

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SWANNIGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD
MONDAY 8TH JULY 2019 AT 7PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT; Councillors Mr Paul Holliday (Chairman); Mr Roger Cairns; Miss Helen Foster; Mr Vic Whitehouse and Mr Brian Duncombe (Clerk)

There were 39 members of the public in attendance.

79/2019 –APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies had been received from Councillors Roy Harban and Stephen Concannon which were accepted.

80/2019 –APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and resolved the minutes of the last parish council meeting be signed by the Chairman as a true record of that meeting.

81/2019 –MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

*Latest VAS signs data given to Members which showed that the slight reduction of speeds mentioned last month is being retained

*Notice Boards, Roy Harban is to carry out this work on return from holiday.

*Neighbourhood Plan- Brian reminded Members that the next meeting of the Advisory Committee is next Monday 15th July at 6;30pm. We need at least 2 members of the Parish Council to attend. The grant application for £9,000 has been approved.

82/2019 –POLICE REPORT

No Police were in attendance, Latest crime figures show 1 reported crime in May, criminal damage and arson on or near Forrester Close. Complaints were received over parking on grass verges and blocking footpaths, as well as tractors/trailers going through the village at 2;10AM. Resolved Police be informed.

83/2019 –HOUSING MATTERS

Nothing to report

84/2019 –CORRESPONDENCE FOR DISCUSSION

*Temporary Road Traffic Orders have been received from LCC Highways – Preston Lane/Moor Lane for new cabling work to be undertaken from 16th September for a period not exceeding 4 weeks

*Proposed 40mph speed limit on parts of Spring Lane from 30mph.,plus a reduction from 60mph to the above 40mph.Members objected strongly to this increase and resolved Clerk is to send in our objections.

*NWLDC notified us of any event we ,or any group may organise, plastic cups can be supplied, where if returned a refund of £1 is given, Noted.

Also they informed us of the next Code of Conduct Training course to be held on Thursday 5th September at Whitwick Park, North Street. Members to be reminded nearer this date.

NWLDC sent details of the Parish Fair they are organising on Wednesday 25th September, 5pm at Moira Village Hall. Also noted.

*Request received from a Joanne Lowe for publicity to be given to a project she is organising through RCC, on how to help people to get into employment, volunteering or training. Resolved we publicise this. She is willing to come to a Parish Council meeting to explain the project in more detail. Noted for now.

85/2019 – CLERKS REPORT

Reply received from County Council on the Community Speedwatch posters placed around the village , which had caused the Clerk some irritation and upset. They stated we supplied them with locations some time ago but this was queried. They should have come down by 5th July however.

86/2019 – OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

The formal meeting was adjourned to receive questions and comments from members of the public – e.g parking on grass verges etc

Open Gardens Day approximately £5,000 raised to date. Thanks to everyone involved.

87/2019 – PLANNING MATTERS

Decisions - .Application 19/00235/FUL for erection of stable and outbuildings, change of use of land etc at Lower Comfrey Cottage, has been PERMITTED by NWLDC.

Applications – 19/00761/FUL- re-modelling of existing single storey dwelling to a 2 storey dwelling at 20 Spring Lane, No objections as we were in favour of the previous plans.

19/01162/FUL –erection of 2 storey front and rear extensions, single storey front and rear extensions and single storey outbuilding at 47 Station Hill. Members had no objections.

19/01060/FUL- erection of replacement dwelling and garaging at 65 St Georges Hill.

Members had no objections but resolved we inform NWLDC that we will object strongly if any plan is submitted to change the route of the public footpath at this location

19/00929/FUL- change of use of land to 3xGypsy/Traveller pitches comprising 3 mobile homes, 3 touring caravans and 3 day rooms and associated works including hardstanding and parking spaces on land off Limby Hall Lane. Members had very ,very strong objections to this application which to start with is outside the limits for development. Other comments - there are no services on site; entering and exiting this site off Limby Hall Lane would cause problems, it would have a visual impact on this pleasant, rural location, and if allowed, other

applications would surely follow. As pointed out, Swannington Parish has an above average total of gypsy/travellers sites. At this point the Chairman opened the meeting as most of the public present had come to express their fears and concerns over this application. Most of their comments were similar to those mentioned by Councillors i.e visual impact; highway problems; lack of services and most likely more applications would follow.

District Councillor Russell Boam, a member of the Planning Committee at NWLDC, was then invited to speak. He listened to residents concerns and advised them to be sent to Hannah Exley, Planning Officer at NWLDC, by 19th July.. He also stated he would raise the concerns and objections of residents at the next Planning Committee meeting, especially as the site was outside Limits for Development.

The Chairman then invited Nick Laister, Planning Consultant and his associate David Hancock on behalf of Mr Finney from Sinope, to outline the plans they have for “The Fisheries” Spring Lane. Mr Laister stated that although no official planning application had been submitted yet, drawings were available of the site of “The Village” These drawings did eventually say “subject to planning permission” This is for 103 lodges plus a shop, and restaurant but it WILL NOT be a permanent residential site. Estimated cost is around £10million, They will employ an experienced operator to build on site, done in stages, first stage to start early 2020., and marketed as “a rural retreat”, Planting will be improved at a cost of around £1.2 million; There will be economic benefits with around 25 jobs created; the reception/restaurant will be for locals to use; people could walk from Coalville to the site; and is in a tourist area!!

Residents then raised the following concerns – With one entrance/exit on Spring Lane traffic will be a problem; There are approximately 800 dwellings in Swannington so this would add considerably to the number of residents, an increase of around 20%? so it would be an over development! Swannington is not a tourist area as such despite being in the National Forest! There may well be an occupancy problem-what then? Already the felling of trees has caused upset; has it been fully costed?; Yes was the reply from Mr Laister. Councillor Roger Cairns then commented that the site is Outside the District Council “Limits for Development”, so should be objected to. In the past a number of applications were turned down originally but on appeal were permitted, so he asked residents to contact NWLDC Planning department with their objections. This is important. District Councillor Russell Boam stated that as no official Planning Application has been submitted yet he was not able to comment. Mr Laister and Mr Hancock were thanked for their presentation then they left the meeting.

88/2019 –COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS

Helen Foster reported that the website has been “hit” 25,000 times in the past 12 months

She is happy to continue as the Parish Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator. Also she attended the latest NWLDC Code of Conduct training course which was extremely useful and she felt all of our Members who had not been to a session, should attend the next one. It was pointed out copies of our meeting agendas should be on notice boards. Noted.

Paul Holliday reported on the latest Speedwatch session,400 speedsters caught!! Still some abuse from drivers e.g 1 x Coach driver. One landowner objected to them being there!!

89/2019 – VILLAGE HALL

Estimates had been received from Powerpac Ltd for rewiring the hall lights (£1,850) but no decision was made. Other improvements suggested – new blinds in the main hall – ceiling in the meeting room needs repairing as it leaks after rain. Mention was made of who holds keys to the hall, as one Saturday it had been opened when we went to unlock. Brian to mention to all user groups NOT to lend out keys.

90/2019 –FINANCE

The following accounts were presented for payment _ Clerks salary &expenses (2months) £936.20; Caretaker £424;NWLDC £21; EON Gas £155,Electricity £86; S.J.Smith £357.84;Viking Ltd £92.03;Coalville Cleaning Ltd £112.20;WestcoTec Ltd (Batteries)£393; Car Park cleaning £200; It was moved and resolved these accounts be paid;

Bank balances at 30th June –Current A/C £1,359.58 reserve A/C £25,625.96

91/2019 –DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 8th September at 7pm in the Village Hall

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 8:40pm

BRIAN DUNCOMBE - Clerk

15th July 2019