

**MINUTES OF THE SWINFEN AND PACKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT
THE CONFERENCE ROOM 1, CONFERENCE CENTRE, HMP SWINFEN ON
WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2012 COMMENCING AT 7.00 P.M.**

PRESENT

Councillor J Barnes in the Chair
Councillors Armstrong, Mrs Bennett, Stowe and Stubbs

In attendance:

Ms J Minor, Parish Clerk
PC K Stackhouse

PUBLIC FORUM

Mole Hills – Playing Field on The Drive, Swinfen

Further to Minute No. 96.1 (14 March 2012 refers) Members were informed that mole hills had again appeared on the playing field on The Drive, Swinfen.

RESOLVED That a quotation be obtained from Tamworth Pest Control for an annual cost to keep on top/ongoing attendance of the mole hill problem and that delegated authority be given to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman in consultation with the Parish Clerk to undertake any necessary works.

63. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor R Barnes.

64. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

65. MINUTES

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 September 2012 (Minute Nos. 46 - 62) as circulated, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

66. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chairman's announcements.

67. HOPWAS QUARRY

PC Stackhouse updated Members regarding the quarry saying it is difficult to prosecute on private land. Members expressed concern regarding the lack of reinstatement of the land. It was proposed by Councillor J Barnes, duly seconded by Councillor Mrs Bennett and

RESOLVED (1) That a letter be sent to the owner of Hopwas Quarry expressing the concerns of the Parish Council regarding more secure boundary fencing, excessive amount of rubbish (providing of additional bins) and a programme of works with regard to the reinstatement of the land.

(2) That an item on Hopwas Quarry continue to be included on the next agenda.

68. THE HIGH SPEED RAIL PLANS

Councillor J Barnes gave a verbal update on HS2. It was proposed by Councillor J Barnes, duly seconded and

RESOLVED That an item on the High Speed Rail Plans (HS2) continue to be included on the next agenda.

69. PUBLIC FOOTPATHS

Councillor Mrs Bennett informed Members of the poor state of public footpaths within the Parish. It was proposed by Councillor Stubbs, duly seconded by Councillor Mrs Bennett and

RESOLVED That a letter be sent to Staffordshire County Council in order to obtain an ordnance survey map identifying public footpaths within the Parish.

70. LOCAL PLAYGROUPS/GARDENING CLUBS

Councillor Mrs Bennett suggested to the Parish Council ways of encouraging local groups/engage with people/embracing the community spirit within the Parish. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Bennett, duly seconded by Councillor J Barnes and

RESOLVED That a letter be sent to Sarah Smith, Learning and Skills and Teresa Clarke, Governor of Swinfen Prison inviting them to the next Parish Council meeting.

71. 2013/2014 BUDGET

It was proposed by Councillor Armstrong, duly seconded by Councillor Stubbs and

RESOLVED That the Parish Clerk's report detailing actual to date figures for 2013/2014 budget be received and noted.

72. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS TO DATE

It was proposed by Councillor Armstrong, duly seconded by Councillor J Barnes and

RESOLVED That the schedule of payments to date be received and noted.

73. 2013/2014 PRECEPT ON LICHFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL

It was proposed by Councillor Armstrong, duly seconded by Councillor Mrs Bennett and

RESOLVED That the level of precept to be declared on Lichfield District Council be £4,600.

74. DRAYTON BASSETT, HINTS AND WEEFORD COMMUNITY FORUM

It was proposed by Councillor J Barnes, duly seconded by Councillor Mrs Bennett and

RESOLVED That the draft Note of Issues and Actions of the Drayton Bassett, Hints and Weeford Community Forum be received and noted.

75. COMMUNITIES, COUNCILS AND CLERKS

It was proposed by Councillor J Barnes, duly seconded by Councillor Stubbs and

RESOLVED That the Communities, Councils and Clerks Newsletter be received and noted.

76. DISPENSATIONS

It was proposed by Councillor J Barnes, duly seconded by Councillor Mrs Bennett and

RESOLVED (1) That the Swinfen and Packington Parish Council Dispensation Process be approved and implemented with immediate effect.

(2) That dispensation be granted to all Parish Council Members up until the next ordinary election to enable Members to participate in any discussion or vote on any matter concerning the setting of the Parish Council's budget and annual precept.

77. 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.

78. PARISH CLERK'S SALARY

It was proposed by Councillor Armstrong, duly seconded by Councillor Stubbs and

RESOLVED That cheques be drawn in respect of the Parish Clerk's October 2012 (**cheque no. 100209**) and November 2012 (**cheque no. 100210**) salary and Staffordshire Pension Fund – December 2012 (**cheque no. 100212**), Inland Revenue – December 2012 (**cheque no. 100211**), Staffordshire Pension Fund – January 2013 (**cheque no. 100214**) and Inland Revenue – January 2013 (**cheque no. 100213**).

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

RESOLVED That Wednesday 23 January 2013 and Wednesday 06 March 2013 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 8.05 p.m.)

Signed

Dated