

**MINUTES OF THE SWINFEN AND PACKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2020 COMMENCING AT 7.03 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor Barnes in the Chair
Councillors Dyott, Loescher and Mrs Pope

In attendance:

Ms J Minor, Parish Clerk

PARISH FORUM

No members of the public were present.

25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Armstrong.

26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

27. MINUTES

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 22 July 2020 [Minute Nos. 15-24] as circulated, be approved as a correct record.

28. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bus Shelter Opposite Whittington Barracks

The Chairman made reference to the bus shelter opposite Whittington Barracks which was in need of repair. The Parish Clerk stated that a quotation had been received from Shelutions Urban Furniture Limited in the sum of £189.50 plus VAT but because of the Covid-19 emergency there had been a delay in the repair being undertaken. Hopefully the repair would be undertaken within the next month.

Packington Hall

The Chairman made reference to Packington Hall and updated Members on the current progress. He stated that the Coach House part had now got a roof on but there was still no electrics on site [still on generators] and that it was work in progress.

Whittington Heath Golf Club

The Chairman made reference to Whittington Heath Golf Club and informed Members that there was a chance for bidders to own pieces of Lichfield's golfing heritage as clubhouse items were being auctioned off by Lichfield based Richard Winterton Auctioneers on 24 September 2020.

Noticeboard at Botany Bay

Councillor Loescher made reference to the noticeboard in Jerry's Lane and asked if the Council had a legal requirement/obligation to maintain the noticeboard as the Council had a website. The Parish Clerk stated that she would email the Staffordshire Parish Councils Association [SPCA] to ascertain the legalities. Councillor Loescher informed Members that he would personally cut back the branches which were overhanging the noticeboard.

Website

Councillor Loescher asked how many "hits" the website got and the Parish Clerk stated that she would email MediaHeads to ascertain the information.

29. THE HIGH-SPEED RAIL PLANS

The Chairman stated that he personally did not agree with everything that HS2 were saying and felt that they were shutting the door on the bund and that the Parish Council had not received a satisfactory response to some previous minutes.

Councillor Loescher made reference to a piece of land, known as the environment mitigation area on the A51.

RESOLVED That Councillor Loescher would draft an email [to be sent by the Parish Clerk] to HS2 asking what their current proposes were for the piece of land on the A51.

30. WEBSITE

RESOLVED That the invoice in the sum of £200 plus VAT be approved [cheque no. 100567] in respect of work required to run various accessibility tests on the website and the development work to improve these and the creation of the accessibility statement.

31. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED That under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 (Section 2) (and as expended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information.

32. PARISH CLERK'S SALARY

RESOLVED That cheques be drawn in respect of the Parish Clerk's August 2020 [cheque number 100555] and September 2020 [cheque number 100558] salary, HMRC - August 2020 [cheque number 100556], Staffordshire Pension Fund - August 2020 [cheque number 100557], HMRC - September 2020 [cheque number 100559] and Staffordshire Pension Fund - September 2020 [cheque number 100560].

33. DATE, VENUE AND TIME FOR NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLVED That:
Wednesday 25 November 2020
Wednesday 27 January 2021
Wednesday 24 March 2021
Wednesday 19 May 2021

in the Conference Room 1, Conference Centre, HMP Swinfen commencing 7.00 p.m. be confirmed as the next Parish Council meetings.

(The Meeting closed at 7.23 pm)

Signed

Dated