

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Monday 31 October 2022 at 6.00 pm
Unit 25 Westmead Industrial Estate, SN5 7YT

FULL COUNCIL

Present:

Cllr Suresh Gattapur
Cllr Geoff Gould
Cllr Prakash Khaitan (v)
Cllr Mary Martin (Vice Chair)
Cllr Nandini Singh
Cllr Keith Williams

Others: Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)

Public: One virtual, two present.

Cllr Mary Martin chaired the meeting

Public Questions:

Mr Howard from Westlea thanked Councillors for supporting the Westlea Winter Wonderland last year and asked if the same support could be repeated for this year. This would be in the region of £120 for a flyer. Event planned for 11 December. The Chair asked the resident to liaise with the Parish Manager and submit a form to initiate a formal request for funding.

Resident asked about monitoring and consequences of scars and debris left by cable and utility companies. Sub standard finish e.g. Eastleaze Road. Councillors advised that this was a Swindon Borough Council responsibility however contractors may not begin restitution until the contract for all works is completed.

Resident asked for it to be noted that flytipping had been present on Eastleaze Road for many weeks and did not appear to be actioned by anyone. It was noted that it may fall to Swindon Borough Council if the size is in excess of what is moveable by a Parish employee.

Resident asked if professional fees for social media support was not at an end. The Chair confirmed that was a proposal on the agenda.

Resident asked for a breakdown of contributions to the funding of the West Wheels track – reported as follows:

PROJECT COST	<u>£97,845</u>
<u>COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY</u> This is funding from property developers (Westlea area) that comes to the Parish to improve local community facilities	£23,684
<u>LANDFILL GRANT</u> Grant administered by Community First funded by Crappers & Sons	£22,000

THIRD PARTY GRANT CONTRIBUTION

The landfill grant requires a third party contribution (10%) which for this project came from the councillors fundraising.

-£2,200

COUNCILLOR FUNDRAISING

£3,824

Cllrs Gattapur & Makofu sponsored activity

PARISH COUNCIL PLAY RENEWAL

£50,537

This is direct funding from the Parish precept to the project

Cllr Martin presented a proposal for clean and green organisations to be invited to a meeting to share information. They could potentially share insurance and partner on other initiatives. The Parish Manager will initiate an invitation.

Cllr Singh advised that issues were still ongoing in the Tamworth Drive area with dangerous and obstructive parking. Cllr Gattapur advised he would raise with the Police & Crime Commissioner.

Meeting start 6.28 pm.

120. Welcome & Declarations of Interest/Applications for Dispensation

Declarations of Interest required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 23 May 2022 received – none.

121. Minutes of the previous meetings

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 26 September 2022 be approved and adopted.

122. Minutes of the Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee

RESOLVED that Recommendation (Minute Ref: 107) that Plattes Close play area is commissioned at a cost of £15,761.80 with an additional £3,000 for replacement fencing is approved.

RESOLVED that the minutes of Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee held on Monday 3 October 2022 be adopted and approved.

123. Minutes of the Finance & Staffing Committee

Councillors received Recommendation (Minute ref: 114) that Full Council approves 39 payments for September 2022 totalling **£108,008.03**

RESOLVED that the payments for September 2022 totalling £108 be noted and approved.

RESOLVED that the minutes of Finance & Staffing Committee held on Wednesday 5 October 2022 be approved and adopted.

124. Update from Swindon Borough Councillors

Cllr Williams reported that the Solar Together scheme was well underway with installations going in. Take up was much higher than forecast. Looking to repeat the scheme again next year.

Cllr Gattapur reported that the serious incident by the West Swindon District Centre was being investigated by the Police and involved boys aged 14 to 15 years.

125. Updates from Parish Council Representatives

Cllr Gould reported that he had spoken to the Millbrook School caretaker to address the overgrown hedges once the weather improves.

Cllr Gattapur reported that over 50 trees had been planted near Westlea school and will be replanted this winter. One of the main volunteers in Westlea Park has been nominated in the BBC Local Voluntary Hero awards.

126. 2023 Election Recharges

The Parish Manager circulated a communication from Swindon Borough Council elections team regarding charges proposed at £20,531.00, a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. Councillors noted that sufficient reserves were available and noted the information.

127. Christmas Community Event

Councillors received an update report on a Christmas event, a copy of which appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. The report proposed a joint venture with the Fire Service based at Westlea. The Parish Council would provide and deliver a Santa experience alongside the various activities provided by the Fire Service. Budget would be in the region of £500 if an edible gift was provided. Councillors discussed the details and agreed that this would be the most appropriate course of action particularly at this stage in the year. Councillors noted the quotation for the provision of an external lit tree and agreed this was not an option this year. Councillors thanked the Parish Manager for progress to date.

128. Colliers – Westmead Industrial Estate

Councillors received a communication from Colliers Property agents on behalf of Staffordshire Council. A copy is attached as Appendix C in the Minute Book. Councillors considered the proposal. It was noted that

- *There is no formal written communication that sets out how permit-based parking will be introduced, what areas will be affected, the process for appeal or cancellation.*
- *From informal email exchange and a discussion from a site visit by a Colliers representative on 08 November 22, it would appear that the proposal will potentially impact negatively on our day to day business.*
- *We strongly object to the addition of speed bumps; there is no evidence of speeding that has been witnessed, recorded or supported by us. We use a mix of agricultural and landscaping equipment including towed machinery and trailers that will potentially be damaged.*
- *Issues raised relating to car meets will not be improved by these proposals.*

RESOLVED that the Parish Manager communicates the Parish Councils concerns and objections to this proposal.

129. Communications Working Party

Councillors considered feedback from the Communications Working Party
Councillors queried the necessity of a bespoke website platform in place of Wordpress.

RESOLVED that

- a) The Parish Council team bring social media updates and posts in-house
- b) The Parish Manager reconvenes the Communications Working Party to review the website requirements.

Date of next meeting: Monday 21 November 2022 6.00 pm