green Team, The Jubilee Hall and the Coffee Club (all reports attached)

Councillors wish to thank all the Community Groups for the work they do. The Green Team has made sure that the village and wider community areas are looking fantastic. The Coffee Club has been a huge success and the Jubilee Hall is regarded as one of the best village halls in the area.

2025.61 **Meeting dates for 2023-24** – it was decided to keep to the current format i.e. Meetings on the second Thursday of every month, except August and December. The dates for this coming year will therefore be:

12th June, 10th July, 11th September, 9th October, 13th November, 8th January 2026, 12th February 2026, 12th March 2026

Signed _____

2025.62

Correspondence

Andrew Wills – parking

Graham Davies – new school building _ Cllr Wadsworth reported that Morgan Sindall has been appointed as contractors for the new school building. There is now a Consulting Architect, Avalon, who has asked to meet with the Councillors.

Cathy Scoffield – to thank the Parish Council for the maintenance grant.

2025.63

Speed consultation/Community Speedwatch – nothing to report

2025.64

Telephone Box – Cllr Wadsworth reported that there are no major structural works required. It was therefore decided to find a local shot blasting company to strip the paint in situ, and then have the box painted. It will then be necessary to have a meeting to decide on the final internal works.

2025.65

Archipark – Already discussed - this item will be now be removed from the agenda

2025.66

Committee Reports

1. Planning

80134 – Building of summer house 7 Archipark _ (Cllr Knill declared an interest in this item)

The only issue would be one of privacy – submit 'no comment'

76490 – 20 Station Hill, Swimbridge – garden works **APPROVED**

79944 – Marsh Plain – erection of 2 houses – changes to hedgerow and plots **APPROVED**

79966 – Old Vicarage, Swimbridge – Tree work **APPROVED**

Cllr Haworth-Booth also agreed to check back on the planning portal to determine what planning approvals have been granted at Summermoor.

2. Finance

Accounts balances at 30TH April 2025:

Current account £2971.49 Reserve account £10570.14

AGAR to be approved and signed – the accounts were examined and approved and signed by the Chairman.

It was agreed to the transfer of reserves - £1500 to Capital Replacement and £500 to General Reserves.

Upgrade website and clerks email address to gov.uk format. It was agreed that this should be done.

3. Community Engagement/Glebe Field/Green Team

Works intended in the Park and village this year are:

The path around the dogwalking area will be renovated

A shelter will be installed on the Glebe Field

Ducks are to be re-introduced on the stream. Cllr Wadsworth has identified an area suitable for the installation of a pen. The cost for ducklings will be approximately £200. All agreed that this could be spent.

4. Media.

Cllr Brown will be given access to the Council's Facebook page.

2025.67

Payments for approval

Clerks Salary	£321.60
Ian Rowsell	£60.00
Robert Parish	£500.00
DALC	£321.60
Playsafety	£134.40
S Hind – expenses	£140.30 and £73.98
NDC - Dog Bins	£164.11
All payments approved	

2024.52

Items to be added to agenda for the next meeting.

To agree the purchase of 3 gazebos for the Glebe Field @ £157 each. District Cllr Lane offered £100 towards the cost from his Cllr Grant, and the remainder will be from the reserve funds.

Signed _____