

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the
WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
on **MONDAY 26 JUNE 2017** at **6.30pm**
at **WEST SWINDON LIBRARY**

Present:

Cllr Stephanie Exell
Cllr Suresh Gattapur
Cllr Nigel Gibbons
Cllr Ellen Heavens
Cllr Vinay Kumar
Cllr John Lenton
Cllr Timothy Makofu
Cllr Peter Stoddart
Cllr Tim Swinyard
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith
Cllr Matt Walker

Officers:

Joyce Holman (Parish Clerk)
Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)

Public: 10

Public Session:

A resident reported that grass cutting was not happening 3 weekly or at regular intervals. Concern was raised about maintenance of roundabouts. The Chair agreed to raise the matters with Streetsmart.

A resident raised concern about the maintenance and upkeep of the gateway points into Swindon e.g. Great Western Way. The Chair indicated that these are not maintained by the Parish but would seek a better understanding of how they are maintained.

A resident asked what consideration would be given to tendering for the streetsmart services. The Chair confirmed that the Parish would be looking at ensuring best value and what options would best achieve that.

A resident requested that hedge trimming and brambles be removed along Tregoze Way.

A resident requested bins from Tregoze Way to the Hungry Horse pub.

A resident reported brambles on Stanford Close, Edington Close and Rowton Heath Way to Oliver Tomkins School.

A resident indicated that people were presenting door step waste collection too early and causing litter problems as a result.

A resident asked about costs for the parish office in the library and asked who would be doing the work. The Chair confirmed that the Parish would pay for work undertaken to set up the Parish Office, however the library service would commission the work.

The meeting opened at 6.40 pm.

51. Apologies

Cllr Nick Martin
Cllr Mary Martin
Cllr Keith Williams
Cllr Matthew Courtliff

52. Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

None received.

53. Minutes of the previous meetings

To avoid misrepresentation in future minutes, it was requested that future minutes capture the general points of discussion rather than assign specific Councillor comments.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 18 May 2017 be confirmed and adopted and future minutes to record general points of discussion.

54. Minutes of the Leisure and Amenities Committee

RESOLVED that Recommendation (Minute 38) that the Parish Manager submits a report to Full Council setting out the volunteer protocol and Calendar of activities be agreed.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Leisure and Amenities Committee Meeting held on 6 June 2017 be confirmed and adopted.

55. Minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee

RESOLVED that Recommendation (Minute 44) that the West Parish Council Terms of Reference and Delegation Scheme be amended so that matters relating to litter bins are transferred to the Leisure and Amenities Committee be agreed.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee meeting held on 12 June 2017 be confirmed and adopted.

56. Minutes of Finance and Staffing Committee

RESOLVED that the Finance and Staffing Committee meeting held on 19 June 2017 be confirmed and adopted.

57. Update from Swindon Borough Councillors

Cllr Tim Swinyard updated that due to an abandoned vehicle fire, £40,000 of damage has been caused to the underpass by Whitehill Way/Windmill Hill Business Park. It could be up

to three months before being fully accessible and £10,000 will be needed if the lighting is to be replaced.

58. Reports from Parish Council Representatives

Cllr Matt Walker gave an update from the Parish Toothill Working Group.

59. Report from the Chair

The Chair reported that he attended a meeting with David Renard, Leader of Swindon Borough Council about the potential transfer of assets from Swindon Borough Council. Other parish councils were also represented. One Parish in particular felt that the original intention was to transfer assets as freehold and felt aggrieved that this had impacted on how they had set the precept. The Leader asked for evidence but it was not provided. Swindon Borough Council have provided a specimen lease for the parish to consider. The Assets Working Group will review and make recommendations on this.

60. Policies and Governance Working Party

It was agreed that wording within the documents should refer to the ‘Chair’ not ‘Chairman’.

RESOLVED that the Council adopt the proposed Equalities Policy and Complaints Procedure subject to the amendment above, a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book.

61. Assets Working Party

It was requested that dates be set for the Assets Working Party as soon as possible.

RESOLVED to accept the terms of reference and initiation of an Assets Working Party, a copy of which appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book.

62. Volunteer Events Parish Protocol

RESOLVED to adopt the Parish Protocol as proposed, a copy of which appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book.

63. Hazelwood Academy School Crossing

RESOLVED to note the report, a copy of which appears as Appendix D in the Minute Book. and the matter to be discussed at the next available Planning and Environment Meeting.

64. Website

Cllr Gattapur updated on the progress of a specification for a website. An update to be given at the next Full Council meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.31 pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Council

