

## SWINTON & LADYKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> October

2023 at 7.00pm in the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Swinton

### PRESENT:

Iain Woolley (IW) (Chair), Bill Purvis (BP), Kenneth Morton (KM), Tim Morris (TM) , John Cochrane (JC), Michael Lawrence, Meg Reid (MR) Councillors John Greenwell (JG) and Donald Moffat (DM) One member of the public

**APOLOGIES:** Fiona Wilson

**Minutes taken by:** Bill Purvis

**Next meeting:** 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023

**Welcome:** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023, having been circulated to members, were agreed.

**Proposed:** JC    **Seconded:** ML

### Matters Arising:

- Core Path - Meeting with Neil Pringle confirmed that hedges fencing should not be on Core Path which is part of our Safe Route to School. Mark Payne, Roads Planning Officer, has now visited site and will contact developer to have fence moved. He has also spoken to Planning Officer who take forward the upgrade works to the path.
- A meeting with Carol Cooke, Parks & Environment Manager, took place the same day. It transpired that SBC had been asked, in the past, not to cut grass in the old graveyard as it was to be a wildflower meadow. Agreed that while we do not wish it cut in the Spring, it should be cut at least once in the Summer months. If we wished the current burial ground cut more often we would require to have another area cut fewer times. It has been suggested that the grass area opposite war memorial, now planted with bulbs etc. could be mowed less often but we shall seek views from public on this.

### Treasurer's Report:

- Receipts for £300 from SEG for bulbs etc.
- Insurance from last year £173.51 now paid.
- Insurance for current year will be approximately £60 more.

**Police Report:** September received. No specific Swinton or Ladykirk incidents. Although there are several incidences of thefts from farms

**Planning Applications:** None for our area this time. However, there is much concern in our neighbouring area of Eccles, Leitholm and Birgham re large Battery Energy Storage Units being planned in their area. One especially is close to residential property and there are doubts as to the safety of these units. A Public Meeting will be held in Leitholm Village Hall on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**Update from Regional Councillors:**

- DM Advised that there is still a space on the Community Speed Watch Pilot Scheme and suggested we apply.
- JG Advises Carol Cooke has taken over at SBC as Parks and Green Spaces Manager and she will be looking at new ways of doing things.
- Bus Routes – JG advises that none will be taken away in entirety. Discussions are ongoing.

**Update on Hudson Ladykirk Development (Everley Meadow):**

- Eventual reply from SBC Planning more or less states that fund will not be paid over until development complete and then may be used by SBC for maintenance of current equipment. JG will contact Carol Cooke in this regard.

**Swinton Hub/Church:**

- Open Day on September 9<sup>th</sup> had been quite successful with approximately 30 people attending.
- Church of Scotland have still to advise selling price for Church building.

**Swinton Village Enhancement Group:**

- Bulbs have been planted on the grass area opposite war memorial.
- Further planting ongoing.
- Group confirmed that they are looking to replace seat at “Besom Davy”.

**Marquees:**

- Marquees had been erected for Horticultural Society Show.
- Due to damp weather, it proved difficult to dismantle them dry and before this could happen some damage was incurred due to high winds.
- Squad involved in erecting/dismantling marquees is not getting any younger and, unless we can get some younger volunteers, hirer may have to erect/dismantle themselves with supervision from us.
- Letter form Swinton Horticultural Society thanking squad who erected/dismantled marquees.

**Christmas Lights:**

- We have the same problem as with marquees in that it is left to a few people, who again are not getting any younger, to erect our Christmas lights each year. Younger people or other organisations have to get involved.
- Our Christmas lights will be erected on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 10.00am. If you are able. PLEASE COME ALONG AND HELP.

- This year the switch-on of our lights will be on Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023 at 6.30pm.

#### **Parking:**

- A meeting with SBC's Road Safety Officer and the police will be arranged to discuss parking in Swinton.
- A letter from a member of the public had been received who is totally in favour of a total ban on pavement parking.

#### **Speeding:**

- The following members put their names forward for Community Speed Watch training: IW, MR, ML, BP, TM.

#### **New Initiatives and Public Engagement:**

- Items for Newsletter
- Chair and/or Secretary should review Newsletter prior to issue.
- How to include Ladykirk.

#### **Correspondence:**

As circulated.

#### **A.O.C.B.**

MR suggested a flagpole be erected on the village green. This received little support as it was felt that without a strict protocol in force we would be approached by various groups wishing us to fly their flag.

**All business being concluded the meeting closed at 9.00pm**

Next meeting Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 7pm.