

# **Swanton Novers Parish Council**

## **Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 17th July**

**2023 at 7.30pm**

Councillors Present: Cllr. Chris Armstrong, Cllr Gary May, Cllr Ian Watson, Cllr. Jenny Anderson, Cllr. Shaun Doncaster, Cllr. Virginia Riseborough.

**2023/028**

**Apologies for absence** – County Councillor Steffan Aquarone.

**2023/029**

- **To receive declarations of interest** – None

**2023/030**

**Public Forum-**

- No local parishioners were in attendance.

**2023/031**

**Reports from District/County Councillors -**

- County Councillor Aquarone did not attend the meeting. A copy of his report was available to the Councillors and presented at the meeting.
- County Councillor Steffan Aquarone commented on the lack of local dentists, the difficulty in being able to book doctors' appointments and reductions in mental health services within North Norfolk and how he would be campaigning to highlight the reduction in these essential services.
- Bank Hubs- The lack of Banks in a rural community is a major blow to our area. A community request has been submitted to Link (cash machine provider) to have a Bank Hub in Holt allowing a different bank in the hub daily Monday-Friday. This would allow the local community to have a counter service for their respective bank once a week, applications are proposed for other towns in due course.
- Nutrient Neutrality- An issue with new process which is causing concern and delays within the parish and the Community Land Trust (CLT) and the affordable housing project planned for the village. The County Councillor was unaware of the planned development within the village but was very interested in the project and the delays being caused by this new process. The details and plans for the development were requested to be sent to Steffan for review to understand the delays for the proposed project.

**2023/032**

**Matters arising from the meeting held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023.**

- All other matters are agenda items.

### **2023/033**

- **To sign as correct - The minutes from the Parish Council meeting held Monday 19th June 2023.**
- The Minutes were signed as correct by the Chair, Parish Councillor Chris Armstrong, and the Parish Clerk Jason Crowe.

### **2023/034**

#### **Matters arising from correspondence.**

- **Speed Awareness Sign-** To obtain a quote for the possibility of having a traffic awareness speed sign installed in the village to deter speeding traffic through The Street after complaints of speeding motorists has increased. Two near misses with children riding bicycles along Church Lane and not adhering to the road signs and stopping at the junction at The Street has meant members of the public have had to take evasive action and swerve away from the cyclists to avoid a collision.
- **Dog Waste Bin-** The application to have the new bin installed along St.Giles Road has been received by NNDC, the decision made by NNDC to give permission to have this installed onto the Public Footpath sign has not been granted. An alternative position will need to be agreed.
- **Swanton Novers Woodland Roadway-** The recent re-surfacing to the roadway within the Swanton Woods had received complaints due to the content of the surfacing containing debris including plastic, broken glass and crockery and metal fragments. Astley Estate were contacted regarding the condition of the roadway to which they were unaware of the condition of the repairs. They were horrified to see the condition and contacted the contractors to make good to the agreed specification. Repairs would commence imminently and apologies from Astley Estate to the complainant regarding the roadway were issued.
- **Fakenham Prepress-** Quote obtained to consider the printing of the village newsletter was received. It was voted on by the Parish Councillors as to whether this was an acceptable quotation for the service and should be put into place for the next issue. A unanimous decision from all 6 Parish Councillors present voted in favour for Fakenham Prepress to commence with the printing of the newsletter.
- All other correspondence has been passed on to Councillors.

### **2023/035**

#### **Social Housing update- Ian Watson Secretary Swanton Novers Community Land Trust**

- The Swanton Novers Community Land Trust secretary Ian Watson mentioned that all statutory consultation responses to the planning application have now been received.
- Broadland Housing (the developer) is liaising with Rivers Ecology to seek a solution to nutrient neutrality at the site. Since March 2022 all new housing developments are

required to demonstrate as part of the planning application that they can accommodate the nutrient load generated by the proposed development.

- The process is currently being discussed nationally and could possibly lead to an easing of the legalities surrounding the Nutrient Neutrality, if this was to occur it could ease the planning process and still lead to the possibility of building commencing in early 2024.

**2023/036**

**Planning.**

- Currently no new planning applications are present for Swanton Novers.
- Regarding the planning application for the re-naturalising of the river Stiffkey. A planning amendment has been made that now shows the closure of the existing footpath during the planned works. It was commented by the Parish Councillor Ian Watson that there is no mention of the length of the closure, the planning office were emailed to clarify these questions. The closure of the footpath would be approximately for one month while the work was being completed was the response from the Planning Office.

- **[River re-naturalising diversion scheme along the stretch of the river Stiffkey north of the Fulmodeston Road, Fulmodeston \(599987, 330946 to 600448, 331387\)](#)**

Section Of River Stiffkey (know As Swanton Novers Meadow) Land North East Of Fulmodeston Road Barney Common Fulmodeston

Ref. No: PF/23/0677 | Received: Thu 23 Mar 2023 | Validated: Fri 24 Mar 2023 | Status: Pending Consideration

**[Single storey and first floor extensions to dwelling, two storey side and first floor extension to detached garage; external alterations](#)** 

Bell Farm Holt Road Swanton Novers Melton Constable Norfolk NR24 2NW

Ref. No: PF/23/1320 | Received: Tue 20 Jun 2023 | Validated: Wed 21 Jun 2023 | Status: Pending Consideration

- **[anguConversion and extension of barn to create 1 no. dwelling with associated works](#)** 

Agricultural Barn Dereham Road Swanton Novers Norfolk

## **2023/037**

### **Working groups – Update:**

- **Communications** – Cllr Chris Armstrong- Village Newsletter. Chris Armstrong, Hazel Mindham arranged a meeting to discuss details of content within the Newsletter going forward. In a future Village Newsletter complete a survey to determine whether members of the public would like an electronic version that would be emailed directly to them, also the frequency of the newsletter, content.
- **Governance structure – Policies, Cllr Jenny Anderson-** Policies are currently being reviewed by the Parish Council for ratification, At the next PC Meeting it is intended to approve more policies.
- **Policies-** Policies that have been voted on to be added to the Parish Council website.

## **2023/038**

### **Financial report and payments for approval.**

- Parish Clerk presented the finances.
- One payment was needed for approval. The payment of the repair to the damaged window pain in the Village Notice Board was agreed.

## **2023/039**

**Annual Parish Council Audit-** To sign the audited accounts for the financial year 2022/23 and advise of the Public Examination period.

- The Parish Council accounts were signed in the presence of the members of the Parish Council by the Chair Chris Armstrong and the Parish Clerk Jason Crowe. The dates of the Public Examination period were stated as from Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July until Wednesday 23<sup>th</sup> August.

## **2023/040**

### **Items from Councillors and registered electors to be considered for inclusion on the agenda for the next Parish Council Meeting.**

- Donations by Parish Council and to whom, noted that it should be a community service/ charity.
- D Day June 2024.
- Fibre optic to Swanton Novers, timeline to service being installed.
- Defibrillator pads- replacements needed.
- Swanton House – Hedging ingress into St.Giles Road.

**2023/041**

- **Close Meeting**
- There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.10pm

Chair .....

Date.....

Clerk.....