

SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Town Gardens & Queens Park

Leisure & Amenities Committee – 13 March 2018

1. Introduction

The staff currently working at Town Gardens and Queens Park will be transferring to the Parish Council in April 2018 and the future of these parks need to be considered.

2. Report Details

- 2.1** The Parish Council has been keen to take over the running of these 2 formal parks and has already set up a Gardens Working Party to look into the details.
- 2.2** The Parish Council has been waiting to agree a 99 year lease with Swindon Borough Council and this process is moving very slowly. Swindon Borough Council have been asked for a commitment that they will issue leases for Town Gardens and Queens Park and this will be considered by the Asset Management Group (LAMAG) Meeting at SBC on 14 March 2018.
- 2.3** The decision to be made by the Parish Council is whether they wish to go ahead and start doing work at both formal parks before the leases are signed.
- 2.4** It would then be for the Gardens Working Party to draw up a program of works and to start this process it is suggested that a site visit takes place of both parks in the following week.
- 2.5** In addition to this, a member of the public has approached the Chair of the Parish Council about a problem with the lack of a boundary fence. A quotation for the work has been obtained by Swindon Borough Council of £10,441.20 plus VAT. If the Parish Council wants to go ahead with this work, then 2 further quotations will need to be obtained.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1** That the decision of the Parish Council is required to go ahead with improvements to the 2 formal parks before the signing of the lease.
- 3.2** That the Gardens Working Party draws up a programme of works for improvements to the 2 formal parks.