

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

**LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2018 at 6.30 pm  
in the Lounge, Broadgreen Community Centre

**Present** Cllr N Hopkins (Chair)  
Cllr J Firmin (Vice-Chair)  
Cllr N Burns-Howell  
Cllr M Gladman  
Cllr M J Miah  
Cllr J Milner-Barry  
Cllr T Philpot  
Cllr T Robson

Cllr P Herring (Substitute – Cllr P Dixon)  
Cllr J Short (Substitute – Cllr M Dickinson)  
Cllr C Watts (Substitute – Cllr J Milner-Barry)

Cllr N Watts (not Committee Member)  
Cllr S Pajak (not Committee Member)

**Officers** Joyce Holman (Parish Clerk)  
Jake Mee (Deputy Clerk)

**Public** Four

**Public Session** Mr Finch asked whether the toilets at Town Gardens and Queens Park would be left open in the winter months which the Parish Council had supported last year and had not been able to put in place. Cllr C Watts explained that the Parish Council needed to take the leases for the 2 parks in order to take over the operational running and this process had virtually ground to a halt due to lack of resources at Swindon Borough Council. The Chair stated that the Parish Council would make a request to StreetSmart for the toilets to be open in working hours and Cllr S Pajak said that he thought this should be possible from conversations he had recently with staff working at Queens Park.

Mr Finch asked about the War Memorial and whether it would be ready for 11 November 2018. The Clerk confirmed that the contractor had started work that week and was confident that the work would be completed on time and the artist was ready for the installation.

**271** **Apologies**  
Cllr S Allsopp  
Cllr M Dickinson  
Cllr P Dixon

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

**273** **Allotments (Min.195 – 04.09.18)**  
The Clerk submitted the minutes of the Annual Allotment Holders Meeting held on 27 September 2018 a copy of which appears as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

The Chair added more information about the meeting. The meeting had been well attended and generally allotment holders were happy with the administration and the improvements made by the Parish Council. The main areas of complaint were the fees for non-parishioners and plots that had not been cultivated. Cllr C Watts asked the Clerk to inform Councillors of the number of plots that were held by non-parishioners.

**274 Feeding of Water Birds at Parks (Min.196 – 04.09.18)**

The Clerk provided a copy of the new posters had been produced based on the one supplied by Cllr S Pajak a copy of which appears as Appendix B to these Minutes.

The posters would be displayed at Queens Park and Shaftesbury Lake.

**RESOLVED** that the posters that appears as Appendix B be approved.

**275 Swindon Half Marathon**

The Clerk submitted an email dated 11 September 2018 from Cllr N Watts a copy of which appears as Appendix C in the Minute Book

Cllr N Watts stated that she had taken part in the Swindon Marathon and it was very well organised, brought a lot of people and business to the town and raised money for charity. She asked for the Parish Council to write a letter of support.

**RESOLVED** that the Parish Council writes a letter in support of the Swindon Marathon.

**276 Enterprise Works**

The Clerk submitted an email dated 6 September 2018 from the Chair a copy of which appears as Appendix D in the Minute Book.

The email gave details of the services carried out by Enterprise Works and the vulnerable adults that they support and invited Councillors to visit them to see their work. The Chair requested that Enterprise Works were asked to quote for any future signs required by the Parish Council.

Cllrs Burns-Howell, Firmin, Gladman Milner-Barry, S Pajak, Philpott indicated that they would like to join the Chair in visiting the work and he would organise a date.

**277 Old Town Library**

The Clerk submitted the Old Town Library Loans Report a copy of which appears as Appendix E in the Minute Book.

The report showed that lending figures at Old Town Library had significantly increased since the extension of the opening hours.

The Clerk submitted an email dated 22 September 2018 from the Library Assistant at Old Town Library a copy of which appears as Appendix F in the Minute Book.

The email provided details of a new reading challenge for Old Town Library and the Clerk informed Councillors that there would be a very small cost to implement.

**RESOLVED** that the Parish Council approve the implementation of a new reading challenge as detailed in Appendix F.

The Clerk submitted details of a special story time an email dated 22 September 2018 from the Library Assistant at Old Town Library a copy of which appears as Appendix G in the Minute Book.

Cllr C Watts asked the Clerk to put together a press release covering the 3 library items discussed.

The Clerk reported that she had attended a meeting with the Parish Manager at North Swindon Parish Council and senior library staff to discuss the future use of the Swindon Borough Council library system from April 2019, when the member of staff at Old Town Library would be employed by the Parish Council.

The legal department at Swindon Borough Council would not give permission for Parish Councils to have full access to the library system because of GDPR. This was being disputed by the Parish Manager and South Swindon Parish Council were being asked to support this.

**RESOLVED** that the Parish Council support North Swindon Parish Council and dispute the ruling made by Swindon Borough Council to withdraw full access to the library system from 1 April 2019.

**278** County Ground (Min.142 – 10.07.18)

The Clerk referred to the presentation made to the Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting on 10 July 2018 by Mr David James when he spoke about the new development at the County Ground and the possibility of talking to the Parish Council about the future of the play area.

The Clerk had attempted to arrange a meeting with Mr James and the Chair and Vice-Chair to discuss this matter further. This had been declined as there was no Cabinet Member lead regarding the future of the site.

The Clerk confirmed that the play areas at County Ground and Euclid Street had never been offered as a lease to the Parish Council and were to be retained by Swindon Borough Council.

The Clerk was asked to write to Swindon Borough Council to find out their future plans for these play areas, as StreetSmart had indicated that there was no budget to cover any larger maintenance repairs or refurbishment.

The meeting closed at 7.20 pm

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