

Swine Parish Council

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Minutes of the Meeting of Swine Parish Council held on 19th January 2026

01/2026/01 – Attendees: Cllrs Y Wilkinson, G Bloom, A Hunter, G Oliver
No members of the public were in attendance

01/2026/02 – Apologies: Cllrs J Mackereth, A Thompson,

01/2026/03 – Approval of minutes:

Minutes of the meetings held on 11th November 2025 and 7th January 2026 were approved unanimously as prepared, and signed by the Chairman.

01/2026/04 – Police Reports

Police reports were circulated for October and November. Clerk reported that December's report had not been received. It was observed that there continue to be fuel theft from petrol stations, particularly Long Riston.

01/2026/05 – Clerk's Report:

(A) The Clerk reported that she had contacted several neighbouring parish clerks to understand their positions on moving to *.gov.uk* email addresses. The general view was that the additional cost was not desirable, and most councils were still exploring alternatives to the option provided by ERYC SmartICT. No councils were planning to make the change at this stage, although there was recognition that it may become a legal requirement in the future.

Clerk confirmed that, by maintaining council information on a dedicated laptop and publishing required documents on the website, she was satisfied that the parish council's GDPR obligations and FOI requirements continued to be met.

(B) Regarding recent activity around the wall at Swine Station, Councillor Oliver reported that he had spoken with the contractors on site. They confirmed that ERYC had instructed the wall to be reduced in height for health and safety reasons. The wall would be capped once lowered, although the final finish had not yet been confirmed. Vegetation around the wall, including bushes and trees, was also being removed. A temporary repair had been made to the fence on the platform side adjacent to the wall.

Councillor Oliver had also spoken to Dick Wastling, who planned to remove the existing farm gate and replace it with hedging. He intended to install a small gate to allow access to the bird feeders. The Council expressed its approval for this proposal.

(C) Clerk reported the latest update from the Highways Engineer regarding the planned works on Coniston Lane. The CCTV survey of the drains has now been scheduled for 23rd–24th February. No confirmed date has yet been provided for the installation of the non-return valve, other than an indication that it will be completed before the end of March.

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Councillor Hunter noted that a previous CCTV survey had not extended far enough along the drain and therefore failed to identify the section where the pipe had been broken.

It was also noted that ERYC has installed new flood-warning signs on Coniston Lane.

01/2026/06 – Finance:

(A) There have been no transactions since the last meeting so the bank balance remains at £778.31

(B) Confirmation has been received from ERYC of the Precept at £945, which represents a 4.5% increase on last year, equating to 71p on a Band D property. It will be paid into the bank on 30th April.

AOB There were no items of any other business.

01/2026/08 – Date of Next Meeting: Monday 11th May 2026 at 7pm, in St Mary's Church Vestry

Meeting closed at 7.35pm

DRAFT