

DRAFT MINUTES
SOUTH WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 21 MARCH 2024

Present: Cllr V Edmundson (Chair), Cllr F Christie, Cllr K Marsh, Cllr Stuart McDowell, Cllr J Pedersen (drafted minutes in Clerk's absence).

1. Apologies for absence and reasons given:

Shirley Asquith (Clerk) due to a previous engagement.
Cllr Ron Granger due to work commitments.

2. Vacancies

The vacancy left by the resignation of Cllr Bray has been advertised. No interest has been shown to date. The vacancy can now be filled by co-option should anyone who meets the criteria apply. A possible approach to two residents of the village was discussed.

3. Declarations of interest in any items on this agenda

Cllr McDowell previously stated that he has an interest in the item about the proposed bike park and will abstain from voting on any matters which present a conflict of interest.

4. To agree the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 18 January 2024

The Minutes were agreed as an accurate record and will be signed by the Chair and Clerk at the next SWPC meeting. **Action: to sign minutes.**

5. Matters arising from the Parish Council meeting held 18 January 2024

There were no matters arising not included on the agenda.

6. Financial matters

The financial report, alongside the latest bank statement, was circulated and Approved.

7. Agreement of Draft Budget

The 2024-2025 budget was reviewed and agreed by the Chair and all Councillors.

8. Defibrillator

The window to apply for applications will open in August 2024. **Action: Cllr Marsh will apply at that point.**

9. Bus Shelter

The Clerk has been in contact with ELDC and it seems that repair is on the list to be undertaken by the Council at some point. **Action: Clerk to follow up.**

10. Bike track Heneage Estate (standing item)

This was discussed at the end of the meeting to accommodate any conflict of interest for Cllr McDowell. A response has been received to the Freedom of Information

request submitted by Cllr Christie. The information does not provide a further legal route to challenge the planned bike park. The amendments to the planning proposal were approved 6-4 at the most recent planning committee meeting. Cllr Christie had enquired as to the location of the passing places on Donnington Road and the response was that ELDC planning would work with LCC Highways, LCC Highways would take on responsibility for the layby, and the Hainton Estate would fund the cost of construction. **Action: Cllr Christie will share further information with Councillors when known.**

11. Risk management (standing item)

The bench next to the telephone box is not anchored into concrete and this could be a safety risk. Cllr Granger was reported to have offered to secure the bench although the company are aware this needs to be actioned. Cllr Christie to remind the gifting company.

The bus shelter repair is ongoing.

12. Planning matters

No new planning matters were discussed.

13. Parish Council initiatives

First Aid/CPR training. **Action: Cllr Marsh to decide a date in May or a twilight session and discuss with the Clerk when the hall will be available.**

A request was made for someone to take over the running of the village website as the current administrator is unable to continue with it. This is where the parish council information is published along with other general information. **Action: Cllr Christie will take over the village website.**

14. Correspondence

None received.

15. Items for next agenda

Footpaths; potholes; date of CPR training; village tidy up planning.

16. Date of next meeting

16 May 2024.

The meeting closed at 7.54 pm.

Signed (Chair)

Date