

**MINUTES OF THE SWINFEN AND PACKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE CONFERENCE CENTRE, HMP SWINFEN ON
WEDNESDAY 25 JANUARY 2023 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor Barnes in the Chair
Councillors Armstrong [from 6.06 pm], Dyott, Loescher [from 6.11 pm], Mrs Phillips and Mrs Pope

In attendance:

Ms J Minor, Parish Clerk

PARISH FORUM

No members of the public were present.

50. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None as all Members were present.

51. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATION

Councillor Barnes declared an interest in Agenda Item 8 – Renovation of the Parking Area opposite Hopwas Woods as he is prepared to sell stone to Mr Petford at market rate i.e. £30 per tonne.

52. MINUTES

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 02 November 2022 [Minute Nos. 36-49] as circulated, be approved as a correct record.

53. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Packington Hall

Councillor Barnes informed Members that he had been approached by a man called Alistair Perks who had bought one of the big two houses at the back of the Hall site about possibly joining the Parish Council. Councillor Barnes thought that Mr Perks would be useful as an architect by trade and a local man but commutes to London most days. It was **AGREED** that Councillor Barnes would provide the Parish Clerk with Mr Perks' contact details and that Mr Perks would be invited to the next meeting of the Parish Council scheduled for Wednesday 22 March 2023.

54. THE HIGH-SPEED RAIL PLANS

Councillor Barnes informed Members that Packington Moor Farm had been completely demolished apart from a lean-to. Councillor Barnes confirmed that he had spoken to the man who looks after the bat boxes who informed him that the lean-to had bats in.

55. CIL MONIES

RESOLVED That the CIL unspent to date totalling £18,555.22 be noted.

56. ELECTIONS 2023

RESOLVED That the date for the Parish Council and District Council elections be noted [Thursday 04 May 2023].

57. RENOVATION OF THE PARKING AREA OPPOSITE HOPWAS WOODS

Councillor Barnes explained that a quotation dated 02 January 2023 had been received from C. T. Petford in the sum of £16,000 plus VAT for the renovation of the parking area opposite Hopwas Woods, to include excavation and reinstatement of the area, using a suitable recycled product, also to add any aggregate needed on the adjoining footpath steps, all labour, materials, plant and machinery are included, any traffic safety measures are also included. The Parish Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council could reclaim the VAT in the sum of £3,200 by completing a HM Revenue and Customs VAT126 Form. Upon a site visit, Councillor Barnes informed Members that Cemex [owners of the Quarry] have erected a new fence along the top and that a company were constructing a new footway.

RESOLVED That the quotation dated 02 January 2023 from C. T. Petford in the sum of £16,000 plus VAT be agreed subject to Councillor Barnes obtaining written consent from the landowners and obtaining a further quotation for the renovation of the parking area [these to be forwarded to the Parish Clerk].

58. 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.

59. PARISH CLERK'S SALARY

RESOLVED That cheques be drawn in respect of the Parish Clerk's December 2022 [**cheque number 100663**] and January 2023 [**cheque number 100666**] salary, HMRC – December [**cheque number 100664**], Staffordshire Pension Fund – December 2022 [**cheque number 100665**], HMRC – January 2023 [**cheque number 100667**] and Staffordshire Pension Fund – January 2023 [**cheque number 100668**].

60. DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLVED That:
Wednesday 22 March 2023
Wednesday 17 May 2023

All meetings will commence at 6.00 pm.

[The Meeting closed at 6.35 pm]

Signed

Dated