

## WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the  
**PLANNING, LEISURE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
held on **Monday 04 September 2023 at 6.00 pm**  
**Unit 25, Westmead Industrial Estate, Swindon, SN5 7YT**

**Present:**

Cllr Junab Ali (virtual)  
Cllr Peter Bates  
Cllr Mustafa Dayan  
Cllr Leon Grother (Chair)  
Cllr Rose Llewellyn  
Cllr Graham Philpot  
Cllr Trish Philpot  
Cllr Nandini Singh  
Cllr Andrew Swinyard  
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith  
Cllr Sean Wilson (Virtual)

**Officers:** Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)

**Public:** Five (one virtual)

**Meeting Start:** 6.00 pm

**Public Questions:**

Resident asked if the failure of the deed renewal meant that the Parish Council did not have responsibility for graffiti.

*The resident was advised that whilst the Parish Council delivers services, the Borough Council is responsible for its own street furniture/subways.*

Resident thanked the Chair for visiting the Shaw Ridge Fab and Greendown Copse groups and indicated that it was much appreciated.

*The Chair indicated it had been a rewarding visit.*

Resident asked if the Parish Council would consider purchasing wood chip for the copse areas.

*The Chair advised it could be looked in to.*

Resident asked if the Parish team only used paint brushes for graffiti covering.

*The resident was advised that the team used a paint sprayer on larger surfaces.*

Prior to the meeting start, It was noted that the Chair had received an enquiry for litter picking around the West Swindon District Centre. The Parish Manager advised that the businesses on the estate would need to host/agree to any litter picking activities as it is private property.

Meeting start 6.11 pm,

**89. Welcome & Applications for Dispensation**

89.1 None received.

**90. Feedback on Volunteer Group Activities – Cllr Grother**

Cllr Grother reported that he had spent time visiting the groups that are involved in local copses and meadows. Cllr Grother thanked the groups for time and expressed appreciation for the volunteering efforts. Cllr Grother noted that Greendown Copse had requested anti flytipping signs and all the groups were interested in securing wood chippings.

**RESOLVED** that an informal meeting be arranged for groups to meet and discuss issues of importance.

**91. Play Update**

91.1 The Parish Manager gave a verbal update confirming that work on Shaw Ridge and Clay Pits play areas would be taking place at the end of the week.

91.2 The Parish Manager had circulated copies of quotes and designs that had been submitted to the Parish Council as part of an expression of interest process for Bess Road kickabout and Shaw Ridge play area. Copies of which appear as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. Councillors reviewed the information and requested that a Play Working group meet to consider in more detail.

**92. Community Pantry Update**

92.1 The Parish Manager circulated a report setting out progress on creating community pantries in West Swindon, a copy appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. The report indicated that an informal arrangement to supply Freshbrook Church with a Community Pantry cupboard for outdoor use had been agreed and West Swindon Library had agreed to host a pantry and drop off collection box. A link with supermarkets was yet to be established. Parish Councillors noted the information and requested another meeting of the working party.

**93. Youth Working Party**

93.1 The Parish Manager indicated that one of the items of discussion at the Youth Working was the provision of bleed kits, for which a report had been prepared, a copy of which appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book. Councillors reviewed the information in the report. It was noted that there were a number of considerations for bleed kits.

**RESOLVED** that the Youth Working Party to meet to deliberate further.

**94. Graffiti Review**

94.1 The Parish Manager circulated a report detailing an update on the Parish Team's approach to removing graffiti. A copy appears as **Appendix D** in the Minute Book. The Parish Manager advised that offensive graffiti is removed within 24 hours of reporting (weather allowing), all other graffiti is painted over on an as and when basis or as project work. The report set out a range of approaches to graffiti including

pressure washing, murals and sacrificial coatings. It was suggested that the Parish Council invites the contributors to Paintfest to a future meeting to better understand the cost of mural painting.

**RESOLVED** that Artsite/Paintfest contributors be invited to a future Council meeting for an informal presentation.

**95. Blagrove Allotments Extension**

95.1 Councillors received a report, a copy of which appears as **Appendix E** in the Minute Book. The Parish Manager indicated that the preliminary work to test the suitability of the extension area had been completed by the Parish Council in the previous year. All testing was in favour of the potential to grow on that space. Considerations would need to factor in the logistics of transporting high volumes of top soil and the presence of a network of underground cables. The site would yield around 12-15 half plots at a cost estimated in the region of £30,000.

Councillors discussed the option to invest and agreed that the work on community growing should be explored further in the first instance.

**RESOLVED** that the Community growing working group continue to develop this initiative in more detail.

**96. Planning Report**

The Parish Manager shared a planning report, a copy appears as **Appendix F** in the Minute Book. The Parish Council is a consultee for planning applications in West Swindon. The following applications were submitted and no objections were recorded:

96.1 S/23/0866	Erection of a new glazed entrance lobby extension & external works	Lydiard Conference Centre Hay Lane
96.2 S/LBC/23/0867	Erection of a new glazed entrance lobby extension & external works	Lydiard Conference Centre Hay Lane
96.3 S/HOU/23/0879	Erection of a single storey rear extension	11 Parr Close Grange Park SN5 6JY
96.4 S/HOU/23/0955	Erection of a two storey/first floor side & single storey rear extension	32 Mulcaster Avenue Grange Park SN5 6ERH
96.5 S/HOU/23/0938	Erection of a single storey front extension	14 Sandacre Road Nine Elms SN5 5UW

Meeting closed 7.28 pm.

Signed: .....

Chair, Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee

Date: .....