

### **First Financial Year**

South Swindon Parish Council has completed their first financial year. The final accounts have been through the first stage of audit and we are awaiting the final stage from the External Auditors.

The accounts are available for the public to inspect from 4 June to 13 July 2018. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

## Broadgreen Street Food Festival

South Swindon Parish Council is holding the

Broadgreen Street Food Festival

Saturday 16 June 2018

From 11.00 to 4.00pm

#### Broadgreen Community Centre

For more details please see the poster on the inside of this leaflet.

The event will include food from different countries of the world, along with other stalls and entertainment from local musicians.

This is the first time the Parish Council has staged such an event and we hope it will be enjoyed by parishioner.

It may then become an Annual Event.

#### SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

#### **Contact the Clerk**

Broadgreen Community Centre Salisbury Street Swindon SN1 2AN

TEL: 01793 312006 Email: clerk@southswindon-pc.gov.uk Website: www.southswindon-pc.gov.uk

# SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

(CENTRAL SWINDON SOUTH PARISH COUNCIL)





www.southswindon-pc.gov.uk

#### **Chair's Report**

The Parish Council held their first Annual Parish Meeting on 3 April 2018. This is part of my speech to the meeting:

'It is an honour to Chair the inaugural South Swindon Parish Council Annual Meeting to present a report on our first year of operation. The Parish was born out of difficult circumstances, but I am pleased to report that Councillors have worked together and the Parish has functioned as a collective for the greater good.

We set a precept to include contingency to invest in improving services such as additional grass-cutting and litter picking. The belief of this Parish is that we should enhance the services provided by the Borough Council, not fall into a trap of a race to the bottom.

The Precept was set at a comparable rate compared to other Parishes. The size of the Parish allowed for economy of scale to ensure that the Precept did not rise this year.

We have been successful in our primary aim to hit the floor running with frontline services, protecting community centres and formal parks from the risk of closure. The StreetSmart agreement working with North and West Swindon Parish Councils has proved successful. Moving forward with StreetSmart services we need to ensure value for money, whilst considering job security and the dignity at work to earn a real living wage. The Parish plan to become an accredited living wage employer in the next municipal year'.

### **New Councillor**

South Swindon Parish Council has welcomed Cllr Patrick Herring as the new Councillor for Eastcott Ward. He was elected on 3 May 2018 following the resignation of Dave Wood who has moved away from the area.

A list of Councillors and their contact details are available on the Parish Council website.

## **Parish Ranger**

South Swindon Parish Council has employed a Parish Ranger to help look after the parish. The main task will be to inspect play areas and keep them clean and inspect allotments.

That should still leave time for additional maintenance tasks which fall outside of the StreetSmart Contract.

If you have seen an area that looks untidy and needs some work, please contact the Parish Office. The Parish Ranger will investigate and provided it is Council land, he will do his best to make good.

At the moment the Parish Council has one Parish Ranger, but as this is already proving to be very valuable, the Parish Council may consider employing more.

#### Grounds Maintenance for this summer

The weather has been a major factor with the grass cutting at the beginning of the season.

The continual rain has meant that the cutters were not able to get out early and some areas have had to be left because they were too wet for the machinery.

We have seem to be moving into better weather and the teams have worked hard to catch up.

If you see an area that is not being cut, please report it to direct to StreetSmart.

Tel (01793) 455501

### Old Town Library Competition

The Parish Council staged a competition at Old Town Library in April 2018 to coincide with the appearance of Nick Sharratt at the Art Centre.

It followed the theme of the book 'Shark in the Park' and asked children to provide a picture of what they could see from their imaginary telescope.

The winner was Sophie Teslar and she is pictured below receive her prize from Nick Sharratt of a signed copy of his book.



The Parish Council plans to hold another competition for the summer holiday based on the mural in Old Town Library. The prize is being supplied by Fred Blunt, the illustrator responsible for the mural and he has very kindly provided the prize, which is a selection of his books

Just a reminder that the library has story time every Tuesday at 2pm-2.30pm (term-time). These are informal session of stories, rhymes and songs for pre-school babies/toddlers/ children to enjoy together with their parent/ carer. More details on our website.