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Swine Parish Council

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Minutes of the of Meeting of Swine Parish Council held on 14th November 2023

11/2023/01 – Attendees: Cllrs Y Wilkinson, E McMullen, A Thompson, A Hunter and G Bloom. Also in attendance was PCSO Darren Bainton

11/2023/02 – Apologies: Cllr J Mackereth

11/2023/03 – Approval of minutes:

Minutes of the meetings held on 16th May and 18th July 2023 were read and approved unanimously as prepared, and then signed by Cllr Wilkinson.

11/2023/04 – Police Crime Report: Crime reports received since the last meeting had been circulated to Councillors on email or hard copy prior to the meeting. Councillors had no particular comments to make on these.

11/2023/05 – Clerk’s Report:

Clerk reported that the annual audit documents had been submitted.

11/2023/06 - Finance:

(A) Clerk was unable to report an updated bank balance as no bank statement had been received since April. One is expected to be received shortly.

(B) Councillors discussed the Clerk’s need for ink and paper for preparing for meetings and agreed that the sum of £200 should be paid to the Clerk in this respect. A cheque was drawn in this amount.

11/2023/07 – Co-option to fill vacant Councillor position:

One local resident had expressed an interest in being co-opted to fill the vacancy. However, as Council meetings are usually held on Tuesday evenings it became apparent that he would not be able to attend these due to work commitments. No other interest had been expressed and consequently the vacancy remained unfilled. Clerk will notify Electoral Services at East Riding of Yorkshire Council and confirm that the Council is still able to function with a vacancy.

11/2023/08 – Planning application number 23/01695/PLF:

Discussion of this item was moved to the end of the meeting as the applicant is Cllr McMullen, who left the meeting prior to discussion to enable other councillors to speak freely. After Cllr McMullen absented herself Councillors considered the design and location of the proposed structure (a double garage). Councillors were content with these issues, and were pleased that

the roof would be covered with slates, rather than tiles. As a result, Councillors did not wish to submit any objections to the proposals.

11/2023/09 – Defibrillator:

A letter had been received from Graham Stuart MP regarding a campaign he founded which helps rural communities in his constituency have a defibrillator of their own. It is believed that this letter was delivered to all households in the area and one resident had asked that this be discussed at the meeting. The letter states that the campaign (CADEY) “exists to help you source a defibrillator, and to help you install it, and to maintain it”. It is unclear whether this help extends to funding the cost of obtaining and subsequently maintaining the unit, or whether it is solely help in sourcing. This issue has been discussed before at Council meetings and the concern has always been where a unit may be sited, and who would bear the cost of running (background electricity costs) and maintaining (keeping ancillary equipment in good order/replaced). Councillors requested that the resident who asked us the Council to discuss the matter should be contacted to ask whether or not they would be prepared to have a unit sited at their property. Clerk was also requested to contact CADEY to clarify exactly what help/support might be offered.

11/2023/10 – East Riding Stages Rally 2024

Clerk advised Councillors that any comments should be sent to the organisers by 21st August 2023. There are proposals to extend the racing stage through Swine village (across the bottom of Main Street, and subsequently turning right at the old railway line towards Gravel Hill Farm). Given that access would need to be maintained for emergencies, etc, and that the organisers were prepared to offer a donation towards the village clock fund, Councillors did not wish to raise any objections to the proposal.

11/2023/11 – Update on village signposting

Clerk advised Councillors that the “Angel of the North” is going to be updated. Arms will be reduced in size and the wording of locations heading up Main Street would be re-ordered to reflect the order they would be reached. Cllr Mackereth then suggested that the opposite arm of this signpost probably ought to be changed to “Coniston, Hull”, again to reflect the order the locations would be reached. Clerk will contact East Riding of Yorkshire Council to request this. Clerk also informed Councillors that the “no through road” sign on Main Street would be removed and a new sign installed to the rear of the footway outside number 2. This replacement sign would state “Main Street, no through road”. The sign on the T-junction at the top of Main Street will be completely replaced as it is beyond repair.

11/2023/12 – Update and reconsideration of expenditure of £324 in respect of salt bin maintenance visits by East Riding of Yorkshire Councillor

Clerk informed Councillors that the charges for the additional visits had been challenged with East Riding of Yorkshire Council. ERYC were adamant that these charges had to be paid as members of the public had requested additional visits and they had over 1400 bins to maintain so were unable to identify which ones needed attention until operatives had attended. Councillors were not happy with this explanation. Clerk was requested to establish which of the 6 bins were ERYC bins and which were Parish Council ones. Councillors also asked the Clerk to

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ask ERYC for details of the maintenance contract entered into at the time the additional 3 bins were requested by the Parish Council. Councillors also proposed that the Clerk inform ERYC that they wish to remove the 3 Parish Council salt bins before the next round of maintenance visits and leave just the 3 ERYC salt bins to be maintained. Clerk will need to establish whether Parish Council can simply remove the bins themselves or whether ERYC would need to do so. It was also noted that ERYC charges for maintenance visits were set to increase for this winter from £43 to £49 per visit per bin.

11/2023/13 – Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 14th November 2023 at 7pm, in St Mary's Church Vestry

Any other business:

Cllr Wilkinson informed the meeting that she had been approached by Pat Ported of the Church Council to ask whether anyone could help with maintenance of the churchyard. The current arrangement for grass cutting, etc (which was being done free of charge) was coming to an end and they had received quotes for the work amounting to approximately £260 every 2 weeks for the cutting season. Although Councillors agreed that they would like to offer a contribution towards costs in order to ensure the churchyard was kept in good order the Parish Council's budget simply did not run to this. There was a suggestion of putting goats or donkeys in the churchyard to graze, but the consensus amongst Councillors was that this was not workable. The overall decision was that unfortunately the Parish Council would not be able to offer financial support and that responsibility for resolving the issue had to remain with the Church Council.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm