

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of the
LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE held at 7.00 pm.
At Unit 25, Westmead Industrial Estate, Swindon, SN5 7YT
on
MONDAY 09 MAY 2022**

Minutes

Present:

Cllr Mike Burtenshaw (v)
Cllr Geoff Gould
Cllr Prakash Khaitan
Cllr Tim Makofu
Cllr Mary Martin
Cllr Nandini Singh
Cllr Trish Philpot (v)

Officers:

Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)

Public: Three + One (v)

Public Question Time:

A resident reported that the social media report for Agenda Item 4. presents bad value for money, even though there have been suggestions about how to achieve better results through cheaper alternatives. The social media activity is not generating interest or attendance at meetings.

The Chair advised that this would be taken into account as part of the discussion for the Agenda Item. 4.

Meeting start 7.15 pm

369. Welcome & Introduction

Cllr Makofu chaired the meeting and welcomed those in attendance.

370. Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

None received as required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 24 May 2021.

371. Wheels Track Update

The Parish Manager reported that all the drawings and supplementary information had been submitted to the Planning portal and verified. Property services had also had a full pack of information. No confirmed timeframe on the decision for the application for a Certificate of Lawfulness (proposed).

The Parish Manager advised that 414 Skateparks had been in contact and an initial start date of 30 May has been suggested to allow for the approvals process. It is still hopeful that

work will be completed before the Summer holidays. A design update was distributed, a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that Councillors be invited to a ground-breaking event at the commencement of the project.

372. Social Media Report

A social media report was circulated, a copy of which appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. The Committee noted the comments made in public question time.

Standing Orders suspended 7.24 pm for public comment.

Standing Orders resumed 7.30 pm.

The Committee agreed that recent recruitment within the team, had brought additional marketing and communication skills and should enable the Parish Council to take more action on social media. It should also allow for a transition period. Councillors agreed that more activity could be undertaken such as using Facebook as a virtual noticeboard and using all the noticeboards to promote public participation.

RESOLVED that this Committee continues to review social media and communications.

373. Bin Requests

The Parish Manager presented a report setting out the recent requests for litter bins in public spaces. A copy of the report appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book.

Councillors noted the request in the report and agreed the following:

- Bus stop on Wootton Bassett Road (DFS)
- Switch Pagoda Park & Middleleaze kick about to larger bins
- Add bin to corner of Mannington Lane

Requests that will be monitored:

- Woodchester/Westlea Drive
- Ramleaze/Shire Close
- Cartwright Drive

RESOLVED that the Parish Manager progresses bin installation and replacement in those areas that are approved.

Allotments Update

The Parish Manager shared a slide setting out the potential to extend the allotments at Blagrove to the neighbouring open space. A copy appears as **Appendix D** in the Minute Book.

Councillors noted that that had been considered in the past but was ruled out due to the cost of top soil. Since then, all options that have been considered, have required significant

investment in order to be suitable. Most have had land use restrictions or access issues. Blagrove is an existing allotment site and could be installed in phases thereby minimising traffic on the access road and reducing disruption for existing plot holders. The Committee agreed that this site was suitable for further investigation such as soil analysis and permissions.

RESOLVED that suitability testing for an expansion to Blagrove allotments be initiated.

Meeting closed 7.56 pm

Signed:

Dated:

Chair, Leisure & Amenities Committee