

## **WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the  
**LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE**  
on **THURSDAY 11 OCTOBER 2018** at **6.00pm** at **WEST SWINDON LIBRARY**

### **Present:**

Cllr Steph Exell  
Cllr Nigel Gibbons  
Cllr Prakash Khaitan  
Cllr Timothy Makofu  
Cllr Nick Martin  
Cllr Caryl Sydney-Smith (Chair)

### **Officers:**

Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)

**Public:** Three.

### **Public Participation:**

Resident thanked the Parish Council for replacing the bench at Westlea as it is much used by local people.

A resident asked about the process for inspecting and renewing play areas. The Chair advised that this was a matter of discussion on the Agenda that evening.

Resident asked if Councillors were aware of a gypsy encampment by Fiveways Roundabout. The Chair confirmed that this had been reported.

Meeting start 6.15 pm.

### **167. Apologies**

Cllr Matthew Courtliff (Vice Chair)  
Cllr Suresh Gattapur  
Cllr Vinay Kumar  
Cllr Tim Swinyard  
Cllr Matthew Walker

### **168. Declarations of Interest and Applications for Dispensation**

None.

### **169. Benches and Bins**

Councillors received a report updating on benches and bins a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. The report noted requests for replacement benches to Peatmoor lagoon and repairs to benches at Freshbrook Village Centre.

**RESOLVED** that repairs and replacement benches are approved.

The report noted that the Parish Council had further requests for bins however the allocated budget of £12,000 is spent. To fund the requests would be an additional cost in the region of £4,000.00. The Parish Manager proposed two options; to review the new bins for usage and review any further requests next financial year, or vire funds from other budget codes and respond to remaining requests.

**RECOMMENDED** that the Parish Council agrees additional expenditure of up to £4,000 for litter bins. Size and location to be determined by the Leisure & Amenities Committee.

*Budget: To vire. Power: Litter Act 1983 ss 5,6.*

**170. Camden Close Play Area Fencing**

The Parish Manager reported that the company HAGs, appointed to refurbish the toddler play area at Camden Close, had also quoted to replace the existing fencing (like for like design). A quote was circulated a copy of which appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. The Parish Manager confirmed that the Play Area budget had sufficient remaining funds to cover the cost of a new fence.

**RECOMMENDED** that the Parish Council agrees to install new fencing with the new play area at Camden Close as quoted: £6,634.50

*Budget: 4720 Play Renewal Fund, Power: Power to provide a wide range of recreational facilities Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19*

**171. Spring Planting**

It was noted that Cllr Exell had abstained from the vote to fund Spring bulb planting. The Parish Manager gave a verbal update. Mechanical planting had taken place at Blagrove as the terrain was fairly flat and there were fewer underground services at this location. Hand planting is planned during October/November at Toothill Park and corner of Cartwright Drive. A local company may get involved as part of employee volunteering. Toothill Big Local agreed locations for spring planting directly with Streetsmart for Toothill. Tiered planters are in the process of being refreshed with winter bedding.

**172. Play area Replacement & Maintenance**

The Parish Manager circulated a report that detailed information regarding the refurbishment of play areas within the Parish, a copy of which appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book. Site visits were agreed to further inform decision making.

**173. Website & Communication**

The Parish Manager reported that a Community page had been added to the West Swindon Parish Council website. The next page for the Link Magazine was due in either November or December depending on whether the Parish Council wishes to be in a Christmas edition or New Year.

**RECOMMENDED** that the next article from West Swindon Parish Council is drafted for the December Link Magazine with a focus on activity from the Leisure and Amenities Committee.

**174. Blagrove Allotments**

The Parish Manager gave an update on Blagrove allotment site and circulated a quote for the installation of hard standing for parking, a copy of which appears as **Appendix D** in

the Minute Book

**RESOLVED** that improvements works to add hard standing for parking is approved as per the quote provided.

**175. Westlea and Toothill Ponds**

Cllr Makofu expressed disappointment regarding work undertaken at Toothill pond. It was noted that there are residents dedicated to looking after the pond which has historical significance as a dew pond for cattle. Councillors agreed that it was important to establish a shared vision for the ecology of the pond and work on a joint plan in the future.

**Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 6.00 pm.**

Meeting closed 6.54 pm.

Signed: .....  
Chair, Leisure & Amenities Committee

Date: .....