

SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
(CENTRAL SWINDON SOUTH PARISH COUNCIL)

PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2017 at 6.30 pm
in Lounge, Broadgreen Community Centre

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

Officers Joyce Holman (Parish Clerk)

Public Two

Public Session Mr Finch asked whether the Environment Officer would have the task of speaking to car and coach drivers about running their engines when stopped in order to keep their vehicles warm, as he had reported it to the Police and they had taken no action. The Clerk stated that this would not be part of his role, as this was not a duty of the Parish Council.

319 **Apologies**

Cllr J Ali
Cllr M Dickinson
Cllr M Gladman
Cllr D Pajak
Cllr T Philpot
Cllr J Short

Not Present

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

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

Cllr Burns-Howell declared a prejudicial interest in Minute 327 and took no part in the discussion and voting thereon.

321 **Planning Applications**

321.1	S/17/1758/NISM Commonhead Site Swindon	Removal of condition 25 and 26 (Highway Improvement works) from Outline Planning Permission S/10/0842 for the erection of up to 890no. dwellings, employment and associated uses
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The Clerk passed on information received from the Planning Department as there were no details available to view on the Swindon Borough Council's website.

The original Planning Application in 2010 was determined by the Secretary of State and contained conditions that when a number of dwellings had been built Highway Improvements had to be approved for Junction 15 of the M4 and improvements to the A419 including changes to the Commonhead roundabout.

The Planning Application submitted by the developer for the removal of these conditions is understood to be because of viability issues on the future development of the site. Cllr Firmin asked the Clerk to obtain more details about this and the Clerk would circulate them following the meeting.

DECISION: Objection for the following reasons:

1. The highway conditions from the original Planning Permission (S/10/0842) were conditions set by the Secretary of State and were considered reasonable at the time. Nothing has changed and therefore those conditions should still apply.

2. The infrastructure is still required and who would fund this if the highway conditions were removed from this Planning Permission.

3. Traffic impact of people living in the parish and entering Swindon from the M4. The highway improvements were identified to ensure traffic flow into Swindon from the M4 taking into account the additional traffic generated from the development of 890 new dwellings and employment at the Commonhead site. How will the traffic be managed if the houses and employment are built but the highways work is not completed.

4. Precedent set to other developers that they can start a build with highway conditions and then, when the build is half way through, claim it is not viable to carry out the highway conditions. If this is approved, then it opens the door for this to happen on all new developments.

5. The Parish Council would like to 'call in' this Planning Application and for it to be determined by the Planning Committee at Swindon Borough Council.

321.2	S/17/1791/NIGI 13 Coate Lane Coate SN3 6AA	Change of use of former engineering workshop (Class B8) to dwelling (Class C3) and erection of 2no. cottages and 1no. coach house plus associated works
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DECISION: No Objection

321.3	S/17/1899/IH 116 Victoria Road Old Town SN1 3BH	Variation of condition 2 (opening hours) from previous permission T/92/267
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The Vice-Chair provided more details of this Planning Application and Planning Applications No S/17/1658/IH and S/ADV/17/1659/IH. These 2 Planning Applications referred to the new signage and S/17/1899/IH referred to extending the opening hours to 4.00am.

DECISION: Objection for the following reasons:

1. The advertising sign is not in keeping with Conservation Area.
2. The opening time to 4.00am is not appropriate for the amenity of the public and will create noise and smells for local residents in the early hours of the morning when they should have the right to expect to have peace and quiet in order to sleep.

322 Planning Applications delegated to the Chair & Vice-Chair

The Clerk submitted a report containing the delegated responses of the Chair and Vice-Chair a copy of which appears as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that the responses (with the exception of S/17/1658 and S/ADV/17/1659) of the Chair and Vice-Chair that appear as Appendix A be approved.

323 Planning Decisions

The Clerk submitted for information a report containing the decisions made by Swindon Borough Council a copy of which appears as Appendix B in the Minute Book.

324 New Eastern Villages (NEV) Southern Connector Road – Information Event (Min.305 – 28.11.17)

Cllr Firmin circulated details of the proposed Southern Connector Road a copy of which appears as Appendix C to these Minutes.

Cllr Firm reported that more details were provided at the meeting he had attended on 29 November 2017. There were still more questions to be answered about when the road would be built and the impact of roads in the parish; in particular at Greenbridge and Commonhead roundabouts.

325 Wellington Street – Public Consultation

The Clerk submitted an email dated 5 December 2017 from the Assistant Project Manager at Swindon Borough Council a copy of which appears as Appendix D in the Minute Book.

The email referred to the proposal for the improvements to Wellington Street and the public consultation. Cllr Firmin stated that the Ward Councillors had a number of concerns about the proposals which he suggested that the Parish Council should support.

RESOLVED

- a) that the road priority should be given from Wellington Street into Milford Road and not from Manchester Road;
- b) that more robust and hard-wearing materials should be chosen;
- c) that there should be some form of railway feature included in the design to recognise the location;
- d) that further plans need to be drawn up to include these suggestions.

326 Street Watch

The Clerk submitted an email dated 5 December 2017 from the Street Watch Co-ordinator a copy of which appears as Appendix E in the Minute Book.

The email referred to the Street Watch programme that was operating in the parish and the urgent need for more volunteers to come forward.

Cllr Allsopp stated that he knew of the work of Street Watch and the co-ordinator and he suggested that this was taken to the next Community Safety Forum for other Parish Council to provide support. Cllr C Watts asked if an amount could be placed in the budget for next year to help support this and other similar groups with funding.

327 Oakfield Project

The Clerk submitted an email dated 30 November 2017 from the Communications Lead – Media Relations at Swindon Borough Council a copy of which appears as Appendix F in the Minute Book

The email contained a press release about the new initiative by Nationwide Building Society to build a community-led development at the Oakfield site within the parish. The development would include a mix of private and affordable housing and it was welcomed by Councillors.

(Cllr Burns-Howell declared a prejudicial interest in the item and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon)

328 New Seating at Old Town (Min.279 – 14.11.17)

The Clerk reported that at the meeting of the Planning & Environment Committee on 14 November 2017 Councillors were asked to contact the Clerk with suggested locations for new benches in the parish and no further suggestions had been received.

Cllr C Watts asked if new benches could be included in the work to improve the Shaftesbury lakes area.

The Clerk provided details of sustainable recycled benches which all had a similar cost of approximately £400. The Clerk confirmed that plaques could also be placed on the benches.

RESOLVED that 2 new benches be purchased for the avenue at Old Town and the 4 Ward Councillors be delegated authority to select the benches and the cost be met from the Seats Budget.

The meeting closed at 7.28 pm

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