

CENTRAL SWINDON SOUTH
PARISH COUNCIL

LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2017 at 6.30pm
in Committee Room 5, Civic Offices

Present Cllr N Hopkins (Chair)
Cllr B Thompson (Vice-Chair)
Cllr J Ali
Cllr S Allsopp
Cllr N Burns-Howell
Cllr P Dixon
Cllr M Gladman
Cllr J Lowry
Cllr M J Miah
Cllr J Milner-Barry
Cllr T Philpot
Cllr C Watts

Officers Joyce Holman (Parish Clerk)
David James (Leisure Project Officer, SBC)
Frances Barrone (Community Transition Manager, Christ Church)

Public None

38 **Apologies**

Cllr M Dickinson
Cllr J Firmin
Cllr A Hawkins
Cllr J Miah
Cllr D Pajak
Cllr S Pajak
Cllr T Robson
Cllr I Shaikh
Cllr J Short
Cllr N Watts
Cllr D Wood

39 **Declaration of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**

None
(Cllrs Ali and Philpot arrived at the meeting at the end of this item)

40 **County Ground Development Proposal**

Mr D James, Leisure Project Officer at Swindon Borough Council made a presentation on the development proposals for the County Ground. These have been worked on over the last 18 months and been consulted on in March 2017. Following that consultation, 3 options had been drawn up and were made available for Councillors to view.

Mr James explained that there had been drainage problems at the site for years as it was based on a clay soil. The changing rooms had been demolished due to subsidence and the athletic track had come to the end of its life.

The 3 new plans all provided an informal community space as well as a full size 3G football pitch and new athletics track.

The Swindon Borough Council Playing Pitch Strategy had identified that there was the demand for 3 to 4 artificial full size pitches in Swindon. The proposals are supported by the cricket club, athletics club and Swindon Football Club Trust.

The scheme has been fully costed and it was anticipated that the site would be run either by the Football Trust or the Parish Council. Assurance was made by Mr James that there was a robust business case which included setting aside funds for maintenance and renewal.

The approximate cost of the proposals would be £2.2 million, with the majority of the funding coming from grants. Verbal agreement had been received from different organisations to cover this funding. The remaining funding would be from the Football Club Trust and Section 106 funds.

The next stage would be a further public consultation on Wednesday 14 June 2017, following the submission of a Planning Application. If all went according to plan, the build would start in April 2018.

41 Broadgreen Community Centre

Ms F Barrone, Community Transition Manager at Christ Church talked through her written report, a copy of which appears as Appendix A to these Minutes.

The Chair stated that Broadgreen Community Centre was an excellent example of multicultural social cohesion and he thanked Ms Barrone for her work in bringing this about. Councillors discussed the future running of the building and the Clerk confirmed that a decision regarding the future of the building would need to be considered at the Full Council Meeting on 20 June 2017.

(Cllr Ali left the meeting at the end of this item)

42 Arqiva Broadcast Equipment requirement at Broome Manor Allotment Site

The Clerk submitted an email dated 22 May 2017 from Mr M Wynne-Edwards, Asset Surveyor at Arqiva Broadcast a copy of which appears as Appendix B in the Minute Book.

The email was seeking permission for the siting of telecoms equipment at Broome Manor Allotment Site. The Clerk was asked to find out a suitable rent for this equipment based on other similar sites.

RESOLVED

- a) that the siting of telecom equipment at Broome Manor Allotment Site be approved in principle;
- b) that Cllrs Burns-Howells, Hopkins, Milner-Barry and Thompson meet with the Asset Surveyor from Arqiva Broadcast on site and be delegated the authority to approve the exact location of the telecom equipment;
- c) that the details of the lease of the land and the rent be considered by the Finance & Staffing Committee in due course.

(Cllr C Watts left the meeting during this item)

43 Tree Work at the Lakeside Area

The Clerk submitted an email dated 30 May 2017 from the Grounds Operations Supervisor at Swindon Borough Council a copy of which appears as Appendix C in the

Minute Book.

Cllr Burns-Howell stated that a member of the public had contacted him regarding trees that had been felled by Swindon Borough Council at Lakeside, new saplings had been put in which had subsequently died and they wanted to know what was going to be done. The member of the public was then told by Swindon Borough Council that the planting of more trees would be for the Parish Council to decide.

Councillors all agreed that this was not a matter for the Parish Council.

44 Swindon Borough Council Playing Pitch Strategy

The Clerk submitted a memo from the Planning Policy Officer at Swindon Borough Council a copy of which appears as Appendix D in the Minute Book.

Councillors noted the progress on the production of the Swindon Borough Council Playing Pitch Strategy 2017 and would comment on the draft strategy in due course.

45 Campers at Queens Park and Lawns

The Clerk submitted an email dated 31 May 2017 from the Service Manager, Grounds maintenance, Swindon Borough Council and an email dated 30 May 2017 from the ASB Officer at Swindon Borough Council copies of which appear as Appendix E in the Minute Book.

Cllr Dixon stated that there was a new camp in Queens Park, which now meant there were 2 camps in Queens Park and 2 camps in Lawns. The first camp in Queens Park had been served notice, but they had stated that they would not move unless evicted by the Police.

The Chair stated that he had sympathy for their situation, but a public park was not the right location to set up a camp. The users had dug holes in the ground for waste and fires and this presented a risk to other users and wildlife.

Cllr Milner-Barry informed Councillors that there was a by-law that prevented tents from being erected in the public parks, but it had never been enforced. Cllr Dixon suggested that a Public Space Protection Order could be put in place for all the parks in the parish. Cllr Lowry stated that there were already powers available in statute for Swindon Borough Council to use to stop the camps. Cllr Philpot added she understood that new legislation had been passed about dealing with homeless people and she would find out more details.

Councillors agreed that the Clerk should continue to pressure Swindon Borough Council to act in the closure of all the camps in Queens Park and Lawns. The Clerk would keep Councillors informed of developments.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm

Signed.....
Date.....
Chair of the Council