

**SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL**  
(CENTRAL SWINDON SOUTH PARISH COUNCIL)

**LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2018 at 7.22 pm  
in the Lounge, Broadgreen Community Centre

**Present** Cllr S Allsopp  
Cllr N Burns-Howell  
Cllr P Dixon  
Cllr J Firmin  
Cllr M Gladman  
Cllr J Howarth  
Cllr J Miah  
Cllr M J Miah  
Cllr J Milner-Barry  
Cllr T Philpot  
Cllr C Watts  
Cllr N Watts

**Officers** Joyce Holman (Parish Clerk)  
Neil Pullen (Wiltshire Wildlife Trust)

The Chair and Vice-Chair were absent and the Committee elected a Councillor to Chair the meeting.

Cllr N Watts in the Chair.

**Public** Two

**Public Session** Mr Finch asked about the transfer of staff from Swindon Borough Council to the Parish Council. Cllr C Watts said that the Parish Council was unable to discuss this matter as it involved staff and was confidential.

Mr Finch also pointed out that there appeared to be 5 events taking place at the Bowl in the summer, but Swindon Borough Council had restricted the number to 4 events.

**495** **Apologies**  
Cllr N Hopkins (Chair)  
Cllr B Thompson (Vice-Chair)  
Cllr J Ali  
Cllr M Dickinson  
Cllr A Hawkins  
Cllr D Pajak  
Cllr S Pajak  
Cllr T Robson  
Cllr I Shaikh  
Cllr J Short  
Cllr D Wood

**496** **Declaration of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**  
None

**497**      **Magnificent Meadows**

The Clerk submitted an email dated 8 March 2018 from the Reserves Manager at Wiltshire Wildlife Trust a copy of which appears as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

The Chair suspended Standing Orders to allow Mr Neil Pullen from Wiltshire Wildlife Trust to make a presentation to the meeting.

Mr Pullen informed Councillors that Wiltshire Wildlife Trust were making an application for grant funding to re-establish meadows and bring wildlife back to them. They had identified 8 sites in the Swindon area with Lawns being one of the sites selected. This was the area to the east and at the back of Christ Church, which had a long history of being a meadow. The meadow would need to be platted and then managed.

To start the funding process Wiltshire Wildlife Trust were looking for a letter of support from the Parish Council.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

**RESOLVED** that a letter of support for the Magnificent Meadows project be sent to Wiltshire Wildlife Trust.

**498**      **Badbury Park Community Space (Min.425 – 06.02.18)**

The Clerk reported that she had attended the event which had been very busy. The purpose of the Parish Council was to ask the public about the location of noticeboards and find out the level of interest in the public running the new community space.

A number of suggestions had been received for noticeboards and there had been a small amount of interest in the community space.

The most important information received at the meeting was that there were 2 allotment plots identified in the development and an assumption had been made that the Parish Council would look after these. However, the allotments would just be 2 areas of land which would not be fenced and came with no Section 106 funding. The developer was asked to make a formal request to the Parish Council for their consideration.

**499**      **Future of Play Area**

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

The report provided an update of the position regarding the lease for the play areas. A copy of the maps had been circulated to Ward Parish Councillors for them to identify any issues.

**RESOLVED**

- a) that the play area maps are approved for the lease agreement;
- b) that Councillors agree on a priority list of works to be carried out for the refurbishment of play areas.

**500**      **Town Gardens & Queens Park**

The Clerk submitted a report a copy of which appears as Appendix C in the Minute Book.

The report informed Councillors that the new leases from Swindon Borough Council for the formal parks had been requested by the Parish Council, but they would take some time to complete. The Clerk had asked for a written commitment from Swindon Borough Council that it was their intention to grant the leases. The Parish Council could then decide whether they wanted to make a start on refurbishment work before the leases were completed.

There were some urgent repairs needed; in particular repairs to the Bowl and the perimeter fence.

**RESOLVED** that the Gardens Working Party draws up a programme of works for improvements to the 2 formal parks.

**501 Town Garden Concerts**

The Clerk submitted for information an email dated 21 February 2018 from Swindon Borough Council a copy of which appears as Appendix D in the Minute Book.

The email contained details of the concerts booked for Town Gardens in the summer for the bandstand and the Bowl. The Clerk was asked to clarify the use of the Bowl as there appeared to be 5 events booked for the venue.

**502 Broadgreen Working Party**

The Broadgreen Working Party submitted a report a copy of which appears as Appendix E in the Minute Book.

The report provided details of the performance of Broadgreen Community Centre and that at the end of January there had been a small surplus. The report also included costings for the Food Festival.

**RESOLVED**

- a) that the costings for the Food Festival set out in Appendix E be approved;
- b) that the report of the Broadgreen Working Party be noted.

**503 The Avenues, Lawns**

The Clerk submitted for information an email dated 6 March 2018 from the Chartered Landscape Architect at Swindon Borough Council a copy of which appears as Appendix F in the Minute Book.

The email and attached report set out the history of the site and also the issues with the soil which had led to the problems with the trees. The Clerk said that she had just received some preliminary costings for the work and it would be approximately £85K.

It was agreed that the Clerk should look at doing the work in sections and bring back a report to the next meeting.

The Clerk circulated details of the new litter bins for the entrance to Lawns to replace the large bin in front of the trees.

**RESOLVED** that the purchase of 2 new contemporary steel litter bins be approved at a price of £870 plus VAT and fixing and the cost be met from Litter/Dog Bins Budget.

**504 Old Town Library**

The Clerk submitted a report a copy of which appears as Appendix G in the Minute Book.

The report updated Councillors on the refurbishment of Old Town Library and the final stages to consider. Cllr Milner-Barry asked for additional signage for the Library.

**RESOLVED**

- a) that quotations be received for both touching up the woodwork and for a complete repaint;
- b) that a quotation be obtained for additional signage for Old Town Library;
- c) that these quotations be considered at a future meeting of the Committee.

505

**Section 106 Funding**

The Clerk reported that she had attended a Clerk Forum Meeting on 28 February 2018 and all Parish Councils had been asked to draw up a wish list of projects for open spaces and this could be used by the Planning Department at Swindon Borough Council for Section 106 funding.

The Chair asked Councillors to contact the Clerk with their suggestions. From this the Clerk would draw up a list for consideration at a later meeting of the Committee.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm

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