

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **FULL COUNCIL**

held on **Monday 27th January 2024 at 18.30 pm**
Unit 25, Westmead Industrial Estate, Swindon, SN5 7YT

Present:

Cllr Junab Ali
Cllr Peter Bates
Cllr Mustafa Dayan
Cllr Mustafa Ertas
Cllr Suresh Gattapur
Cllr Tim Makofu (virtual)
Cllr Leon Grother
Cllr Rose Llewellyn (Chair)
Cllr Graham Philpot
Cllr Trish Philpot
Cllr Nandini Singh
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith
Cllr Andrew Swinyard

Officers: Paula Harrison (Clerk) Sgt Tom Ashforth (Swindon Police)

Public: Three

Public Questions:

Sgt Tom Ashforth gave an introduction to those present and invited questions. A query over the enforcement of pavement and obstructive parking was made. Sgt Ashforth advised that the police could deal with willful obstruction. A question was asked relating to police closure notices. Sgt Ashforth shared information about a number of notices that were currently in force. Councillors thanked Sgt Ashforth for taking the time to attend and extended an invitation to attend future meetings.

Meeting start 7.15 pm

182. Apologies & Applications for Dispensation

Apologies: Cllrs Wilson
Applications for dispensation: None

183. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Correction to the draft minutes Minute 167 noting the Engagement role was approved in principle.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Full Council held on Monday 16 December 2024 be approved and adopted.

184. Minutes of the Finance & Staffing Committee

RESOLVED that Recommendation (Minute 156) that 46 payments totalling £113,196.77 for November 2024 are approved.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Finance & Staffing Committee held on Monday 16 December 2024 be approved and adopted.

185. Minutes of the Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee held on Monday 20 January 2025 be approved and adopted.

186. Services Report

Councillors received a report setting out information relating to grounds maintenance and outdoor services, a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. Councillors noted the information.

187. West Swindon Parish Council Precept 2025-26

Councillors received a report setting out a proposal for the 2025-26 Precept, a copy of which appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. Additional information for the public would be detailed on the Parish Council's website. An update on the statement of reserves was distributed, a copy of which appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book. The Parish Manager advised that the proposed precept prepared for the introduction of a new service for weed control/removal, play improvements, creating reserves for new premises and covering the rise in costs for staffing. The budget proposal detailed a 13.44% increase as follows:

Precept 2024/25	£1,145,463	Precept Requested 2025/26	£1,299,395
Tax Base	8820	Tax Base	8,799.9
Precept for Band D Property	£129.86	Precept for Band D Property	£147.66

The change in precept for a Band D property was an annual increase of £17.80 or the equivalent of 13.7% on that band or an additional £1.48 per month.

RESOLVED that

- a) The draft budget for 2025/26 as detailed in this report be approved.
- b) The Precept Demand for 2025/26 of **£1,299,395.00** is approved and the Parish Manager instructed to submit the Precept demand to Swindon Borough Council

Cllrs Gattapur, Singh, Swinyard and Sydney Smith voted against the proposal.

188. Devolution White Paper

The Parish Manager circulated a summary of the recently announced Devolution White Paper. A copy appears as **Appendix D** in the Minute Book. The Parish Manager advised that this would not impact on the Parish Council directly. The aim of the proposals is to create strategic authorities representing the interests of combined local authorities. The Strategic Authority would not be involved in the existing remits of local authorities but would work on infrastructure investment, transport links and economic development. Swindon Borough Council would be keeping Parish Council's updated.

Meeting closed 7.32 pm

Signed:

Chair, Full Council

Date: