

# PERTENHALL AND SWINESHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk - Mrs Garry Telling  
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Vice Chairman - Mr Tim Kingham  
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## A Quality Parish Council

[www.pertenhallandswinesheadparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.pertenhallandswinesheadparishcouncil.org.uk)

### Minutes of Meeting -

held on Thursday, Nov 26th, 2009, in Pertenhall Village Hall at 8.00.

Garry Telling [Clerk]

Present were Councillors Herdan [JH], Whitlock [MW], Pateman[NP], Bates[TB], Pollard[SP] and Borough Councillor Ian Clifton[IC].

Tim Kingham, vice chairman, was in the chair.

There were 5 members of the public in attendance.

#### 09.68 Apologies for absence – none

MW said a few words about Brian Stevens who had died since the last meeting. He talked about him as a friend and neighbour, a man who had been associated with the parish council since he came to the village, a councillor who brought experience to the job and who raised standards for fairness and openness. He was good at public speaking, enthusiastic about the quality status of the council and a good chairman [not chair!!]

#### 09.69 Declarations of interest in any agenda item - none

09.70 Minutes of Oct meeting: already circulated. Were agreed and signed.

#### Co-option of new councillor for Swineshead.

Jenny Leishman[JL] was proposed as a new councillor for Swineshead. She was proposed by MW and seconded by JH. The councillors unanimously approved her co-option. **09.70.01 JL was co-opted as the third councillor in Swineshead**

MW was proposed as chairman. He was proposed by TB and seconded by JH. There was unanimous agreement from the councillors. **09.70.02 MW agreed to be chairman.**

#### Dates of meeting

New dates were proposed for the next three meetings because JL could not attend on the Thursdays previously fixed. **09.70.03 Clerk to check that SVH and PVH were available on the dates suggested.**

*The dates, now cleared, [2009-11-27] are Wednesdays – 13th January, 10<sup>th</sup> March and 12<sup>th</sup> May.*

#### 09.72 Brief discussion of any matters arising from last meeting.

- Fliers re aerals in Swineshead – **09.72.01 SP will draft a flier, send it to MW for approval, and the clerk will dispatch it in January with, though not part of, the newsletter.**
- Sandye Lane – **09.72.02 Clerk will continue to contact R of W .**
- Speed outside home of Susan Edmunds –Andrew Prigmore has been informed of this situation. A sign may be put up.
- Blocked drain outside Lower Farm – Alastair Rundall said that the next piece of work would have involved closing the High Street, which was not

considered to be satisfactory because the main road was to be closed the following week. **09.72.03 Clerk to inform Mr Rundall at the first sign of flooding and ask again that further work be done.**

### **09.73 Correspondence A [for consideration and discussion]**

- Card from Janet Bennett – card of condolence on death of Brian Stevens.
  - Highways – Public Paths Division order – Swineshead Fps 12 and 13
  - Electoral review – IC commented on probable boundary changes.
  - Temporary signing of Community Events – to be publicised in the Newsletter and the information made clear to those who post signs for, e.g. fêtes in surrounding villages.
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- HGV Weight Restrictions in NE Beds.
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- Litter Pick – 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2010. It was requested that information about grass cutting schedules be sought. IC to find this out. It is better to litter pick after a cut rather than before.
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- Events in 2010 – Chloe Reid, who is Honeycomb correspondent, has agreed to send information about local events to BBC.
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- JH mentioned the Sporting Hero competition and offered to contact Debbie O'Regan to see if this was the same as the Sports Personality of the Year.
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- JH mentioned the telephone kiosk in Swineshead and the possible plans for it if it were offered to the parish council for a pound. The clerk apologised and explained that the kiosk in question was in Yelden and not in Swineshead. The error was hers. The ideas could be used in the future if and when BT made the offer to Swineshead.
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- An email from Steve Shaw, about “Empowering Parish and Town Councils by getting the Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill adopted in Parliament.” **09.73.01 Clerk to find out what Alistair Burt is likely to say.**

### **Correspondence B – not to be discussed unless requested by councillors**

On table at back of hall.

### **09.74 Finance**

Authorisation granted to pay the following:- TB/MW

- Clerk's expenses; tel. and broadband - £30.00
- Clerk's salary for third quarter of year - £906.70
- Web site host - £25 – to be re-imbursed
- Stationery - £6.61 – to be re-imbursed
- Kimbolton School for printing Newsletter – £41.25
- Pertenhall Village Hall - £10 rental for Nov meeting
- SVH rental for Oct meeting and for planning meeting. - £20.00

- Precept. The precept will be decided in January, but ideas could be aired at this meeting. No suggestions.

#### **09.75 Planning**

- A new planning application for Wood End House – A planning meeting on site was considered to be desirable and will be arranged. This application following so quickly on the heels of the previous application had made neighbours wonder if this was a commercial enterprise. Councillors had been assured that it was private accommodation but for consistency's sake it was decided to have a site meeting.
  - Erection of new dwelling on land between Sale Cottage and Willow Cottages – application refused.
  - Swineshead Village Hall - Application withdrawn. A note from John Willcock stated that the application would be resubmitted when a few changes had been made.

#### **09.76 Highways Report**

##### **MW – Swineshead / TB – Pertenhall**

Reflectors at Gipsy Corner. MW will see that enough reflectors are installed there.

Verge cutting. BBC had again cut the verges – and done a good job. MW thought that Ian Harris[IH], the grass cutting contractor, would not mind being asked not to do the verges this time. He wondered if the council can assume there will be 2 cuts a year in future. IC to enquire.

The hedges on Chapel Hill, and near the Manor may need to be cut back.

SP reported on an email from Mr Tunstill, asking that the arrow be removed from the Green End sign. His address is Green End but the arrow points away from his house. Clerk to contact Highways.

**09.77 Borough Council report** –IC commented on the two tier/three tier debate for schools and the decision to go to a two tier system. He does not think this can happen. SP asked about the proposed time scale and was told there was no such time scale.

He also talked about gipsy and travellers' sites, saying that no investigations into possible appropriate sites id being done, and sites are bound to materialise in inappropriate places. The land in Melchbourne was a case in point.

**09.78 Parish Plan update.** JH said that in order to maintain interest in the Parish Plan a review should be added to the Newsletter about the Plan. The item should always be on the parish council agenda.

#### **09.79 Newsletter – 09.79.01 January, after the meeting, for the next issue.**

TK asked that residents with email addresses should register them with the clerk, if they so desired, and if they had not already done so. This would make it easier to advertise meetings and save on deliveries of Newsletters etc.

**09.80 Open Forum - for matters to be raised by councillors or members of the public.**

Matters to be raised under this heading should be brought to the attention of the clerk before the meeting. Under this item matters may be discussed but decisions, particularly on financial matters, should not be made. The clerk can take action on urgent matters raised here.

- GT: disposing of lap-top. Clerk to contact Michael Slade.
- GT: disposing of quantities of Parish Plans / Swineshead Conservation leaflets / Planning applications over 12 years / etc. These items should be stored in village halls or some other accessible place. January agenda. Some of the Parish Plans are needed in Swineshead.
- Speeding in Swineshead – an email had been received from Mr Kenny [EK] about the speed of traffic in the High Street, Swineshead. This email correspondence had been forwarded to the police and SP would raise the matter at the next JAG meeting.  
JH agreed that there is some dangerously fast driving in the village.
- Matters to be dealt with by the police need to be brought to the attention of SP for discussion at JAG meetings.
- SP asked whether the new mayor was likely to visit councils as Frank Branston had intended to do. **09.80.01 Clerk to contact Ruth Lutt to ask if such a programme of visits is proposed.**
- MW said that there are fewer free trees available this year. IC said that there is some confusion as to the previous organisation of this scheme by BCC.
- There was adverse comment about the police response to the Barns, on the night when Brian Stevens died. The clerk was asked about the information previously forwarded to the ambulance headquarters. In this case the ambulance response was exemplary and that of the police tardy. This point could also be raised at JAG. At the January meeting, with SP's information under their belts, the councillors could perhaps what best to do to help the situation.

The meeting ended at 9.10.

***The next meeting will be in Pertenhall Village Hall, at 8.00, Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>  
[note change of date]  
January, 2010. This is an open meeting and everyone is welcome to attend.***