

**WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the online meeting of the**  
**WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL held on**  
**Monday 21 December 2020 at 7.00pm**

**Present:**

Cllr Mike Burtenshaw  
Cllr Steph Exell  
Cllr Suresh Gattapur5  
Cllr Prakash Khaitan  
Cllr Tim Makofu  
Cllr Nick Martin (Vice Chair)  
Cllr Mary Martin  
Cllr Trish Philpot  
Cllr Tim Swinyard  
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith  
Cllr Keith Williams

Officers: Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)  
Leanne Curtis (Assistant Clerk)

Public: Three

**Public Questions:**

Resident offered thanks to all the Councillors who contribute to the meetings and share their expertise.

Cllr Nick Martin chaired the meeting.

Meeting start 7.02 pm

**610. Apologies**

Apologies were submitted by Cllr Nigel Gibbons and Cllr Umar Ali due to other commitments. All apologies received were approved.

**611. Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**

Declarations of Interest required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

None received.

**612. Minutes of the previous meetings**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 23 November 2020 be confirmed and approved.

**613. Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 be confirmed and approved.

**614 Minutes of the Finance and Staffing Committee**

**RESOLVED** that Recommendation (Minute 596) that expenditure for November of 47 Payments totaling £72,276.22 be approved.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance and Staffing Committee meeting held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 be confirmed and approved.

**615 Minutes of the Leisure & Amenities Committee**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Leisure & Amenities Committee held on Wednesday 09 December 2020 be confirmed and approved.

**616. Update from Swindon Borough Councillors**

Cllr Williams advised that the Borough Council's Sustainable Communities Strategy was out for consultation. A massive tree planting programme will be getting underway with over 350 hectares of planting planned during the next 5 years starting in early 2021. Residents can get involved.

Cllr Williams advised that extra waste collection would be available to local people over the Christmas and New Year collections and reminded that non artificial Christmas trees could be put out for collection.

Cllr Sydney Smith reminded that there would be no green waste collections during this time.

**617. Updates from Parish Council Representatives**

Cllr Gattapur asked for clarification on restrictions for households during Christmas. Cllr was advised as there are often changes, it is best to check the latest position on the Government website [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus).

Cllr Khaitan reported that a resident had raised concerns about a proposal for development at Ridgeway Farm. Cllr Williams advised that this was a speculative application following the developer losing an appeal. Cllr Swinyard advised that dialogue was underway with Wiltshire parish councillors who would welcome joint opposition to the application.

**618. Operational Update**

The Parish Manager reported that the building surveyor had been commissioned for the new industrial unit. The solicitor is actively pursuing information and land searches are underway. Generally minor queries regarding the quality of the refurbishment have been highlighted so far. Inspections would continue over the next few weeks.

The Parish Manager confirmed that the team would be operational over the Christmas period and that staff had been delighted with the hampers.

**619. Precept and Council Tax Support Grant**

The Parish Manager circulated a letter from Swindon Borough Council, confirming the tax base for 2021-22. A copy appears in the Minute Book as **Appendix A**.

The Chair wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Date of next meeting: Monday 25 January 2021 7.00 pm**

Meeting closed 7.37pm

Signed: .....

Date: .....

Chair, West Swindon Parish Council