

# PERTENHALL AND SWINESHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk - Mrs Garry Telling  
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## A Quality Parish Council

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

### Minutes of Meeting

to be held on 1st October, 2009, in Swineshead Village Hall at 8.00.

Garry Telling [Clerk]

Present were Councillors Whitlock [MW], Pateman [NP], Bates [TB], Kingham [TK], Pollard [SP], Borough Councillor Ian Clifton [IC] and 7 members of the public. Brian Stevens [BS] was in the chair.

Tea and coffee will be served before the next meeting.

**09.55 Apologies for absence** – Jan Herdan [JH], Barry Morse and Geoff Telling.

**09.56 Declarations of interest in any agenda item** - none

**09.57 Minutes of July meeting:** already circulated; signed as agreed.

**09.58 Brief discussion of any matters arising from last meeting.**

- Material to go on the verge, outside the church, to allow parking, which would not ruin the verge. To be discussed at a later date.
- Speed checks – email sent to all councillors. Clerk to write again about the dangerous situation outside the home of Susan Edmunds, on the Cambs/Beds boundary.
- SIDs – nothing to report
- Traveller Liaison Officer. At previous meeting the PCSO told the councillors about this officer, and the clerk was asked to contact him. He is Paul Ferguson on [paul.ferguson@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:paul.ferguson@bedford.gov.uk) He would come to speak to a meeting if invited. No invitation is to be issued.
- Red telephone box in Swineshead – there was discussion about this matter.
- Steve Pollard on the JAG meeting. He asked that if there are matters for police attention they should be brought to his notice at or before the next meeting of the parish council. This request was especially directed towards members of the public. He, SP, would then raise those points at the next JAG meeting. Comment was made about the likely merging of Beds and Herts police forces.

## JAG MEETING Summary

A well attended meeting with about ten councils represented as well as the police.

The main speaker was a Mr Fender who spoke on initiatives to combat under age drinking and associated problems with anti-social behaviour. It was quite interesting but focused on shops and as we don't have any this was not especially relevant.

Speeding was discussed. The police have been told that they must, in future, target one nominated road per Ward for speed checks. This was regarded as inappropriate and inadequate and the JAG would write to the police to express the disapproval. Rob Smith said, unofficially, that we could nominate a road per parish and I suggested the B660 as this was proposed by representatives of Keysoe and Bolnhurst.

The new target for the police was to be the thefts of BT Cables which has become increasingly prevalent.

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

- Weight Restrictions for Heavy Goods Vehicles in Bedford Borough – a copy of this letter has been emailed to all councillors. The clerk had written to express interest on behalf of the councillors and to ask to be kept informed. No further action to be taken.
- The Boundary Committee – electoral reviews of local authority areas in England. Ian Clifton said it would be appreciated if the council wrote to comment on the differing needs of the rural and town parishes. IC felt that the number of councillors had been reduced by too many.
- East of England Plan → 2031. Meeting – Corn Exchange – 29<sup>th</sup> Sept. 7.00 – Speaker Adrian Cannard, Head of Planning and Housing EERA. No one had been able to attend.
- Consultation on Special Schools' Reorganisation. Noted. IC said that these schools are mostly in Central Beds.
- Bedford Dev. Framework – Allocations and Designs Plan - noted
- Pride in Bedford Awards – letter from Stewart Briggs - noted

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

On table at back of hall – no comment made on any of these

## 09. 60 Finance

Authorisation granted to pay the following: - MW/TB

- Clerk's expenses, tel and broadband - £30.00
- Clerk's salary for 2nd quarter of the year - £906.70
- Topham:
  - cut 4:- The Limes and Milestone - £54.05
  - cut 3: - £523.25
- Kimbolton School for printing Newsletter – invoice will be available in November.
- Audit – £184.00 The Audit has been completed and the necessary form displayed on the notice board. It is available for inspection by any resident of the two villages.

The Insurance Policy needs to be reconsidered because it is out of date in some respects – November.

## 09.61 Planning

- The Green, Green End, Pertenhall. Permission granted
- Wood End House, Pertenhall, change of access. Permission granted, subject to the installation of a kissing gate to clear the obstruction of FP15.
- Aerials in a Conservation Area – perhaps a flyer needs to be constructed for delivery to all houses in Swineshead.

There was much discussion on this problem, with the councillors trying to find ways to encourage residents to put aerials in the roof if at all possible. It was generally felt that residents are informed by installers that external aerials are the only ones which work and that the residents are not aware of the alternatives. A flyer, or a carefully worded article [penned by SP] in the next Newsletter would perhaps make people aware of a problem which they had not previously considered. There were already several aerials unsuitable for the Conservation Area and so residents were probably not aware of possible alternatives.

- A new planning application for the Old Schoolhouse will be passed to the Parish Council in due course. An email had been received by councillors from Mr Kenny but there can be no discussion till plans are available.
- The Cottage, Staughton Road. Application had evidently been turned down but the clerk had received no notification.
- Planning briefings - noted
  - “Building for Life”
  - Policy CP14 – Location of dev. in the Rural Policy Area
  - Planning Policy on Eco-towns, June 2009

## 09.62 Highways Report MW – Swineshead/TB – Pertenhall

Both councillors had spoken with the engineer in charge of the current road repairs between the two villages and had been told that the allocated budget would do only certain of the necessary repairs.

There had been adequate work at the top end of Swineshead village.

Near Lower Farm the blocked drain pipe had been well dug and a good job done – as far as the budget permitted. Clerk to contact Highways to say that there may well be more floods when it rains unless further funds are forthcoming to complete the job.

At Gypsy Corner there are again an inadequate number of reflectors. MW will request more.

IC commented on the very limited Highways budget which is available.

**09.63 Borough Council report** –IC said that a low turn out was expected at the coming election of the Mayor of Bedford.

**09.64 Parish Plan update.** Councillors are requested to contact the clerk before the meeting with any PP matters which they feel require review. Nothing reported.

**09.65 Flies in Swineshead** - currently no problem.

**09.66 Newsletter** – next issue in the New Year.

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

MW – Sandye Lane is now very dangerous for horses. It was very wet and Sandye Lane was closed but then the 4 wheel drives made a mess of the muddy road. Now it is very dry, hard and dangerous. Clerk to contact R of W and to copy IC.

J Willcock/ IC talked of a grant for alterations to the Village Hall. The councillors agreed that the Parish Council should support this grant application. MW/TB

The meeting closed at 9.21.

***The next meeting will be in Pertenhall Village Hall, at 8.00 November 26th, 2009.  
This is an open meeting and everyone is welcome to attend.***