

Swine Parish Council

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Minutes of the Meeting of Swine Parish Council held on 10th February 2025

02/2025/01 – Attendees: Cllrs Y Wilkinson, G Bloom, J Mackereth, E McMullen, and G Oliver.

02/2025/02 – Apologies: Cllr A Thompson, A Hunter, Cllr Samantha Whyte

02/2025/03 – Approval of minutes:

Minutes of the meetings held on 11th November 2024 and 8th January 2025 were approved unanimously as prepared, and then signed by Cllr Wilkinson.

02/2025/04 – Police Report:

Monthly Crime Reports for November, December and January have been received and had been circulated to Councillors on email or hard copy prior to the meeting. Councillors expressed surprise at the report regarding the theft of the Fiesta in Swine, as no-one had any knowledge of the theft or who the car had belonged to.

02/2025/05 – Clerk's Report:

- (A) Clerk officially passed on thanks from the previous clerk for the contribution which had been paid towards her expenses, as agreed in the previous meeting.
- (B) Clerk reported that ERYC had confirmed the precept demand would be paid in one instalment of £900 on 30th April. The amount represented an increase of £0.83 on a Band D council tax compared to 2024/25.
- (C) The response from PROW regarding cutting back vegetation around the platform at Swine station on the Hornsea Rail Trail was disappointing in that it does not come under anyone's specific remit, and that there is no budget available specifically for it. However, if the Parish Council were prepared to organise something themselves, Andrew Chudley of PROW would be prepared to meet Councillors to discuss the project, and how he might be able to support it. It was agreed that Clerk would go back to him with a proposed date of 14th March for the meeting.
- (D) Justin Hampson has done a survey of the bus shelter, to ascertain if and when any works might be required, and specifically to investigate a possible leak. No leak was found, but a couple of damaged tiles were found on the roof. The overall conclusion of the survey was that no works were immediately necessary, but in due course we would need to consider replacing the guttering, and the rake boards, which are riddled with woodworm. The damaged slates will need replacing in due course.
- (E) Clerk had made contact with KCom about the phone box, to investigate how much it is used and the feasibility of using it for a defibrillator, but had not yet received a response. She will chase up with them.
- (F) Clerk reported that she had been in touch with Angus Hudson of Carter Jonas, (land managers on behalf of the Crown), with a view to improving communications between them and the residents of Swine. Regarding the planting of trees in the area, Angus confirmed that the trees would be managed by Carter Jonas, and that they are responsible for the maintenance of trees around the estate, including those in Bluebell Wood. Clerk pointed out to him that residents were concerned about the

number of dead trees there, and he confirmed that it was on a schedule for maintenance, but not due for any imminent works.

Clerk further mentioned the flooding and drainage issues around the village, but Angus was adamant that that is a matter for Highways.

Angus confirmed that should residents want to do any works, such as making a feature of Danny Well, this would have to be discussed and agreed with Crown Estates.

(G) The response received from ERYC regarding the possibility of installing another litter bin was that due to current budget pressures the council is only repairing and replacing existing litter bins as and when required. However, subject to a site survey, if the Parish Council were willing to fund the cost of a new bin of correct specification (LBV/6) from the appropriate supplier (Wybone) it would be adopted onto the ERYC litter bin collection rounds and maintained. Installation would need to be by an approved contractor, arranged by ERYC from the corporate framework. The cost of the bin would be:

LBV/6 bin £364.99 plus Vat £437 98

Installation £125:00 plus Vat. £150

Council felt these costs were very high for our budget and agreed to leave it for now. If we were to spend that sort of money on a bin we would need to be sure it was in the right place. At the moment there seems to be a further problem with people parking by the Hornsea trail access gate on Swine Lane, just past East and West Cottages, and leaving litter and dog waste by the gate.

02/2025/06 - Finance:

(A) The latest bank statement received, dated 31st January, showed a balance of £630.70

02/2025/07 – Drainage and flooding issues:

(A) Clerk had requested, received and circulated drain schematics from the council, demonstrating where the drains were and who's responsibility they were. She reported that she had also requested schematics from Yorkshire Water, but that they insisted we had to pay for them, and circulated the prices to the meeting. In terms of the riparian responsibility Councillor Oliver confirmed that the Crown Estate divulged responsibility of keeping the drains clear to the farmers through their tenancy agreement. However, other agencies also have some bearing on the effectiveness of the drains, including the Environment Agency, who are now responsible for the Holderness Drain.

Councillor Oliver further pointed out that the farmers pay a fee to the IDB to keep the drains clear.

With reference to the specific flooding in of the village in Coniston Lane, it was suggested that clerk should try to find out who authorised the council works to the drain last year to see if whoever it was would come to a meeting to help us understand what had been done, and whether anything else could be done. Councillor Oliver also suggested that putting a camera down the drain would identify any underground obstructions, damage that might be affecting the flow rate, causing the water to come up and create the flooding. He would speak to someone he thought might be able to help.

AOB

(A) Clerk made the council aware that the minute book was almost full and a new one would need to be bought. She would check the regulations and look into buying a new one.

(C) Clerk reported that she had received an update on the planned repair to the bridge at Bluebell Woods. The planned works are subject to funding being made available to PROW Bridges, with a budget setting vote due to take place in February. Just before the meeting Clerk had received a

message from Councillor Whyte to confirm that funding had been agreed, so both were hopeful that the repairs were still on schedule.

(D) Clerk shared with the meeting correspondence from Keep Britain Tidy regarding the Great British Spring Clean litter picking initiative to take place between 21st March and 6th April, and asked if we wanted to organise a litter picking event. Council felt that we all did enough litter picking individually and that we should just carry on doing what we are doing.

(E) ERYC have sent out a letter to advise of grants available to anyone wanting to organise a community event to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of either VE Day in May or VJ in August. Councillors felt that they would like to do something. Consideration was given to combining it with the Sloth and Scone, but it was decided to keep the two separate, partly because of the timings, but also it was felt that this should be a celebration rather than a fund raising event. A street party would be difficult as the road is quite busy now. It was felt that between us we could muster some bunting, etc and that maybe the grant could be used to buy a gazebo or tables and chairs for the event, but that could be kept for future use. It would be nice if some other members of the community would like to help organise something.

(F) Clerk had received an update on the repairs requested to the broken directional sign at the junction of Swine Rd (to Benningholme) and Skirlaugh Rd:

"An engineer visited site on 6/12/2024 with works to be ordered, however, this will not be until at least the new financial year and even then may take some time depending on resources and workloads. In the current economic climate, the Council is having to make difficult decisions on where to allocate our significantly reduced budgets. I'm sure you will appreciate that works relating to safety issues/traffic warning signs etc. must take priority."

02/2025/08 – Date of Next Meeting: Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm, in St Mary's Church Vestry

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed:



Date:

12.5.25