

## SWINGFIELD STREET COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2023

St Peter's Church, Swingfield Street

Start: 10.30 am

### 1. Attendance and apologies for absence

Present: Nigel; Anthony; Jenny; Monica; Steve; Sylvia; Tony H; Barbara; Ufuk; Chris; Jan; Pat; Leo; Marianne; Julie

Apologies: Tony, Jacquie, Wendy, Martin, Ted, Anne H

### 2. Minutes and matters arising minutes of last meeting accepted nem con.

Prop Steve; sec Pat

**Matters arising:** Nigel had investigated the problem with bolts on one side of the lychgate sticking out too far. According to the contractor, this problem can be easily fixed, but they have **not yet done the job**. The Parish Council has agreed to put rubber covers over the ends of the bolts to make them safer and tone down the bright chrome. Steve pointed out that the gates need something to keep them securely closed against winds – **Nigel will see if can fix this**. The gaps in the hedge by the lychgate have been filled, and **Julie was asked to write** to Vic Harmer to express our thanks (*done 18/2/23*).

**Website:** up and running – Leo invited villagers to contribute photos, or any articles about the village or history of the village and surroundings

**Village planters:** Chris provided an update. One planter has been completed, and materials are ready for making second one. The meeting agreed to pay for coating with preservative at a cost of £66 approx – passed nem con.

### 3. Treasurer's report

The meeting approved Marianne's report: prop: Chris; sec: Jenny passed nem con.

Marianne told us that we now have a Bookers card which people can use if buying in things for an event.

### 4. Village events

- I. Fish and chip quiz had been a fun and successful evening, which had broken even, with a surplus of a couple of pounds. The aim had been to try out some different events to see what appealed to people in the village, as Swingfield residents are generally a minority supporting village events. There were 23 participants on the evening, of which 4 were from Wootton. We might try holding future such events at a different time of year when the church is less cold. **Julie to write to express our thanks to Ben** for setting the questions (*done 18/2/23*).

It was **agreed** that we should **solicit ideas and suggestions** from the village for future events **next time we send out an email**. We also **agreed to show Wootton events** on our website. Notice was given of a quiz night be hosted by Wootton in

their village hall the following February 25<sup>th</sup>, participants from Swingfield Street welcome.

- II. Theatre events – The farce *For Better or Worse* which was due to tour CCT churches this summer were unsuccessful in getting Arts Council funding, so unfortunately that tour has been cancelled. *This is My Theatre* have limited availability. **Agreed** to book *Wind in Willows* for 16<sup>th</sup> May and ask to be considered for *Robin Hood* on 5<sup>th</sup> August or other dates in August if any become available. **Julie to write** (done 18//1/23).
- III. Other events – **Christian Grosselfinger** scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> April. **Agreed** ticket price of £10 per head including refreshments; **village picnic** proposed for Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May to mark coronation, with possibility of bbq later in the year if we have *Robin Hood* at Broomwood in August.

#### 5. **Parish Council report**

Nigel is now a Parish Councillor for Swingfield Street, with responsibility for Highways. Potholes and drainage in village is still a problem – **Nigel will pursue**. Community group urged to log problems on-line, as a group, as this has more impact. Planned housing development at Selstead – an application has been received to build 10 houses at Selstead Farmyard – this will be quite a high density development, for probably around 60 residents. Parking spaces will be provided (but no garages). Local residents have objected that the proposed development is too much for one small spot, and does not meet local need for ‘affordable housing’. Leo pointed out that it is also likely to further compromise our already miserable broad band access. Individuals are encouraged to **post their views up on the planning portal**, and **Nigel will represent our views to the Council**.

#### 6. **CCT fundraiser and champing proposal**

On the principle of fundraising for CCT – Nigel suggested that the best way to support the CCT was by making good use of the church and paying the CCT venue hire charge. Steve argued for maintaining our yearly fundraiser regardless of the fees we pay to CCT for using the church as a venue, as these do little more than cover the cost of heating and lighting.

Meeting **agreed** that any surplus from the Christian Grosselfinger concert and raffle be donated to CCT as this year’s fundraiser: prop. Steve, sec. Pat - passed with one abstention. **Steve to organise the raffle**.

**Champing** – we had run out of time to do justice to this topic – the meeting agreed to postpone discussion to a dedicated meeting in April, inviting representatives from CCT to attend and provide further information.

#### 7. **AOB** – no other business. Meeting closed at 12.25.