

SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
(CENTRAL SWINDON SOUTH PARISH COUNCIL)

PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2019 at 7.15pm
in the Council Chamber, Parish Council Offices Gladstone Street

Present Cllr T Philpot Chair
Cllr P Herring Vice-Chair
Cllr S Ahmed
Cllr D Griffiths Sub Cllr N Hopkins
Cllr J Firmin
Cllr M Strinkovsky
Cllr C Watts
Cllr N Watts

Officers Rob Core Clerk
Jake Mee Deputy Clerk

Public Five

Public Session A member of the public asked for an update on 79 Gladstone Street takeaway food outlet. The Deputy Clerk responded that there had been no update from Swindon Borough Council yet.

A member of the public said that there is a garden on Swindon Road which is in poor condition and which he thought the Parish looked after. The Clerk said that the land is owned by Swindon Borough Council and two trees had been removed. There is a dilapidated wall directly adjacent to the garden which is privately-owned, and which had been reported to Swindon Borough Council Control. Cllr J Firmin said that the In Bloom Working Party had been looking into this area/issue.

A member of the public asked if the Ministry of Defence (MOD) based at Church Place next to the GWR Park need planning application for the demolition of the current building on site. Cllr P Herring said that a planning application is not required for demolition of a building.

The Clerk said that he and the Deputy Clerk will be attending a meeting with a Territorial Army manager and will raise the issue locally.

951 Apologies

Cllr M Hamid
Cllr N Hopkins Sub Cllr D Griffiths

952 Declaration of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

None.

953 Planning Applications to be Examined

953.1 S/19/1565 Demolition of existing tented market and erection of a
Market Hall two-storey building comprising 4 no. Class A3 (Food and
Market Street Drink) units, 1 no. Class A1 (Shop) unit and associated
Swindon works.
SN1 1RZ

The Committee discussed the planning application and said that it does not fit within the Town Centre Master Plan.

Councillor N Watts noted that Borough Councillor Wright had called the application in.

DECISION to support Councillor Wrights comments.

- 953.2** S/OUT/19/1566
44-45 Brunel Arcade
Canal walk
Swindon
SN1 1LL
- A Hybrid application for the demolition of 44-45 Canal Walk (Brunel Shopping Centre) and outline application for the construction of two multi-storey towers for mixed use (up to 290no. residential units) and a podium 1-3 storeys (Use Class A1-A5 and leisure uses) with associated landscaping, access (access, landscaping, layout and scale not reserved) and full application for the reconfiguration of the trucking deck including associated traffic controls.

Councillor N Watts said that there are wildlife concerns.

Councillor P Herring said that traffic would be an issue and the waste collection would not be suitable.

DECISION Objection due to 1) concerns around traffic accessing the remaining spiral ramp. 2) More detail required regarding the visual design and impact of the towers on the skyline and with respect to the existing DMJ. The Parish support the Flood Authority and Highways objections.

- 953.3** S/19/1386
Land at 62 Westcott Place
Westcott Place
Swindon
- Erection of 5 no. dwellings.

The Chair gave an outline of the application which was discussed by the committee.

Cllr C Watts said that applications with insufficient room sizes should be an automatic objection by Swindon borough council and the parish should have a policy of their own.

Cllr P Herring had agreed to write a policy for the parish.

DECISION Objection due to unit size.

- 953.4** S/PO2R/19/1646
The Forum
Marlborough Road
Swindon
SN3 1QN
- Prior Approval Notification for the change of use of first, second and third floors from Class A2 to Class C3 (20 no. Flats).

DECISION Objection due to access being an issue to flats on the 1st and 2nd floors, the refuse collection point is too far away for these flats. Cycle storage is up 2 flights of stairs and there is no lift.

- 953.5** S/19/1543
2 Queens Drive
Swindon
SN3 1AW
- Erection of a two-storey side and rear extension to facilitate 8 no. Flats and associated works.

The Deputy Clerk gave information regarding the application site which was discussed by the committee.

DECISION Objection due to access to the site being dangerous as there is a 40mph approach to the Magic Roundabout and there is a hard turn off across a footpath and cycle path on the main route into the town centre. The pedestrian footpath is heavily used during football match days and during school hours by parents and children.

954 **Planning Applications delegated to the Chair and Vice Chair**

The Deputy 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 of the Chair and Vice Chair be approved.

955 Planning Decisions

The Deputy 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.

NOTED

956 Consultation on BT Programme of Intended Public Payphone Removals

The Clerk submitted an email from Swindon Borough Council Forward Planning department a copy of which appears as Appendix C in the Minute Book.

Swindon Borough Council had informed the Parish Council that a public payphone in Welcombe Avenue had been placed under consultation. Cllr N Watts noted that a subsequent email showed that a new timeframe had been issued and that 80 calls had been made in a twelve-month period. The parish discussed the options to adopt or reject the public payphone removal.

Cllr J Firmin and Cllr T Philpot recommended that the parish publish a notice announcing the options.

RESOLVED that the notice of consultation including contact information for the public to feed back to Swindon Borough Council and the Parish Council be published on the parish website, in the Welcombe Avenue payphone and in Park Library.

957 HGV Licence Application Notification

The Clerk submitted an email from Swindon Borough Council Traffic Management Team a copy of which appears as Appendix D in the Minute Book.

Cllr P Herring confirmed that the site was Rushey Platt, and the committee discussed the application.

RESOLVED No objection.

958 Update from Swindon Borough Council regarding South Swindon Parish Council's responses to Planning Applications

The Deputy Clerk gave a verbal report regarding a Clerks meeting he had recently attended.

The Deputy Clerk had attended a meeting which the Corporate Director for Communities and Housing had also attended and had said that Swindon Borough Council also do not have the power to refuse and object to the planning applications at their own stage. The Deputy Clerk had explained that the parish planning committee received more applications than other parishes.

The Committee discussed that at a previous planning committee meeting the councillors had raised their frustration at Swindon Borough Council's lack of notice being paid to legitimate objections made by the parish planning committee and appeared to ignore National Policies, their own policies, and the Planning Guidance Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) guidance.

Cllr C Watts requested a review of the parish position for which a meeting would be arranged.

RESOLVED to formally request Swindon Borough Council clarify the reasoning and policy on planning.

The meeting closed at 08:18pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Council