

## Grants

The Parish Council is changing the way that grants will be considered in the future.

Applications will need to be made by the end of October 2018 and will then be paid out the following May.

This will mean that all grants will be considered at the same time and there will be a fair distribution of the funds available.

More details, including an application form, are available on our website

## Living Wage Employer

South Swindon Parish Council is pleased to announce that they have been accredited as a Living Wage Employer by the Living Wage Foundation.

Their Living Wage commitment will see everyone working, regardless of whether they are direct employees or third-party contracted staff receives a minimum hourly wage of £8.75 in the UK or £10.20 in London. Both rates are significantly higher than the statutory minimum for over 25s.

The real Living Wage is an hourly rate set independently and updated annually and is calculated according to the real costs of living.

South Swindon Parish Council is one of only 11 Parish Councils in the country that have received this accreditation and the first in Wiltshire.

Cllr Chris Watts, Chair of South Swindon Parish Council said 'I am very pleased that the Parish Council has received this accreditation. It shows that the Parish Council are a responsible employer and that it is important to them to look after staff and ensure that a fair wage is paid.'

## Broadgreen Street Food Festival

A big thank-you to everyone that attended the first Broadgreen Street Food Festival.

The weather could have been kinder, but the people attending all enjoyed the day and we have received many positive comments. All the food stalls have asked to return for another year.

The Parish Council has taken the decision that there will be a Broadgreen Street Food Festival in June 2019.

More details will follow in the next Newsletter.

## SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

### Contact the Clerk

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# SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

(CENTRAL SWINDON SOUTH PARISH COUNCIL)



## NEWSLETTER

### Autumn

### 2018

[www.southswindon-pc.gov.uk](http://www.southswindon-pc.gov.uk)

## Chair's Report

I am pleased to report that the Parish Council has been very busy over the last few months.

Additional staff have joined the small team and this should mean that projects will be delivered at a faster rate and it is exciting to see things being done.

We shall also be saying goodbye to our Clerk at the end of the year and an advert for a new Clerk can be found on our website, together with more details about the role.

The Parish Council will be supporting the commemoration of World War 1. There are events planned in Town Gardens and Queens Park and the new permanent memorial in GWR Park.

Cllr Chris Watts

## Neighbourhood Plan

South Swindon Parish Council are considering whether to embark on the process to produce a Neighbourhood Plan.

It will be a big task and a lot of work which is not being under-estimated. The Parish Council will not be able to do this alone and will need help from local groups and organisations and the general public.

To find out the level of support they are holding a meeting, details below:

Neighbourhood Plan Meeting

Thursday 13 September 2018 at 6.30pm

Broadgreen Community Centre

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

## StreetSmart Contract

The Parish Council has arranged for a Best Value Review to be made of the current services being provided by StreetSmart.

The report has been considered by the Parish Council and the decision taken to continue with StreetSmart for the coming year.

Councillors will be working through the detail of the document in the coming months to work towards being able to enter a longer-term contract for the future.

## World War 1 Commemoration

The Parish Council has commissioned a new memorial to commemorate the centenary of World War 1. The memorial will be erected in GWR Park adjacent to the Army Reserve Centre.

The memorial has been designed by local Swindon artist Dr Mike Pringle and should be completed before November 2018.

There will also be new seating at the memorial and it is planned to be an area of quiet contemplation.

The Parish Council has plans for other events taking place in November which will include a photo trail in Queens Park and poppy rocks in Town Gardens.

More details can be found on our website and in the press nearer to the time.

## Old Town Library News

Old Town Library has extended their opening hours thanks to further investment by South Swindon Parish Council.

The library is now open

Tuesday to Friday	11.00am to 4.30pm
Saturday	10.00am to 1.00pm

The number of people using the library continues to increase which is also good news. Please feel free to call in the library and find out more.

Storytime will start again from 11 September 2018 (term time only)

Toddlers	Tuesdays	11.15am
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Baby Session	Tuesdays	2.00pm
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## Play Areas

The Parish Council has agreed new leases for the majority of play areas within the Parish.

It just remains to receive the document for signing and then the Parish Council will start on a programme of refurbishment. More details to follow.