

Present: Cllrs Mr S Massey (Chairman), Mr G Fanthom (Vice Chairman), Mrs D Chandler, Mrs L Page, Dr R Painter, Mr S Hewitt, Mrs S Woods and Mr A Osbourne.

Also, present Mrs J Cree – Clerk and County Cllr Mrs V Wilson.

28/25. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs P Halford sent her apologies for the meeting.

29/25. To receive any information on Crime and Anti-social Behaviour.

No report has been received for the meeting.

The car thefts have increased in Wombourne, and a shop in Wombourne has also been broken into, this was noted.

There was an online Police Surgery on the 20th February which Cllr Dr R Painter attended, the main areas of concern for this area are car thefts, speeding and we are in a low crime area, but more people should attend these surgeries as it is a good way to speak directly to the police.

30/25. To receive information from Rev. Fisher re Swindon Church issues

Please welcome Rev Richard Fisher to provide an update on St John's Church, Richard will give an overview and then we can have 5 to 10 minutes for Q&A

Rev Richard Fisher updated members on the following points:-

- He is sending a sign in sheet so members can be kept up to date in what happening at the church and the team of churches.
- The meeting last month was encouraging 46 people attended.
- Representatives from the United Reform Church, various ideas were put forward how to proceed and work together. A meeting is to be organised.
- One of the ideas that came forward was how the building can be used as an additional community space, and many people do not realise the church is there.
- Church services are resuming on Sunday for the first time in 6 weeks as the heating has been fixed.
- They need 15-20 people to be attending church regularly. At present there are 5, and they need musicians, and possible have a choir.
- The building changes may be costly to alter due to the pews etc.
- They may have an open day to show where the church is and what they can offer.
- He will circulate the minutes from that meeting and any updates.
- The school use the church for certain events, but not weekly and has not happened for many years. They have good links with the school. The criteria to attend the school re attending worship is not part of the agreement on the intake. He attends the school on a regular basis, the Swindon school Cllr Dr R Painter reported that the school have an efficient way of dealing with worship by having the Rev attend the school to save time and logistics in moving the children to the church.
- The church has some facilities an outside toilet and a kitchen. The community help with cleaning the toilet facilities.

- In Bobbington, they were in a similar situation last year, and the community rallied round after awareness was raised, the congregation went from a handful to 20 people.
- The idea of a Sunday School was raised, but it takes volunteers to run this facility.
- This Sunday at 9.30am is an all ages worship service, which lasts 45 mins.
- The possibility of sponsorship lighting the church at night.
- Worship Services are the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 9.30am

He will keep in touch to keep members updated with the church and try to encourage volunteers to help with jobs around the Church. If there any groups looking for a small space they can use the back of the church.

31/25. Declarations of Councillors' Interest.

Cllrs Mr G Fanthom, Mrs L Page and Mr S Massey re affirmed that having previously declared an interest as they are serving members of Swindon Community Centre.

32/25. To receive for confirmation and adoption, the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th February 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on the above date were proposed by Cllr Mr S Massey and seconded by Cllr Dr R Painter for acceptance and they were agreed.

33/25. County Councillor to address the Council on any matters relevant to the Parish

The County Councillor Mrs V Wilson reported on the devolution deal update – it involves the Parish Council and the residents in their parish. A full council meeting took place today and the initial proposal was voted through. The outline proposal has to be in on the 21st March. Then evidence gathering etc has to be submitted by November. There are several proposals put forward from varying authorities. There will be lots of job losses as positions won't be duplicated. The proposals are to make life easier on who to deal with a central point. Parish Councils will end up doing more than they do now and they will have services pushed through to them. It will possibly take up to 10 years for everything to be back in place. Starting in as little as 2 years.

34/25. To discuss Development Applications received, decisions and appeals.

25/00141/FULHH - Two storey side/rear extension, new dormer windows to front, and side porch - 12 St Johns Close Swindon – No comment.

25/00148/FULHH - Rear conservatory dining area - 43 Marsh Grove Swindon – No comment.

25/00157/FULHH - Proposed erection of new detached garage - Sycamores Smestow Road Swindon – No comment.

25/00130/FUL Demolition of existing golf clubhouse and driving range buildings and redevelopment to include erection of three new houses with detached garages and associated parking and garden areas - The Staffordshire Golf Club Bridgnorth Road Swindon – No Comment.

25/00205/FULHH Single storey front/side extension and raised annex flat roof - 46 Wombourne Road Swindon – No Comment.

35/25. To receive an update on the SID posts.

The quote for installing 2 posts has come in at £2968, just shy of 50% less than Staffordshire County undertaking the work. It was proposed by Cllr Dr R Painter and seconded by Cllr S Hewitt to accept the quote and on a vote this was agreed.

We have two locations within the village. SID will be in situ on the High Street until the end of April 2025, this will be three months of data gathered, as agreed in February 2025 meeting.

SID data is passed to SSDC at the end of each month.

Whilst the Chairman has been emailing the data to Cllr's on a monthly basis would it be more beneficial for public record if we minute the average and highest recorded speeds? Rather than emailing the information? As we are unable to do anything with the data other than pass to SSDC who pass to the Police

V85 = the average speed of the 15th fastest vehicle in every 100 vehicles. This is the one the police are interested in, they look for a V85 in excess of, the speed limit of the road, plus 10%, plus 2mph. So, for a 30mph road a V85 of over 35mph.

Vd = average speed recorded for the evaluation period.

Vmax = the highest speed value recorded for the evaluation period.

The SID takes a reading every 1.5 seconds, so a vehicle won't just have one reading it will have several as it travels from point of first detection (this can be circa 120m away on a straight road) to the point of last detection as it passes the SID, these readings are what are referred to as values in the report, thus there should always be multiple values per vehicle. The software in the app or the Viagraph for PC program works out how many vehicles relate to the number of values the SID has recorded.

The SID data was provided to Councillors by email, the data is also shared with the District Council to be discussed at the Police tactical meetings.

It was proposed by Cllr Mr S Masey and seconded by Cllr Mr G Fanthom to have this information in the minutes so the public get the data and it is formally recorded.

36/25. To receive an update and discuss any maintenance and repairs required within the Parish

The sponsored bench has been installed on the High Street by the Community Centre using grant funds from SSDC, it has been well received with plenty of positive comments. It was proposed by Cllr Mr S Massey and seconded by Cllr Mrs L Page to have a plaque on the new benches stating where it was grant funded from and Swindon Parish Council 2025. This was agreed.

SSDC have agreed to install and fund the bench base at Hinksford after initially advising they would be unable to fund the base.

A site meeting has taken place at Hinksford with Harvey Baines from SSDC following some concerns being raised, following the meeting SSDC have a program of planned and reactive maintenance for the property.

The bench refurb at shops is currently on hold to replace the wood with plastic, the supplier was not sure the planks of plastic wood would be strong enough, so this will be reviewed in the future when a different supplier may be able to supply the plastic wood required.

The trees have been trimmed around the Community centre and the digital kiosk has arrived, the

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photo's are currently being digitised ready for display.

The new bins have been delivered and fitted outside the shops today from SSDC.

Concern was raised re the future ownership of the playing fields that is leased from the District Council which in a couple of years will no longer exist; should the Council like to look at purchasing the land / take it over. It was noted that the Council has a lease for 65 years already on this land. So, this could be looked at in the future, but it was felt it is not necessary at this time.

37/25. To discuss CPR and Defib training for Parish residents

This is currently on hold, the Community First Responders are registered charities, last time we used the Dudley responders as they were closer to Swindon, however they have passed Swindon's details to South Staffordshire First Responders who would appreciate our support and officially cover this area.

Due to some technical issues the admin person experienced at South Staffordshire First Responders we were unable to agree a suitable date with them prior to the printing on the latest newsletter. Therefore, the date is to be arranged for later in the year.

38/25. To receive the report of the Clerk

The following items were noted:-

SPCA Bulletin

Nominate Your Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for the BBC Make A Difference Awards 2025!

Cancer Bus Tour - Starts in Lichfield on 3rd March – the Chairman has followed up on this and they will be looking at additional locations which the bus has not been able to cover on its first tour.

39/25. To agree accounts for payment

The accounts for payment were listed below:-

Clerks Salary March	£371.10
HMRC March	£92.60
Talktalk	£31.42 inc vat
Newsletter	£118.00 no vat – Paid
Cricket Club	£250.00 (gate opening closing)
Bowls Club	£250.00 (gate opening closing)

It was proposed by Cllr Mr S Massey and seconded by Cllr Mrs D Chandler to accept the accounts for payment detailed above. On a vote this was carried.

It was noted that the following had been paid, after being previously agreed:-

Luke Collett Trees	£ 600.00 inc vat – PAID
Digital Kiosk	£2862.00 inc vat - PAID

Income - SSDC Grant payment for Digital Kiosk £1669.50

40/25. Items for future agendas (to be submitted to Chairman and Clerk for consideration by the 1st April (CCTV Spring). Purchase additional SID, path by cricket club, VE Day.

41/25. Date of next meeting – Thursday 10th April 2025

Meeting closed at 20.35pm

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