

## **WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL**

### Minutes of the **FULL COUNCIL**

held on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 18.30 pm**  
**Unit 25, Westmead Industrial Estate, Swindon, SN5 7YT**

#### **Present:**

Cllr Junab Ali  
Cllr Mustafa Dayan  
Cllr Mustafa Ertas  
Cllr Leon Grother  
Cllr Rose Llewellyn (Chair)  
Cllr Graham Philpot  
Cllr Trish Philpot  
Cllr Nandini Singh  
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith  
Cllr Sean Wilson

**Officers:** Paula Harrison (Clerk)

**Public:** Four

#### **Public Questions:**

Glynis Hailes attended to ask Councillors to consider a proposal to develop Toothill park into a nature reserve with minimal grass cutting. Glynis advised that the park had low levels of footfall with dog walkers staying predominantly on the pathways. The move towards a more natural park would create better biodiversity, better wildflower and carbon sequestration and create more interest within the park space. Councillors noted the comments. The resident was advised that a more detailed response could be provided in writing.

Resident reported to Councillors that weed removal would be good idea as the current state of the kerbs and gutters detracts from the positive work of the team.

Meeting start 6.50 pm

#### **146. Apologies & Applications for Dispensation**

Apologies: Cllr Bates, Cllr Gattapur, Cllr Swinyard, Cllr Williams.  
Applications for dispensation: None

#### **147. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Full Council held on Monday 21 October 2024 be approved and adopted.

#### **148. Minutes of the Finance & Staffing Committee**

**RESOLVED** that Recommendation (Minute 120) that 35 payments totalling £94,562.02 for September 2024 are approved.

**RESOLVED** that Recommendation (Minute 122) that the Clerk is authorised to

purchase two electric tippers at a combined cost of £53,110.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance & Staffing Committee held on Monday 21 October 2024 be approved and adopted.

**149. Minutes of the Planning, Leisure and Environment Committee**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes from the Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee held on Monday 11 November 2024 be approved and adopted.

**150. Services Report**

Councillors received a report summarising the services delivered over the last four weeks, a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. Councillors asked the Clerk to thank the staff involved in the Remembrance figures.

**151. Swindon Independent Parish Remuneration Panel**

Councillors received a report summarising the findings of the Swindon Independent Remuneration Panel for Councillor Allowances 2025-26, a copy of which appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. Councillors debated the information.

**RESOLVED** that allowances are increased at the same percentage as the average staff salary increase for 2024/25, and, that the individual Councillor allowance is increased to 50% of the Chair's allowance.

Cllr Singh voted against the motion, Cllr Sydney Smith abstained.

**152. Committee Membership**

Councillors received a report seeking to amend the Committee membership for the current municipal year, a copy of which appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book.

**RESOLVED** that membership be confirmed as follows:

**Finance & Staffing:** Cllrs Llewellyn, Sydney Smith, Ali, Dayan, Ertas, Grother, G Philpot, T Philpot, Swinyard, Williams, Wilson.

**Planning, Leisure & Environment:** Cllrs Grother, Wilson, Bates, Dayan, Gattapur, G Philpot, T Philpot, Singh, Swinyard, Sydney Smith.

**153. Government Consultation**

Councillors received a report summarising the Government Consultation on enabling remote attendance and proxy voting for local authority meetings, a copy of which appears as **Appendix D** in the Minute Book. Councillors noted that they had amended the Parish Council's Standing Orders to reflect the Council's position on virtual attendance.

**RESOLVED** that Councillors make their own responses to the consultation as they see fit.

Meeting closed 7.17 pm.

Signed: .....

Chair, Full Council

Date: .....

