

## **Why we should have an election for the Sweffling Parish Council**

For several years of I like many others in the village have simply accepted that the lack of effective activity from the Parish Council is of no consequence.

Recently I have been shown by the success of other Parish Councils for villages of a similar size that this is incorrect. I now believe that an effective council would help link the village activities and go some way to reversing the polarisation that has arrived at the village.

Some of you will be aware that I have been pressurising the council to improve on their activities in particular:

The [Sweffling.com](http://Sweffling.com) Website This is managed provided by the husband of one of the councillors. Despite the Council agreeing to seek an alternative website provider in January [2020](#) we still have Parish Council details on this site.

The documents are only now starting to be filed in an accessible manner but are in different formats and incomplete. For example the budget for [20/21](#), which should have been published in November [2020](#) has yet to be produced.

You may know that the other activities in the village such as the Tennis Court, Bowles Club and Village Hut decided some time ago to use the Swefflinglife Website. This was set up because the domain name Sweffling was not controlled by the village. but by Mr Kinsey.

The Parish council have refused to provide a link to this site from the [Sweffling.com](http://Sweffling.com) site. This is typical of the council's approach to co-operation of village activities.

I have used the website as simple example of where I believe the council could improve its support for the village.

In February I have also asked the council to investigate having roads through our village designated Quiet Lanes These have a speed limit of 20mph and give priority to cyclists and pedestrians. There has not been any progress on this.

I do not wish to personalise my arguments as to why we should have an election but I do feel that a fresh approach appears to be the only way of having a group of people on the council who are prepared to listen and respond to criticism.

The councils say that an election will cost money, however the cost is approximately similar to the un-minuted plan to purchase of a bench engraved with the names of past Parish Council Chairman carved for "posterity".

If you agree with me that an election is important please write this weekend

The Returning Officer, Riverside, 4 Canning Road, Lowestoft, NR33 0EQ.

If you, unlike me, want to stand for election to become a Parish Councillor please contact The Parish Clerk Mike Smithson [clerk.swefling@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.swefling@gmail.com)

**Bobby Rusack**

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