

SWAYFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Cllrs: Mrs W Peat (Chair) Mr K Holden (Vice Chairman)

Mrs J Geeson, Mr D Metcalfe, Mr A Cusdin, Mr T Small, Mr A Shorrock, Administrator: Mrs A Reichelt.

Email: swayfieldparish@gmail.com

Draft Minutes of Swayfield PC Meeting 17th September 2025, 7.00pm

1.0 Apologies for Absence- None

2.0 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with the 2011 Local Government Act. – *personal or prejudicial interest in any items for discussion.* None

3.0 Draft Notes of the Parish Council meetings held on Wednesday 21st May 2025 and the extraordinary meeting on Wednesday 16th July 2025 to be approved as the Minutes. Proposed by Councillor Holden seconded by Councillor Metcalfe.

4.0 Councillors' reports:

4.1 Cllr Nick Robins informed us of a new paint recycling service at Bourne recycling centre. Paint can now be donated and acquired; it is a free of charge facility. The Meres Leisure Centre is to have a £240,000 refurbishment. Stamford Cattle Market car park has had four electric vehicle charge points installed, unfortunately these are not fast chargers. Cllr Robins informed us that the new bin collection days were a necessary decision but will have teething troubles. If the Parishioners do not have their bins emptied on the new collection day, they are to leave them out for the 'mop up' crew.

4.2 Recreation ground: ROSPA report. Cllr Holden has read the report and many of the items flagged are easy fixes, a perimeter fence post will need to be replaced next year, it is beginning to rot but is not a danger to the public. The bolts need to be replaced on the net poles; plastic safety caps have been replaced on the exposed fixings. The see saw will need replacement timber. The swing timbers that were replaced by the Cllrs passed the inspection, so it was proposed by Cllr Holden that we proceed with replacing the remaining four posts and the see saw posts. Storage of the posts will need to be sourced and a minimum spend of £600 will be required for the posts with delivery at an additional cost.

Free Apple trees: It has been brought to our attention that the Parish can acquire free apple trees through the County Council. The Cllrs agreed that the only place the trees could be installed within the village would be the recreational ground. It was put to a vote, and the decision was unanimous to not plant any more trees in the recreation ground.

4.3 Phone Kiosk: Cllr Geeson would respectfully ask the parish to use the phone kiosk as a book exchange facility. Please take a book and leave a book. We currently do not have a facility to recycle the books. A member of the public offered to forward the details of a company that collects and recycles books.

4.4 Highways: Cllr Cusdin volunteered to chase Rowan Smith for the village walk about. The Highways did not respond to our letter asking for Corby Road to be gritted in the winter months. The Cllrs decided to write to them again.

4.5 Defibrillator: Working and all in order. The defibrillator will require a new battery and pads in 2026. This will be in excess of £500 and will be budgeted for in the Spring.

4.6 Lighting the beacon. The proximity of the beacon to surrounding houses, telephone wires and trees has become an issue. The parish cannot get insurance for lighting the beacon in future in its present location, it needs a 16-metre perimeter for safety. The Parish does not have a suitable location within the constituency where the beacon could be placed, and Cllrs do not wish for it to be moved. The Beacon will not be lit again. Cllr Small is to research an alternative to an open flame so the beacon can still be used as a gathering point for future events.

4.7 Pingle Lane: The Cllrs have agreed to continue maintaining the lane annually. The contract is currently with Giles Percival.

5.0 Other Agenda Items

5.1 Pingle Lane – Cllr Metcalfe and Cllr Peat agreed to respond to the letters received from Mr T Bradley.

5.2 Honey Pot Lane:
The Parish Council received a letter from a parishioner regarding the Waste Disposal site at Honey Pot Lane industrial site. It is licensed by the Environment Agency to compost green waste from Lincolnshire and Rutland County Councils and act as a landfill site for various other CC's. The fire at the recycling plant is the second fire within the facility in the last seven years. Some Swayfield villagers were affected by the smoke and smell during the latest fire.
Cllr Robins informed us that the decision to allow the green waste to burn, as opposed to extinguishing it, was determined as a better environmental option, gallons of water would have been required which would lead to contamination of waterways. The fire is classified as a 'watching brief' by the Fire Brigade. A letter has been sent by the parishioner to our Local MP requesting the revoking of the license.

5.3 Open forum - Discussed within 5.2

5.4 Signing of the Acceptance of Office Form by Adam Shorrock

5.5 Footpaths - Access within the village, Access through gates via styes will be discussed with Rowan Smith when he does the village walk about.

6.0 Financial matters:

6.1 Financial report, position at bank. Cllr Metcalfe informed the Cllrs that we are in a relatively healthy state, however we do have expected expenditure with regard to the recreation ground. The bank account with the BACS system is working very well. Charges to the account have dropped significantly.

6.2 BACS approvals
ROSPA £105.60
GDPR £52.00
Administrator's wages £411.84

7.0 Planning applications and approvals

7.1 S25/0694 (Church Farm) Proposed rear extension. Approved with conditions

7.2 S25/1042 (14 High Street) Proposed single-storey rear extension. Approved with conditions

7.3 S25/1308 (65 Corby Road) First floor side extension, single storey rear extension to replace conservatory. Awaiting decision.

8.0 Dates of future meetings

8.1 Wednesday 19th November. 7pm

9.0 Correspondence-

9.1 Mr T Bradley's letters. Cllr Peat will write with regard to the maintenance of Pingle Lane. Cllr Metcalfe will respond with reference to the definitive map modification.

9.2 The Cllrs would like to thank again Mr A Jenkins for his thorough report to National Grid WMEL pylons proposals and the Cllrs are delighted that he has accepted the role as consultant in the future.