

**MINUTES OF THE SWINFEN AND PACKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE
CONFERENCE CENTRE, HMP SWINFEN ON WEDNESDAY 19 JANUARY 2022
COMMENCING AT 7.08 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor Barnes in the Chair
Councillors Dyott and Loescher

In attendance:

Ms J Minor, Parish Clerk

PARISH FORUM

No members of the public were present.

50. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Armstrong, Mrs Phillips and Mrs Pope.

51. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Dyott made reference to discussions surrounding the development of HS2 which may affect his land.

52. MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Barnes, duly seconded and

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 10 November 2021 [Minute Nos. 38-49] as circulated, be approved as a correct record.

53. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Packington Hall

Councillor Barnes informed Members that he had been led to believe that 40% of the properties have been sold. They are being marketed by Paul Carr Estate Agents based in Sutton Coldfield.

54. THE HIGH-SPEED RAIL PLANS

Councillor Barnes stated that Councillors [himself and Councillor Loescher] held attended a meeting via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday 12 January 2022. He confirmed that the meeting was chaired by David Emery, Project

Director of Balfour Beatty Vinci. Also in attendance from Balfour Beatty Vinci was Andy deBell, Head of Community Engagement, Jayne Willetts, Community Engagement Specialist and Ella Sanders, Community Engagement Specialist. No-one from HS2 was present at the meeting. Councillor Barnes also confirmed that Jayne Willetts no longer worked for Balfour Beatty Vinci.

At the meeting, Mr Emery provided an update of the Swinfen area overview using maps and details as per the presentation [slides of the presentation to be provided to Members together with the draft Minutes – **received 21 January 2022**]. Confirmation was provided that at the plant crossing at Flats Lane the travelling public have right of way over construction traffic. It was confirmed that a memorial stone retained from the Whittington Golf Club demolition has been passed to the barracks regiment museum and is to be sited in a memorial garden. Mr Emery confirmed that the demolition of Packington Moor Farm required the completion of ecology surveys. Mr Emery stated that the A51 details cannot be provided at the moment as they are developing it and confirmed that Balfour Beatty Vinci will engage with the Parish Council when it is ready.

RESOLVED It was proposed that Councillor Loescher would draft an email response to questions raised at the meeting by both Balfour Beatty Vinci representatives and Councillors. The email to be sent by the Parish Clerk.

- **Car Parking Area by Hopwas Woods**

Councillor Barnes has contacted the landowners of this site to check if they would be in agreement to the work being carried out and they have confirmed their approval. There are some local matters and we will come back to BBV as soon as we have further information. The Parish Council would appreciate the assistance of BBV in progressing this project which they believe would be good PR for HS2 and BBV locally.

- **Heathland Habitat Creation Area by the A51**

The Parish Council has looked again at the Environmental Statement that accompanied the Hybrid Bill (now Act of Parliament). This makes it clear that the mitigation of the area would be put into Heathland Habitat creation (woodland habitat creation and grass land habitat creation). See attached documentation. This was not “potential” or “possible” Heathland Habitat creation, but “actual” Heathland Habitat creation. The Parish Council are unclear how do anything other than set out in the Environmental Statement and the Act can be achieved. The Parish Council is however willing to consider modifications on a “give an take” basis provided all local stakeholders are consulted and agree. It should be noted that planting and mitigation East of the line in this area is very sensitive as it provides mitigation for the residents of Botany Bay.

- **Tree Planting**

The Parish Council would like to emphasise the need for a more appropriate choice of trees on the additional areas of planting now agreed. As mentioned in the meeting on 12 January 2022, the planting on the Toll Road is a good example of what can be achieved.

The Parish Council understand why the bund cannot be completed until the irrigation pipe work and the Culvert are completed. The Parish Council would

however like all planting (bund, A51 Heathland Habitat creation and additional planting now agreed) to be put in place as soon as possible, within the constraints of the project, to facilitate a prompt mitigation and “healing” of the landscape.

- **Road Closures**

As noted in the meeting, it is helpful to locals they can be informed of Road closures in an accurately way minimising the window of the proposed closures. It is appreciated that the latest closure was put in place, not by BBV, but SSW. A proposed closure of two weeks was cleared in 2 days. This does not help local residents plan for the potential disruption.

- **Use of Councillor Barnes Ponds for Relocation of Fish**

Councillor Barnes asked me to confirm that his offer of the use of his ponds for relocation of fish remains.

- **Future Engagement**

The Parish Council would like to thank BBV for the meeting on 12 January 2022 which was very helpful. It was agreed by the Parish Council that regular meetings (quarterly) would be helpful. This could be at the Cappers Lane compound. The Parish Council would like to emphasise that they would like to work constructively with BVV and believe that prompt and open communication would assist in resolving issues.

55. CIL MONIES

RESOLVED That the CIL unspent to date totalling £27,716.62 be noted.

56. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2021/22

RESOLVED That as the Parish Council's gross income will exceed £25,000, it be noted that the Part 3 of the AGAR at a cost of £200 plus VAT will need to be completed.

57. REPLACEMENT BUS SHELTERS BUDGET

The Parish Clerk informed Members that the Section 50 Licenses for the two new bus shelters on Tamworth Road have now been received and the Permits to Dig for both sites have been submitted. The whole process will cost approximately £1,500 plus VAT.

With regard to the vandalised bus shelter opposite Whittington Barracks Members were informed that a quotation had been received for the removal and disposal of existing vandalised panel and supply and fit replacement UV stabilised polycarbonate glazing panel including fixings in the sum of £189.50 plus VAT.

With regard to the existing timber bus shelter Members were informed that a quotation had been received for the removal and disposal of the existing timber shelter including skip hire, and manufacture and installation of a 3-bay commuter cantilever with full end returns in the sum of £4,145.00 plus VAT.

It was proposed by Councillor Barnes, duly seconded and

RESOLVED That the quotations be accepted.

58. UPDATES TO THE PARISH COUNCIL'S WRITTEN RULES OF OPERATION

It was proposed by Councillor Barnes, duly seconded and

RESOLVED That Standing Order 9(a) and Financial Regulation 11.1[h] be updated.

59. 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.

60. PARISH CLERK'S SALARY

RESOLVED That cheques be drawn in respect of the Parish Clerk's December 2021 [**cheque number 100617**] and January 2022 [**cheque number 100620**] salary, HMRC - December 2021 [**cheque number 100618**], Staffordshire Pension Fund – December 2021 [**cheque number 100619**], HMRC – January 2022 [**cheque number 100621**] and Staffordshire Pension Fund – January 2022 [**cheque number 100622**].

61. DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLVED That:
Wednesday 23 March 2022
Wednesday 18 May 2022 – Annual General Meeting

All meetings will commence at 7.00 pm.

[The Meeting closed at 7.55 pm]

Signed

Dated