

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the
FULL COUNCIL
held on **Monday 11 December 2023 at 6.30 pm**
Freshbrook Community Centre, Worsley Road, SN5 8LY

Present:

Cllr Junab Ali (Chair)
Cllr Peter Bates
Cllr Mustafa Dayan
Cllr Suresh Gattapur
Cllr Leon Grother
Cllr Rose Llewellyn (Vice Chair)
Cllr Graham Philpot
Cllr Trish Philpot
Cllr Nandini Singh
Cllr Andrew Swinyard
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith
Cllr Keith Williams
Cllr Sean Wilson

Officers: Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)

Public: One 7.15 pm

Meeting Start: 6.35 pm

Public Questions: None.

183. Welcome & Declarations of Interest/Applications for Dispensation

Apologies: Cllr Ertas, Cllr Makofu

Declarations of interest required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 22 May 2023: None.

184. Minutes of the previous meeting:

Councillors reviewed the previous Council meeting discussion on the Swindon Borough Council Election Cycles noting that a resolution on the matter was deferred to this meeting. Councillors discussed the merits and disadvantages of standalone Parish elections. Councillors voted six in favour of a standalone election cycle and seven against.

RESOLVED that West Swindon Parish Council will move its election cycle to partner Swindon Borough Council scheduled elections.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 27 November 2023 be approved and adopted.

185. Minutes of the Finance & Staffing Committee

RESOLVED that Recommendation (Minute 153) that 41 payments totalling £61,112.27 be approved.

RESOLVED that the Minutes from the Finance & Staffing Committee held on Monday 27 November 2023 be approved and adopted.

186. Minutes of the Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee

RESOLVED that Recommendation (Minute 177) that approval be given for a contract to be issued to ESP Ltd for Bess Road kickabout

RESOLVED that Minutes from the Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee on Monday 04 December 2023 be approved and adopted.

7.15 pm Member of the public joined the meeting.

187. Councillor Allowances – Independent Remuneration Panel Report

Councillors reviewed a report from the Independent Remuneration Panel, a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that Councillor Allowances for 2024 – 25 be increased in line with the average Parish Council employee percentage increase as per the 2023-24 pay award. Councillors voted 8 in favour 3 against and 2 abstained.

188. Admission of Public and Press

Resolved in accordance with Standing Order 3 (d) that ‘in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they be instructed to withdraw’.

Reason: To discuss precept setting matters

189. Budget Report

Councillors received a budget report setting out matters relating to the budget for 2024-25, a confidential copy of which appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. Councillors noted the report and discussed the information. Councillors instructed the Parish Manager to prepare a final budget for approval at the next Full Council in January 2024.

Meeting ended: 8.09 pm.

Date of next meeting: Monday 22 January 2024 6.45pm

Signed:

Chair, West Swindon Parish Council

Date: