

SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
(CENTRAL SWINDON SOUTH PARISH COUNCIL)

LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2017 at 7.30pm
in the Main Hall, Broadgreen Community Centre

Present Cllr N Hopkins (Chair)
Cllr B Thompson (Vice-Chair)
Cllr S Allsopp
Cllr N Burns-Howell
Cllr P Dixon
Cllr J Firmin
Cllr J Howarth
Cllr M J Miah
Cllr J Miah
Cllr S Pajak
Cllr C Watts
Cllr N Watts

Officers Joyce Holman (Parish Clerk)

Public Two

Public Session A member of the public referred to the item on the agenda concerning the opening of the toilets in Town Gardens and Queens Park in the winter months and said that the toilets opened and closed automatically and that it was not necessary for them to be manually locked. This meant that the quotation provided to the Parish Council was misleading and in his opinion far more money than should be required.

329 **Apologies**

Cllr J Ali
Cllr M Dickinson
Cllr M Gladman
Cllr J Milner-Barry
Cllr D Pajak
Cllr T Philpot
Cllr J Short

Not Present

Cllr A Hawkins
Cllr T Robson
Cllr I Shaikh
Cllr D Wood

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

None

331 **Cage Cricket Opportunity (Min.266 – 07.11.17)**

Cllr C Watts reported that he had attended the demonstration of cage cricket and he had been very impressed. It was an opportunity to use a MUGA for a different sport, which he knew was popular in the local area. The equipment could be used outside for MUGAs like the one in Broadgreen or inside sports halls.

He suggested that there might be a way to work with the local cricket club to provide new facilities and it was agreed that the Clerk should find out more information and report back.

332 Winter Opening of Toilets at Town Gardens & Queens Park

The Clerk submitted an email dated 28 November 2017 from the Grounds Maintenance Service Manager at Swindon Borough Council a copy of which appears as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

The email set out the costs for StreetSmart to open the toilets at Town Gardens and Queens Park for the remainder of the winter months and the total cost of opening the toilets in the winter of 2018/19 for budget purposes.

Cllr Dixon stated that he would support the opening of the toilets in the 2 parks for the winter months. The Chair said that the figures appeared to be for the opening and closing and some clarity was required as the toilets had automatic opening and closing facilities.

Cllr Howarth said that the following year a better solution could be sought for dealing with the toilets and that for this year it needed to be resolved as soon as possible.

RESOLVED that the Chair and Vice-Chair be given authority to negotiate with StreetSmart to open the toilets in Town Gardens and Queens Park during the winter months up to a figure of £3,000 and the cost be met from the Town Gardens Toilets and Queens Park Toilets Budget.

333 Library Working Party (Min.267 – 07.11.17)

The Clerk submitted an exchange of emails with the Head of Libraries at Swindon Borough Council a copy of which appears as Appendix B in the Minute Book.

The email informed Councillors that Park Library would move across to the extended access scheme from 28 November 2017 and that new hours funded by the Parish Council needed to be agreed. Due to tight time scales, the Head of Libraries had suggested changes which needed to be approved without delay as the opening hours needed to be advertised and contracts changed. The details were circulated by the Clerk and the decision made to approve the suggested hours and this now needed to be approved retrospectively by the Parish Council.

RESOLVED that the new hours set out in Appendix B for Park Library be approved and that a review be made of their effectiveness in February 2018.

Councillors reported that the re-opening event at Old Town Library on Saturday 9 December 2017 had been a success and they thanked the invited guests for attending and the parish and library staff for their help with the refurbishment and organising the event. The Clerk informed Councillors that local author Steve Anthony had not been well enough to attend the event, but had provided the library with a limited-edition print of one of his illustrations and given several of his books to the library.

Cllr C Watts said that the Parish Council should be proud of what had been achieved at Old Town Library and that he had already heard back from local people and Old Town Business Association that they were very pleased that the library had remained open.

The Clerk stated that there was still work to complete the project, which included new computers and the carpet for the adult section, which would be laid in early January 2018.

334 Arqiva Broadcast Equipment requirement at Broome Manor Allotment Site (Min.271 – 11.07.17)

The Clerk submitted a copy of the Early Access Agreement which had been signed by the Chair a copy of which appears as Appendix C in the Minute Book.

The Clerk explained that the plans for the position of the cabin that had been approved by the Committee had been slightly changed by Arqiva as part of the Early Access Agreement. The Chair and the Chair of the Council had approved the amended plans and these now needed to be approved retrospectively. The Clerk confirmed that as a result of the agreement being signed, the Parish Council would receive the £2,000 fee.

RESOLVED that the Early Access Agreement and associated plans that appear as Appendix C be approved.

335 Allotments

The Clerk reported that the allotment invoices had now been prepared and that the invoices, new Tenancy Agreements and guidelines should be sent out by 15 December 2017.

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm

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