

SWINGFIELD STREET COMMUNITY GROUP

10.30AM SATURDAY 15TH OCTOBER, ST PETER'S CHURCH

MINUTES

1. **Present:** Heather (Beardshall), Barbara, Steve, Tony R, Jacquie, Pat, Jan, Chris, Rachael, Trevor, Sylvie, Leo, Marianne, Ufuk, Julie, Sam **Apologies received from:** Tony and Anne (Hutt); Wendy and Martin; Tom and Sylwia; Heather and Charles; Nigel and Monica; Keith
2. **Approval of minutes of last meeting:** The sum of £285 reported for planters on the village green was queried – Marianne to check the amount. **Minutes approved**, pending confirmation of planters expenditure. *[On checking, Marianne has confirmed that the original figure was correct.]*
3. **Election of new chair:** Nigel Stevens was proposed as the new chair by Julie, seconded by Ufuk. Nigel had sent his apologies to the meeting, as he had a prior commitment this weekend, and noted that he was willing to take on the role of chair, but asked the village to take into account that he often had weekend racing commitments. In proposing Nigel, Julie suggested that we can easily avoid scheduling clashes, and that the chair, treasurer and secretary would be in regular contact between meetings. **Nigel Stevens was duly elected** with 13 votes in favour, 3 abstentions.

It was agreed (nem con) that, as the outgoing chair, Steve Spitty's name would be removed from the list of three signatories for the Group's Metro bank account, and that Nigel Stevens would be added in his place.

In Nigel's absence, Steve continued to chair the rest of the meeting.

4. **Matters arising from the last meeting:**

- i. **Folk evening:** 33 tickets sold for *Kimberleys* concert on 11th November, but relatively few of these have been bought by people in the village! It promises to be a good evening, with the £10 tickets including a light supper (bring your own choice of beverage). **Please see Marianne or Julie for tickets.**
- ii. **Residual funds:** with reference to the discussion regarding how any residual funds in the account might be spent at the end of the year, Marianne asked for guidance about how much of a buffer people think we need in the account to cover contingencies. The consensus of the meeting was that we should **keep a buffer of £200.**
- iii. **Lychgate:** Parish Council still in negotiation with contractors on work and cost – Chris and Leo noted some problems with execution, specifically with protruding sharp metal bolts, some of the roof tiling, and the gap in the hedge which is still to be made good – **Julie to write to Parish Council with our concerns.**

- iv. **Website:** Leo was just back from holiday and had not had time to do much with the website, but had some thoughts about what should be on the site and the menus. He proposed including a calendar, news feed, and space for posters advertising events. Content needs to be provided by villagers. What do we want to call the website? Leo suggested swingfieldstreet.org – we need to be careful to avoid confusion with swinger sites! The meeting decided to leave it to Leo to choose – ***if anyone has any pictures to go on site, please send to leo@leoloyons.com***
- 5. **Treasurer's report:** The position has not changed since the previous meeting. We currently have a balance of £1,021.71, of which £835 is ring-fenced for the village planters leaving a balance of £186.71. The annual Macmillan coffee morning held on 1 October raised £210. *Motion to adopt the Treasurer's report:* prop Barbara sec Jacqui, adopted nem con.
- 6. **Village streetlights:** KCC councillor Susan Carey still has money available for the replacement of the streetlight near the church, but this would not be available for much longer, and a final decision from the village was needed, following the hung vote when this was last discussed in September last year. Discussion was again heated. Arguments in favour of replacing the streetlight: feels safer (deterring crime etc); easier/safer access to defibrillator. Arguments against: environmental/wildlife; preference for darker skies; plenty of motion sensor lights in the vicinity from people's properties; disturbance to the residents closest to the street lights.

Motion to request replacement of streetlight: in favour: 2; against: 6; abstentions: 6 – motion lost. ***Steve to inform Susan Carey***

- 7. **AOB:**
 - i. Marianne proposed we add harvest supper to our calendar of village events – the Denton one had apparently taken place, but this year it had not been publicised outside Denton. ***Julie to liaise to make sure we are on the circulation list.***
 - ii. On behalf of the village community group, Julie thanked Steve for all his hard work for the group over the past six years, and presented him with vouchers for £200, raised by a collection from the village, to be spent at the Marquis of Granby in Alkham. Steve thanked the group very much. He said he had enjoyed his time as chair, and would still be contributing to events and activities, and looking after the church and Commandery for CCT. He wished Nigel well as the new chair.

Meeting ended 12 noon.

Minutes agreed and signed:

Marianne Ancel (Treasurer)

Julie Scott (secretary)

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