

SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
(CENTRAL SWINDON SOUTH PARISH COUNCIL)

COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2019 at 6.30pm
in Lounge, Broadgreen Community Centre

- Present** Cllr C Watts (Chair)
Cllr J Howarth (Vice-Chair)
Cllr S Ahmed
Cllr J Ali
Cllr S Allsopp
Cllr V Ayris
Cllr J Firmin
Cllr M Gladman
Cllr D Griffiths
Cllr P Herring
Cllr N Hopkins
Cllr W Horley
Cllr S James
Cllr L Kasmaty
Cllr M J Miah
Cllr J Miah
Cllr S Pajak
Cllr T Philpot
Cllr M Strinkovsky
Cllr N Watts
- Officers** Rob Core (Parish Clerk)
Jake Mee (Deputy Parish Clerk)
- Public** Four
- Public Session** A member of the public thanked the Clerk for getting rubbish cleared around Gladstone Street.
- A member of the public asked what the policy is regarding rough sleeping. The Clerk advised that Swindon Borough Council had created an advice policy which the Clerk is looking into and hoped to meet with Swindon Borough Council, and feedback at a later meeting.
- A member of the public complained that the street cleaning equipment being used is ancient and not doing a good job and asked if the parish were paying for it. The Clerk responded that the parish are not responsible for road sweeping, the Borough Council Highways Department are responsible, the parish are responsible for littering.
- A member of the public asked if the parish had a lease for the Lawns in Old Town. Cllr C Watts stated that the parish do not have the lease, the member of the public said that Swindon Borough Council are not maintaining the path edges or the trees unless they are dangerous. Cllr C Watts stated that the parish do not maintain the Lawns.
- A member of the public said that the planning application for the Corn Exchange in Old Town, Swindon had indicated that part of the lawns would be used for parking. Cllr N Watts said that as a borough councillor she had been involved and that a full consultation letter should be sent out in late summer 2019, Cllr N Watts also said that she not seen any parking on the plans, and the plans will be available to the public on the borough

council planning portal. The public will have at least two opportunities to comment on the development.

767 Apologies

Cllr E Heavens
Cllr J Milner-Barry

Not Present

Cllr A Hamid

768 Declaration of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

Cllr Herring declared a pecuniary interest in Minute Number 777 as the developer for the site is his employer, Nationwide Building Society.

769 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 18 June 2019 with amendments be approved as a correct record, a copy of which appears as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

770 Finance & Staffing Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Meeting held on 25 June 2019 be approved as a correct record, a copy of which appears as Appendix B in the Minute Book.

771 Planning & Environment Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Finance & Staffing Meeting held on 25 June 2019 with amendments be approved as a correct record, a copy of which appears as Appendix C in the Minute Book.

772 Leisure & Amenities Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Leisure & Amenities Meeting held on 09 July 2019 with amendments be approved as a correct record, a copy of which appears as Appendix D in the Minute Book.

773 Planning & Environment Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on 09 July 2019 with amendments be approved as a correct record, a copy of which appears as Appendix E in the Minute Book.

774 Parish Council Representatives' Reports

None.

775 Chair's Report

The Chair gave a verbal report which confirmed that the lease for the GWR Park had been completed and signed and said that the acquisition will add to Queens Park and Town Gardens and there are lots of plans for GWR park.

The Britain in Bloom Judges were taken along a route on the 11th July 2019 which took in Shaftesbury Lake, Marlborough Road, Old Town, Town Gardens and Queens Park. The Chair wished to thank all the councillors and staff involved, the Chair met with the judges afterwards they were very impressed with what they saw and particularly the work in Old Town and that a fantastic job was done in preparation for it thanks to the gardeners of both parks, and one of the comments for the Town Gardens was that it was possibly one of the best parks they had seen in a long time, the judges also liked the gardener's future plans. It was also good that Staff had walked the route beforehand and made sure it looked as good as it possibly could especially round Shaftesbury lakes. The Chair gave thanks to Cllr Hopkins, Philpot and Kasmaty along with the Clerk and Deputy Clerk for all the work they had put in to make it a success.

The judges had spoken to Cllr Kasmaty to whom they had explained that it helps to raise community participation and pride in the environment which then encourages residents to get involved.

The judges were very impressed by the work put in by the parish Projects Officer at Shaftesbury lakes which included pond dipping for school children and teachers from Goddard Park Community Primary School which was happening whilst the judges were on site.

Cllr Philpot gave information regarding the Britain in Bloom award levels and reiterated the good reactions from the judges and extended her thanks to everyone involved and the results are due in October 2019.

The Clerk gave thanks to the Project Officer, Parish Services Officer and Street Smart for the work they had done along the Britain in Bloom route.

776 Armed Forces Charity VE Day 75th Anniversary

To note a letter from the Armed Forces Charity day and a proposed revision to the WWI Working Party Terms of Reference a copy of which appears as Appendix F in the Minute Book.

A discussion regarding the WW1 working party update of the terms of reference to include WW2 had been made and Cllr S Allsopp commended the commemoration of VE day.

RESOLVED that the Terms of Reference for World Wars Working Party that appear as Appendix F be adopted.

777 Oakfield Development

The Chair gave a verbal report to consider adoption of a ninety-nine-year lease of the Open space on the Oakfield Development.

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the Leisure and Amenities Committee had agreed to taking a ninety-nine-year lease on the Open space on the Oakfield Development which would be finalised soon, the Leisure and Amenity Committee recommended to Full Council that it be approved at this level. The Clerk stated that Swindon Borough Council will maintain the area for 2 years, and in year 3 it will revert to the parish standard of maintenance along with the maintenance of the play area.

RESOLVED that the recommendation from the Leisure and Amenity Committee be approved and a ninety nine year lease for the open space at the Oakfield Development be agreed.

778 Admission of Public and Press

To resolve in accordance with Standing Order 3 (d) that 'in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded, and they be instructed to withdraw'. Reason – Staffing.

779 Staffing

The Deputy Clerk gave a verbal report regarding employing a second Clerk.

The Deputy Clerk stated that it had been previously resolved to employ a second Clerk who is CiLCA qualified and will be able to adopt general powers of competence. They would be employed on a zero hours contract but no contract had been drawn up yet. the person in mind is waiting to receive their CiLCA and the proposal is to bring a draft contract to the next Finance and Staffing meeting to be approved, and will then be brought to the next Full Council meeting to resolve to adopt the general powers of competence with the Clerk in a secondary role.

RESOLVED to be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.10 pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Council