

SWINESHEAD PARISH COUNCIL



Parish Council Office

1 & 2 North End
Swineshead
PE20 3LR

Chairman: Councillor Carl Gibbard

Clerk: Diane Fairweather

Minutes of the Meeting of Swineshead Parish Council

Held on Tuesday 17th March 2026 at Swineshead Community Hub,
1 & 2 North End, Swineshead PE20 3LR

Present:

Councillors Carl Gibbard, (Chairman), Sean Trafford (Vice Chairman), Nicola Campbell, Jo Hudson-McKenzie, Dave Lemon, Phillippa Parnell, Roger Welberry and Clerk Diane Fairweather.

Borough Councillors Reports

Stuart Evans: visited Hemswell anaerobic digester which converts food waste to energy. The importance of this must be relayed to the people. Plastic and cardboard containers can be used in food caddies to alleviate the 'yuck factor'

Suzanne Welberry: Boston Community Governance Review (CGR) This is ongoing work to establish a Town/Parish Council for Boston in order local assets i.e. The Guildhall, mayoralty, regalia are not lost to Lincoln when Boston Borough Council goes.

Public consultation is soon to be announced, and Cllr Welberry urges all to have an input. Details to be on PC Facebook page.

PUBLIC FORUM

Owner of business in High Street handed in petition signed by 180 people, 85% of which are residents, to remove the extended yellow line on the High Street. Customers of the Post Office are finding it difficult to park. Mixed thoughts in majority feel two traffic now flows better but some believe it is a speed track. Mr Tice MP has suggested she obtain PC backing for this. Parish Council are not the decision makers, that is the task of Highways after their completion of various surveys. Post Office will close if nothing can be done to assist the parking. Council agreed to forward the petition to Highways Department.

1. Chairman's remarks:

2. **Apologies for absence** were received and accepted from Cllrs Brookes, Lawrence, Trafford and County Cllr Lock

3. **To receive declarations of interest** under the Localism Act 2011 – being pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in agenda items.
Cllr Gibbard – owner of the Council Offices

4. **To approve as a correct record**, the notes of the meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 17th February 2026.

On proposal from Cllr Trafford, seconded Cllr Lemon that these be signed as a true copy.

5. Clerk's Updates on Outstanding Matters.

Contractor for flooring in play area had not attended or been in touch. Clerk to source another option.



6. Financial matters:

- i) Bank balances as of community account - £91921.75
Instant online -£ 6601.63. Clerk had transferred £20k from the everyday account as it is not earning interest. Finance meeting to be called, once new representatives are nominated at Annual Meeting as surplus money could be invested in a 32-day notice account. Clerk had received insurance renewal. Clerk to obtain comparative quotations. Asset register requires updating. Clerk to forward for Councillor input, to be approved at Annual meeting.
- i) To approve payments as per schedule. On proposal from Cllr Trafford, seconded Cllr Parnell, all resolved to accept the payments. Clerk given delegated powers, proposed Cllr Welberry, seconded Cllr Campbell to pay amounts outstanding to HMRC and pensions. Approximately £3,000, so all is in order at year end.
- ii) To Discuss/Approve purchase of hedgehog nesting homes. Cllr Welberry had shown interest from previous correspondence. Proposed Cllr Welberry seconded Cllr Campbell, 4 boxes be purchased. Assistance to be taken from company on siting.
- iii) To Discuss/Approve replacement of 4 lights in Butler Way. Quotation from BBC contractors EON £1400 + VAT. Expensive but would be 4 more lights saving overall costs.
Cllr Trafford advised three lights at junction of Abbey Road, Butlers Way and Townfield Lane had been reported some time ago, but no action taken yet. Clerk to speak with officer at BBC.

7. Town and Country Planning Act 1990. To consider and make observations on planning applications received since last meeting.

- B/26/010** Eastholme, Villa Lane – proposed single storey rear extension. No objections.
B/24/0452 – Land off Station Road, 115 dwellings, favourable with conditions.

8. Councillor's and village reports, actions & updates:

- Swineshead Community Emergency Plan. Agreed a meeting with Chair, Vice, Cllrs Campbell, Lawrence and Clerk to meet with James Cantwell to move forward on plan.
- Play area – new climbing wall. Advised today were successful with grant application. Order placed today. 6–8-week lead time. Chance for a site meet to consider placing of wall. Cllr Parnell wishes to step down from RoSPA checks. It was agreed to source training for Cllr J Hudson-McKenzie to take over inspections. Cllr Parnell to assist with initial inspections.
- Swineshead Benevolent Foundation. No updates to report.
- Swineshead Village Hall, lease renewal. Still with legal team. PC had been advised the Management Committee would accept any support and assistance the PC could offer. Treasurer had resigned and PC Clerk had taken on finances. Net meeting of committee is AGM. PC to attend to show support in any way that is needed and requested.
- Play Area ground rent. No updates.

9. To Receive Parish Council Updates.

- **Community Hub** Clerk had asked of a pop-up clinic for teeth and general health issues would be available to Parishes and not just Boston Borough. Nothing expected in near future.
- **Library** – clerk attended recent meeting. Good ideas on how to bring more people to the library but as Marion, from LCC, pointed out, they are not alone with the



reduction in numbers, particularly the youngsters, as there is so much free playgroup/nursery care available. Request for a new internal notice board, an A board which can be placed at the railings when they are open and some stationary items. Clerk had asked if when requests are made, can they be dealt with without bringing to full Council, as long as not significant expenditure. All agreed.

- **Village Archive** – another hoard of artifacts recently discovered on local land. All is being documented. Cllr S Welberry is to speak with a local web designer to set up an Archive page for all to see.

Cllr R Welberry: Royal British Legion planning the first RBL Sunday Board/Ball on 26th September. Strong interest anticipated.

Remembrance Memorial service Sunday 17th May at 3pm for the Iraq/Gulf wars.

Standard bearers to attend and two wreaths to be laid for the fallen.

10. To Receive correspondence.

Remote meetings and Proxy voting. Primary legislation through Government has not yet been announced so will not happen for at least a couple of years.

TTRO Level crossing to be closed 5th April from 9pm to 6 am for level crossing checks

TTRO Villa Lane, 7 – 9 April, verge repairs/maintenance. Clerk to put road closure notifications on PC social media.

LCC – bus shelter grant scheme £3000 available. Cllr Campbell advised children meet at the top of Packhorse Lane. Clerk to speak with Highways if suitable place for a bus shelter and put in an application.

LCC – Community Volunteer Scheme available to County Councillors gain. PC could think of nothing at present.

Dates for the next meeting Tuesday 21st April 2026.

