

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 16th September 2026, 7.00pm

1.0 Public Forum – Three parishioners were in attendance.

During the public forum session the parishioners spoke of their concerns regarding the publication of The *Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire (WMEL) Project Stage 2* document that all householders received from the National Grid (NG). Concerns are:

- The unsatisfactory explanations from NG as to why they have chosen the southern edge of Corby Glen to route pylons to the WMEL/A substation. NG cited flooding issues on the northern route but the parishioner stated that they felt this to be invalid.
- The proposed siting of the pylons across farmland used for rearing livestock.
- Aesthetically their proposed route directly impedes the Holford planning rules
- The new pylons will directly affect the residents on Corby Road and Overgate Road
- Residents are being asked to make a comment on the consultation on incomplete evidence since the Heritage assessment for the area has been delayed
- Two proposed new pylons are close to existing pylons

Cllr Peat thanked the parishioners for attending and for their valuable input

2.0 Apologies for Absence- Cllr Shorrock

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

4.0 Draft Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on Wednesday 20th May 2026. Approved by Cllr Metcalfe and seconded by Cllr Holden. The APM minutes were proposed as accurate by Cllr Small and seconded by Cllr Cusdin.

5.0 Councillors' reports:

5.1 District and County Councillors- Not in attendance.

5.2 Recreation ground: Cllr Holden has now replaced the seesaw timbers, this was inspected by ROSPA and passed. The swing timbers need to be replaced, we have the timber to complete this work.

5.2.1 Maintenance of the recreation ground.

Cllr Holden proposed to the Cllrs that a budget for continued maintenance work, other than cutting the grass, was essential to keep the recreation ground safe and useable. Large cracks in the ground have appeared after the long dry spell and need to be filled, the brambles need cutting back or removing.

Cllr Metcalfe reminded the Cllrs that this expenditure will need to be included within the Parish budget. Cllr Cusdin offered to ask a gardener working within the village if he would like the job initially as a one off. Cllr Peat proposed that an initial £150 be granted for the immediate work, this was seconded by Cllr Cusdin. Cllr Metcalfe proposed that this be added to the budget and be discussed in January 2027.

5.2.2 ROSPA report – With exception to a bolt missing from the swings, the recreation ground passed its inspection. The bolt has now been replaced.

5.2.3 Detectorist: A detectorist approached the Cllrs and was given permission to detect on the recreation ground with a 'finders keepers' grant. There were between 30 and 40 pieces of interest detected. It was proposed that we ask if the pieces can be placed on display in the village hall perhaps at one of the fairs.

5.3 Phone Kiosk: Cllr Geeson reported that the book exchange was currently working well, however the kiosk is an exchange service and carrier bags of books should not be left.

5.4 Highways: Cllr Cusdin reported the potholes on Overgate Road and Water Lane, have been fixed. The condition of Church Lane was also reported, it is not classified as a priority which Cllr Cusdin disputed. It is used by pedestrians and vehicles. It is an unlit lane and the potholes are a trip hazard. He proposed that we reclassify the area as a pavement which would improve its classification for improvement. He awaits a response from County Council Highways.

5.5 Defibrillator: The defibrillator is in good working order.

5.6 Beacon: It was proposed by Cllr Geeson that we remove the beacon from the agenda until a solution be resolved. Should an occasion arise where the beacon should be included, it will be reinstated. This was agreed unanimously.

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 did have an overspend of £2000 last year. The financial report was proposed to be accurate by Cllr Holden and seconded by Cllr Geeson.

6.2 BACS approvals
Administrators wages £422.25

7.0 Planning applications and approval

S26/0321 3 new detached houses on Castle Bytham Road – Refused. No positive contribution to the village, out of character to the area and not in the Local plan for development.

S26/0383 – Mulberry House – Approved Conditionally

S26/0488 - 2 The Crescent – Approved Conditionally

8.0 Correspondence-

8.1 Mr Martyn Poessinouw – Mr Poessinouw's letter was discussed in the open forum with regard to WMEL. Cllr Peat informed everyone that there will be an opportunity to discuss Stage 2 via a Webinar with NG , on Wednesday 20th October.

8.2 Swift boxes grant. The Parish Council have received a request on behalf of the village nature group to look after the monies which they may receive in a grant and also be lent money prior to the grant application being approved. It was proposed that Cllr Cusdin would speak to the parishioner suggesting a long term solution to managing the grant funds.

9.0 Items of urgency for discussion.

9.1 Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire Project 2 – This was discussed at length in the open forum. To conclude, an extraordinary meeting was proposed to take place on October 7th to consolidate the PC's response to the consultation, including input from residents.

Cllr Holden agreed to draft an objection letter on behalf of the Parish. This letter will be reviewed for approval at the extraordinary meeting.

9.2 Announcing PC Meetings on social media – It was agreed unanimously that all meetings will be announced via the village Whatsapp in addition to the notice board and website. The Parish Council would like to make parishioners aware that responses to issues raised either during open sessions or by letter / email will be put on the Agenda for the next meeting for discussion

Cllr Geeson would like to remind the parish that dog mess should be the responsibility of the dog owner and picking it up and leaving it bagged on the pavement/verges or hedges was not appropriate disposal.

10.0 Date of next meeting : Extraordinary meeting, Wednesday October 7th 2026 at 7PM

Wednesday November 18th 2026 at 7PM

Wednesday January 20th 2027 at 7PM

Wednesday March 17th 2027 at 7PM