

SWINFEN AND PACKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Ms Jayne Minor
6 Highfield Close
Burntwood
WS7 9AR**

**Telephone: 01543 673473
E-Mail: jayneminor@talktalk.net**

Our Ref: JM

11 March 2011

To: All Members of the Parish Council

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend the Meeting of the Parish Council to be held in the **Barn Restaurant, Heart of England Craft Farm, Swinfen on Wednesday 23 March 2011 commencing 7.00 p.m.** at which the business set out below will be transacted.

Yours sincerely

**Jayne Minor (Ms)
Parish Clerk**

AGENDA

PUBLIC FORUM

15 minutes will be allocated prior to the commencement of the meeting when members of the public may put questions/comments on any matter in relation to which the Parish Council has powers or duties which affect the area.

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive declarations of any personal or prejudicial interest under consideration on the Agenda in accordance with the Parish Town Councils (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007.

3. MINUTES

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 19 January 2011 (Minute Nos. 103 - 118) (**ENCLOSURE**)

4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**5. STAFFORDSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE -
SAFETY PLAN NEWS AUTUMN 2010**

Members are requested to receive and note the Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service – Safety Plan News Autumn 2010 (**CIRCULATED AT THE MEETING**).

6. STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE

Members are requested to receive and note the 'Executive Briefing for Partners' dated February 2011 (**CIRCULATED AT THE MEETING**).

7. STAFFORDSHIRE AND STOKE ON TRENT ARCHIVE SERVICE NEWSLETTER

Members are requested to receive and note the Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Archive Service Newsletter dated Winter 10/11 (**CIRCULATED AT THE MEETING**).

**8. STAFFORDSHIRE PARISH COUNCILS' ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER MARCH 2011**

Members are requested to receive and note the Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association Newsletter dated March 2011 (**CIRCULATED AT THE MEETING**).

**9. GROW WELL – VISITORS' GARDEN AT THE REAR OF THE VISITORS CENTRE,
HMP/YOI, SWINFEN HALL**

Members will recall that at a meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 May 2010, Mr John Polhill, Chairman of Grow Well gave a presentation on a project to develop a 'Visitors' Garden' at the rear of the Visitors Centre, HMP/YOI, Swinfen Hall. However, this project was not pursued because Grow Well found it was not possible to get a grant from the usual agencies for work on land that was not owned by Grow Well.

However, Grow Well have now been able to get grants from a number of local charities, and the Prison have helped both financially and practically and the garden is now complete.

Members are requested to consider making an annual contribution in the sum of £100 towards the cost of maintaining the garden.

10. WEBSITE

Members are requested to consider payment of an invoice from Newfangled Media Limited in connection with the design, build and accessibility of the website (swinfenandpackington.org.uk).

11. THE HIGH SPEED RAIL PLANS

Members are requested to debate the impact of the High Speed Rail plans and the impact thereon to Swinfen and Packington.

Cannock and Lichfield Express and Star dated 28 February 2011

CONSULTATION STARTS ON £30 BILLION HIGH-SPEED RAIL

A consultation into plans for the controversial £30 billion HS2 high-speed rail project was officially being launched by the Government on 28 February 2011.

Transport Secretary Philip Hammond said the line, initially running from London to Birmingham, will bring £44 billion in benefits and slash journey times between the capital and other cities by up to an hour.

Campaigners were today (28 February 2011) lighting beacons to highlight their opposition. The 140 mile first phase is expected to cost around £17 billion.

There are plans for extensions north of Birmingham to northern England and Scotland. It would create 40,000 jobs while trains will travel at up to 250 mph on the new line. But the first phase passes through beauty spots, including hamlets and villages in Staffordshire. About half the planned route has been altered and it will miss Lichfield and Whittington after opposition. It will run parallel to the M40 motorway, passing west of Coventry before entering Birmingham from the north. The consultation into the scheme was being launched today (28 February 2011) by Mr Hammond at Birmingham's ICC. It will see a series of roadshows between London and the West Midlands until July 29.

Mr Hammond said today (28 February 2011) "I have explored objectors' arguments and I am satisfied that what we are proposing is a robust proposal in which national benefits have been properly balanced against the impact on communities. We will publish our responses setting out what we propose as a way forward in December 2011. We will intend to get a hybrid bill onto the statute book by 2015".

The consultation was today (28 February 2011) being launched as the Department of Transport published results of a survey into the plans revealed 47 per cent of people are in favour, nine per cent opposed and 44 per cent undecided.

The head of the Lichfield Action Group, Mr Ian Wilde, called for the project to be scrapped.

12. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chairman will move:

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.

13. PARISH CLERK'S SALARY

Members are requested to approve the payment of the Parish Clerk's February and March 2011 salary. (**ENCLOSURE**)

14. DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Further to Minute No. 92 - 17 November 2010, with effect from May 2011 Parish Council meetings will be held in the Conference Room 1, Conference Centre, HMP Swinfen.