

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF SWANTON ABBOTT HELD
ON 16th. JANUARY 2024 at 7.00p.m. in the VILLAGE HALL,
SWANTON ABBOTT.

PRESENT –Cllrs. M. Vaughan (Chair), S. Day, and G. McAnsh , the Clerk
G Kimmerling, & 9 members of the public.

Open session for members of the public to speak.

At previous meetings, Affordable Housing schemes had not been supported or opposed by the Parish Council. NNDC is willing to support such schemes and the Parish Council should support people who wish to live in affordable homes in the village. The Parish Council should therefore write to NNDC supporting an Affordable Housing scheme.

The PC was asked if there is a majority in favour of this. The Clerk explained that the village is split three ways with 1/3 in favour of a housing development, 1/3 against and 1/3 neutral. At the last survey following a meeting with NNDC a very small minority opposed the proposed scheme. In the 2019 Village Plan, in answer to the question, 'would you support a development of less than 10 houses', 33 said yes, 33 said no and 12 were neutral. Any development should include Affordable Housing. There is therefore not a majority in favour of an Affordable Housing scheme.

	AGENDA	<i>Action</i>
24.01	<p>a. <u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> Cllr. Hodson – unwell and NCC, NNDC Cllr. Penfold – unwell.</p> <p>b. <u>DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.</u> None.</p> <p>c. <u>TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 14TH. 2023</u> The Clerk pointed out two mistakes under 23.54 Finances. The amount given to Macmillan Nurses under s137 should read £209.01. The Village Sign was about £1000 over budget, not £200, as the Clerk had used the wrong figures in her calculations. Resolution. Proposed by Cllr. McAnsh, seconded by Cllr. Day and agreed by the Parish Council to accept these amendments to the Minutes. Resolution. Proposed by Cllr. McAnsh, seconded by Cllr. Day and agreed by the Parish Council to accept the Minutes of the meeting held on November 14th. as a true record. These were then signed by the Chair.</p>	
24.02	<p><u>CLERK'S REPORT AND UPDATE ON ITEMS FROM THE MINUTES</u></p> <p>a. The Clerk had not found a better option for emptying the bottle bank but will ask the Goat, Skeyton who they use.</p> <p>b. The resident who was asked to take on the role of Footpath Warden is not able to do this.</p> <p>c. Cllr. Penfold will be at the official opening of the Village Sign on Sunday January 28th. at 12 noon. Everyone is very welcome to attend and this will be advertised on the Web-site and the Hub.</p> <p>d. The Clerk will find out if there is a special 'No Parking' sign which includes for Defibrillators.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
24.03	<p><u>NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL AND NORTH NORFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORTS.</u> No reports.</p>	

24.04	<p><u>FINANCES</u></p> <p>a) <u>TO CONSIDER THE PRESENT FINANCIAL POSITION</u> The Clerk had produced up-to date accounts. £35.02 had been earned in interest so far and £170 for the Abbott advertising.</p> <p>b) <u>TO CONSIDER AND RESOLVE WHETHER TO APPROVE OUTSTANDING INVOICES FOR PAYMENT.</u> Resolution. Proposed by Cllr. Day, seconded by Cllr. McAnsh and approved by the Parish Council to pay the following invoices. The following payments were made on-line before the meeting. GM Windows Bus Shelter Windows £ 30.00 SR Print & Design Abbott newsletter £ 204.00 The following payments were authorised to be paid on-line:- S A Village Hall Hire of hall £ 10.00 G Kimmerling Clerk's expenses £ 33.47 The Clerk explained that the cost of ink was high as she had printed off several Swanton Abbott Directories for newcomers. She needs more front covers for these and it was agreed to get these printed.</p> <p>c) <u>TO CONSIDER AND AGREE THE PRECEPT FOR 2024/25</u> The Chair and Clerk had provided provisional figures for the Precept. The expected deficit is £7532.00 but there is £2600 available in the accounts. All the figures were considered by the Parish Council. Resolution. Proposed by Cllr. Day, seconded by Cllr. McAnsh and agreed by the Parish Council to set the precept at £7000 as per 2023. The Clerk will inform NNDC by the 31st January.</p>	
24.05	<p><u>PLANNING</u></p> <p>a) <u>TO CONSIDER ANY PLANNING APPLICATIONS.</u> PF/23/2495 Laburnham Cottage, 52 Long Common Lane Two storey extension and external alterations to dwelling; detached carport/store. Approved 16/12/2023.</p>	
	<p>b) <u>TO NOTIFY OF ANY PLANNING DECISIONS BY NNDC</u> EF/23/2459 Ambleside, The Footpath, Aylsham Road. Lawful Development Certificate for proposed siting of modular building within curtilage of dwelling for use as an annexe to the main building. Permission required. 09/01/2024 PF/23/2230 Rosedale House, Cross Road. Alterations, including partial demolition and extension, to detached outbuilding to form home gym/garden room (part retrospective) Approved 13/12/2023</p> <p>c) <u>TO CONSIDER ANY OTHER PLANNING ISSUES.</u> None.</p>	
24.06	<p><u>HIGHWAYS AND DRAINAGE ISSUES UPDATE</u></p> <p>a. <u>UPDATE</u> Cllr. Vaughan had had an on-site meeting with Highways. The gouges in Long Common Road etc. were not repairable; more drains will be dug at the junction of Long Common Road, Long Common Lane & Church Road; the problems with mud in Cross Road were not bad. Residents will need to keep Highways informed of any future problems.</p> <p>b. <u>FOOTPATHS REPORT</u> Cllr. Day reported that the footpaths were generally good but a bit muddy. The footpath from the Church to The Hill is not suitable for a disabled vehicle.</p>	<p>Page 336</p>

24.07	<p><u>BROADBAND AND MOBILE PHONE UPDATE</u> Cllr. McAnsh had received a letter from Duncan Baker MP which explained that the land-owner involved in discussions for a site for a mobile mast wanted too much money. The Poor Lands should be approached again. The Liberal Democrats believe that changing from analogue to digital will make things worse. It was agreed to invite the Liberal Democrat candidate to the next meeting.</p>	Cr.McAnsh
24.08	<p><u>WEBSITE UPDATE.</u> Cllr. Day had contacted 12 village organisations asking for opinions on the website. Most have their own web-sites or do not use one but the Chapel & Bowls Club would like to publicise events on the PC web-site. Cllr. Day felt the NALC web-site offer of £70 per year using Wordpress was the best option. It is cheaper than the present one and can include links to other sites. Mr. Vincent is willing to help transfer our information to the new site. NALC will set-up the web-site and also offers training and there can be several users. It would run from April and we would keep the Domain Name – Cllr. Day will find out how to do this. Resolution. Proposed by Cllr. Day, seconded by Cllr. Vaughan and agreed by the Parish Council to change to the NALC Website from April.</p>	Cllr Day
24.09	<p><u>TO SET THE DATES FOR THE MEETINGS FOR 2024/25</u> The Clerk had proposed the following dates for 2024/25:- March 12; May 21; July 9; September 10; November 12 & January 14 2025. These are the second Tuesday in the month except the May meeting. Resolution. Proposed by Cllr. Vaughan, seconded by Cllr. McAnsh and agreed by the Parish Council to set the dates as above.</p>	
24.10	<p><u>TO CONSIDER THE NCC TREES FOR CONNECTIVITY SCHEME.</u> Cllr. Day said NCC will pay 100% of the cost of the trees (but not the planting costs) to help create wildlife corridors. The Clerk will find out who was interested in the previous scheme, and if tree guards are also free. Cllr. Day will then contact the land-owners to see if they are still interested, and, if so, what costs might be incurred.</p>	Clerk Cllr. Day
24.11	<p><u>ON-GOING ISSUES</u> <u>TO REPORT AND RESOLVE, WHERE POSSIBLE, ON-GOING COMMUNITY ISSUES.</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. There are still 3 vacancies on the Parish Council. The Clerk will inform NNDC and advertise the vacancies for co-option. b. The Clerk will order new pads for the defibrillator and report that the light is not working. 	Clerk Clerk
24.12	<p><u>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED.</u> E-mail covering four points:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Broadband and Mobile Phones 2. Prejudicial Interest 3. Footpaths 4. Access to Footpaths for Disabled. <p>The Parish Council has responded to the first three issues and has no further comments to make. The Clerk will acknowledge receipt of this letter. The Parish Council is aware that Disabled people are permitted to use their vehicles on footpaths, where appropriate, but this does not mean that all footpaths are accessible to such vehicles.</p>	
24.13	<p>The next meeting is March 12th. 2024. The meeting closed at 7.45p.m.</p>	

DRAFT