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Minutes of the Meeting of Swine Parish Council held on 7th May 2024

05/2024/01 – Attendees: Cllrs Y Wilkinson, A Thompson and A Hunter, plus Cllr Amanda Talbot from East riding of Yorkshire Council.

05/2024/02 – Apologies: Cllrs J Mackereth, E McMullen and G Bloom

05/2024/03 – Approval of minutes:

Minutes of the meetings held on 6th February and 29th April 2024 were read and approved unanimously as prepared, and then signed by Cllr Wilkinson.

05/2024/04 – 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. However, Cllr Talbot noted from previous minutes that there have been issues with motorbikes. She informed the meeting that she currently sits on the Police and Crime panel of East Riding of Yorkshire Council. She also commented that all the parishes within her constituency were reporting similar issues, mainly between Thursday and Sunday and that this was an ongoing matter with the panel.

05/2024/05 – Clerk's Report:

(A) Clerk informed Councillors that East Riding of Yorkshire Council had been notified of the decision to have the 3 additional salt bins removed. This had been acknowledged and the Clerk informed that an invoice will be sent (usually within 28 days, which would be from 11th April) for the sum of £78 plus VAT per bin (total of £280.80). Clerk also reminded Councillors that the invoice from East Riding of Yorkshire Council in respect of winter maintenance of these salt bins was still to be received.

(B) Clerk advised Councillors that no response had been received from East Riding of Yorkshire Council regarding the issue of overhanging branches and brambles at the road junction near the disused railway. Clerk to continue to chase.

(C) Clerk informed Councillors that an email had been received from Lisa Roberts at East Riding of Yorkshire Council regarding parking concerns on Dancing Lane. The email suggested that if the Parish Council felt that vehicles were causing a dangerous obstruction on the highway they could report this to the Community Police Team on the non-emergency number, but the Police may choose to act depending on how significant the obstruction is. She also stated that East Riding of Yorkshire Council cannot currently act against pavement and verge parking. The email went on to say that due to the amount of areas around the county with verge parking and over-run East Riding of Yorkshire Council are prioritising work undertaken to provide best value for

money. Verge damage is considered a low priority. The email stated that East Riding of Yorkshire Council will continue to monitor the parking and any subsequent verge damage, and undertake any minor repair deemed necessary. Councillors were unhappy with this response and asked the Clerk to pursue. However, Councillor Talbot suggested that the Clerk forward the email to both her and the local PCSO Darren Bainton and explain the situation. They may be able to prompt a more positive outcome. Clerk to forward the email.

(D) Clerk informed Councillors that an email had been received from Phil Smith at East Riding of Yorkshire Council regarding the replacement bridge over the culvert. The email explained that the previous structure was in poor condition and in danger of collapse, and that a bridge in this condition would normally need a full replacement involving a concrete box culvert or concrete pipe. However, this would have meant closing the road for approximately 8 weeks, which wasn't viable due to it serving numerous farms and homes, with no alternative access route. An alternative solution was decided upon which involved inserting a GRP pipe into the original masonry arch and then installing piles and reinforced concrete headwalls. This has resulted in low concrete headwalls instead of brick ones, with galvanised post and rail fencing on top, with timber fencing and hedging. Phil Smith expressed that he appreciated that the headwalls are more prominent than before, partly due to bright new concrete and galvanising, but that this would dull over time. This would also be helped when the verges and hedging returning to their previous states (i.e. fairly overgrown), although this will take time. Cllr Hunter disputed a number of points made in the email. He recounted a conversation with the contractor that the "normal" solution mentioned in the email wouldn't have taken anywhere close to 8 weeks, and indeed it could have been completed over the course of a weekend, had the appropriate consultation with local farmers and residents been undertaken. He was also of the opinion that the replacement hedges would not grow as they appear to be dying. The question was asked as to why the metalwork is so high as other bridges in the area with similar metalwork are not the same (e.g. Kelwell and Smithy Bridge). Clerk to raise.

05/2024/06 - Finance:

(A) Clerk was unable to report on the current bank balance as no statement had been received.
(B) Clerk advised Councillors that the precept demand of £850 had been submitted and approved. Clerk had received confirmation that this was due to be paid to the Parish Council's bank account on 30th April, so should have arrived by now.

05/2024/07 – Communication from East Riding of Yorkshire Council regarding village signposts

The Clerk had received an email from Ruth Wilson at East Riding of Yorkshire Council regarding the newly installed "Main Street" signs, which had disappeared/been stolen shortly after installation. The email asked whether there was any information as to the disappearance; no information was forthcoming from anyone present. However, on arrival at the meeting, it was discovered that both signs were propped up by the door. Both appeared to be undamaged. As per the email, Clerk specifically asked whether any of the Councillors had objections as to the installation of the signs and was told no. Clerk informed the meeting that she would collect the signs and take them for safekeeping, and inform East Riding of Yorkshire Council (Ruth Wilson) of the situation. Councillor Talbot asked if she could reply to Ruth Wilson on the Parish Council's behalf, which was agreed. She felt that the replacement/ altered "Angel of the North" was not satisfactory and stands out like a sore thumb. Clerk to forward the email to Councillor Talbot.

05/2024/08 – Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 6th August 2024 at 7pm, in St Mary's Church Vestry

Any other business: -

Councillor Talbot spoke to the meeting regarding a new strategy from East Riding of Yorkshire Council. There are 3 Councillors for her constituency which covers 18 parishes, including Swine. They are trying to attend Parish Council meetings as often as possible to try and ensure that Parishes meet all Ward Councillors, all of whom sit on different panels and committees at East Riding of Yorkshire Council and can offer different viewpoints on issues raised at Parish Council meetings. They are also offering street surgeries on Saturdays to enable Parish Councillors and residents to meet the Ward Councillors and raise issues and concerns direct. Councillor Talbot offered the opportunity to set one up for Swine, which was welcomed. She felt that Ward Councillors can often offer more weight to issues and get things moving more quickly, and agreed to get a street surgery set up.

Meeting closed at 7.45pm