

CENTRAL SWINDON SOUTH
PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2017 at 6.30pm
in Committee Room 6, Civic Offices

Present Cllr C Watts (Chair)
Cllr J Lowry (Vice-Chair)
Cllr J Ali
Cllr S Allsopp
Cllr N Burns-Howell
Cllr M Dickinson
Cllr P Dixon
Cllr J Firmin
Cllr M Gladman
Cllr A Hawkins
Cllr N Hopkins
Cllr M J Miah
Cllr J Milner-Barry
Cllr S Pajak
Cllr T Robson
Cllr I Shaikh
Cllr B Thompson
Cllr N Watts

Officers Joyce Holman (Parish Clerk)
Mark Walker (Community Programme Lead Officer, SBC)

Public Five

Public Session Mr Townsend referred to the Parish Council's website and asked for Councillor contact details and agendas and minutes were out on the website. The Chair confirmed that this information was already available of the website.

Mr Townsend also said about the overflowing waste bins in the parks during the hot weather and asked if they could be emptied more regularly. The Chair stated that he would speak to StreetSmart about automatically putting this into their work programme to empty bins more often when the weather warranted it.

Ms G Fernandes expressed concern about parking for future meetings which were moving to Broadgreen Community Centre and asked how many parking spaces were in the car park. The Chair stated that he would find out and report back to her; other Councillors stated that there is never usually an issue with parking at the site.

Ms L Ford asked for an additional key for Rushey Platt Allotment Site, which Cllr Wright had offered to sort out for her, but had since said that she would have to ask the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to sort this out.

Ms Brownlee referred to Section 106 funds that had been sent aside for Park & Walcot from the development of New College and asked what would happen to these funds as she had received no answer from Cllr Mary Martin at Swindon Borough Council.

Mr Mark Walker of Swindon Borough Council confirmed that the funds were still being held by Swindon Borough Council for the regeneration of Park & Walcot and that this money could pass to the Parish Council if they put forward a suitable project. The Clerk was asked to find out more information about the funds being held.

(Cllr Dickinson declared a prejudicial interest in respect of the last question and left the meeting during the discussion).

53 Apologies

Cllr J Miah
Cllr D Pajak
Cllr T Philpot
Cllr J Short
Cllr D Wood

54 Declaration of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

Cllr Dickinson declared a prejudicial interest in the final discussion in the public session and the logo for the Parish Council (Min.67) and took no part in the discussion and voting thereon.

55 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Chair referred to a question recorded in the public session and stated that the Police planned to attend the Planning & Environment Meeting on 11 July 2017.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 17 May 2017 be approved as a correct record.

56 Planning & Environment Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on 23 May 2017 be confirmed and adopted.

57 Leisure & Amenities Committee

Cllr Burns-Howell referred to Minute 43 and asked that the final sentence should make it clear that the work should be completed by Swindon Borough Council. Cllr Milner-Barry referred to Minute 40 and asked that the name of the Trust state 'Swindon Town Football in the Community Trust'.

RESOLVED that with the amendments stated above the minutes of the Leisure & Amenities Committee held on 6 June 2017 be confirmed and adopted.

58 Planning & Environment

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on 13 June 2017 be confirmed and adopted.

59 Information from Borough Councillors

The Chair stated that this item was for Borough Councillors that were not serving on the Parish Council to pass on information to the Parish Council. There were no Borough Councillors present at the meeting.

60 Parish Council Representatives' Report

There were no reports from Councillors.

61 **Chairs Report**

The Chair stated that the Parish Council had just heard that their bid to run Old Town Library had been successful and this included the bid of £22K for refurbishment work.

The Chair asked Councillors about their Term of Office, which was normally 4 years. The Vice-Chair had read in the Order that the next election for Central Swindon South would be 2019, which meant for this term Councillors would only be serving for 2 years.

The Chair referred to an email that had been sent by Cllr Thompson to Robert Buckland MP following the tragic fire at the tower block in Kensington. As a result of the email, Cllr Thompson stated that he would be meeting with Robert Buckland MP and would report back, but he wanted to make it clear that this meeting was as a member of the public and that he was not representing the Parish Council.

Cllr Burns-Howell asked whether the Parish Council should be considering the issue in relation to Swindon, as there were several tower blocks within the Parish. Cllr Hopkins stated that he had worked for the fire service 20 years ago and the issue of fires in tower blocks had always been a major concern. He had a number of more technical questions that he felt should be asked of Robert Buckland MP and Swindon Borough Council.

Cllr Robson suggested that someone from the fire service should be invited to a future Planning & Environment Committee meeting to provide Councillors with more information about fire safety, particularly when looking at plans for new buildings.

RESOLVED that the Clerk be asked to write to Robert Buckland MP and Swindon Borough Council with the technical questions supplied by Cllr Hopkins and to obtain assurances that the tower block flats within the parish are safe.

The Chair ended by saying that StreetSmart services were working very well, with very little complaint and the decision to take the enhanced service with grass cutting every 3 weeks had made a real difference.

62 **Openness Working Party**

The Clerk submitted an email dated 14 June 2017 from Cllr Burns-Howell a copy of which appears as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

The Chair stated that due to the current staffing arrangements, this item would be deferred to a future meeting and Cllr Burns-Howell expressed that he was happy with this. Cllr Firmin asked if a copy of the paper referred to in the email could be circulated to all Councillors and Cllr Burns-Howell would arrange for this through the Clerk.

63 **Calendar of Meetings**

The Clerk submitted a revised Calendar of Meetings a copy of which appears as Appendix B in the Minute Book.

The draft Calendar of Meetings included the venue of meetings from July 2017.

RESOLVED that the draft Calendar of Meetings that appears as Appendix B be approved.

64 **Risk Management**

The Chair stated that Councillors had not received the correct papers for this item and it would be deferred to the next Parish Council meeting.

65 Transfer of Services from Swindon Borough Council (Min.29 – 17.05.17)

The Chair stated that a response was still awaited from the solicitors and this item would be deferred to the next Parish Council Meeting.

66 Transfer of Assets from Swindon Borough Council (Min.30 – 17.05.17)

The Chair reported he had attended a meeting on 13 June 2017 with the Chairs of the other 4 Parish Councils and the Leader of Swindon Borough Council. The meeting discussed the transfer of assets to the Parish Councils and the Swindon Borough Council wanted to do this by a 99 year lease. A draft lease had been supplied and the Clerk was asked to circulate a copy to Councillors.

The Leader of Swindon Borough Council had indicated that they would consider the transfer of assets by the freehold, but this would have to be considered by the Cabinet.

The Chair suggested that the Parish Council continue to maintain the assets through StreetSmart and that the Asset Working Party review the draft lease and make recommendations to the next Full Council Meeting. Councillors agreed to this course of action.

67 Name and Logo for Parish Council

The Chair stated that the public found the current name of the Council too complicated and had difficulty remembering the correct order. He asked Councillors to consider a change of name and a logo for the Parish Council.

RESOLVED

- a) that a request be made to Swindon Borough Council for the change of name to South Swindon Parish Council;
- b) that secondary schools in the parish and Swindon Collage be asked to design a logo for the Parish Council.

68 Terms of Reference

The Clerk submitted draft Terms of Reference for the Broadgreen, Services and Assets Working Parties a copy of which appears as Appendix C in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that the draft Terms of Reference in Appendix C be approved.

69 Admission of Public and Press

RESOLVED that in accordance with Standing Order 3d) that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they be instructed to withdraw; the reason being Staffing Matters.

70 Broadgreen Community Centre (Min.31 – 17.05.17)

The Broadgreen Working Party made a report on the future of Broadgreen Community Centre. Mr Mark Walker, Community Programme Lead Officer at Swindon Borough Council provide details of a new initiative for the local area.

RESOLVED

- a) that the Parish Council enters into a lease or management contract for 1 year for the running of Broadgreen Community Centre, but not take any responsibility for the fabric of the building;
- b) that a Job Description and advert for a Community Centre Manager be drawn up by the Clerk for approval of the Finance & Staffing Committee;
- c) that a meeting be held with Christchurch regarding the future of the Community Transition Manager;

d) that the Broadgreen Working Party look in detail at the possibility of Parish Office being located at Broadgreen Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.22 pm

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