

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** on **MONDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2017** at **6.30pm** at **WEST SWINDON LIBRARY**

Present:

Cllr Stephanie Exell
Cllr Suresh Gattapur
Cllr Nigel Gibbons (Chair)
Cllr Vinay Kumar
Cllr John Lenton
Cllr Timothy Makofu
Cllr Mary Martin
Cllr Nick Martin (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith
Cllr Matt Walker
Cllr Keith Williams

Officers:

Joyce Holman (Parish Clerk)
Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)

Public: Eleven

Public Session:

A resident reported that the plans for Mannington are not yet available, how will residents turn right? Will they have to still use the roundabout?

Cllr Mary Martin advised that there would be filter lane from the Mannington retail park directly on to Great Western Way towards Blagrove Roundabout which will provide options for portions of traffic heading West and should reduce the numbers coming out on to Wootton Bassett Road.

A resident asked for progress on school traffic wardens. Cllr Mary Martin advised that additional powers allowed a camera enforcement car to be operational in school safety zones. The car will enforce normal traffic restrictions.

A resident queried the Parish boundary alongside Wootton Bassett Road to Welton Road. The Chair confirmed that the boundary was correct and probably followed electoral boundaries.

A resident reported that it would be disappointing if the landscaping contract continued with Streetsmart as there it appears to be run by machinery operatives rather than horticulturists. The Chair noted the feedback.

A resident raised concerns about raised paving at the crossing to Asda. The Chair agreed to pass on the concerns.

A resident asked if procurement of fleet machinery/vehicles by Streetsmart would have implications for the Parish. The Chair reported that this was unlikely at this stage.

A resident queried the Leisure and Amenities Committee references to fencing at Toothill Park and suggested that this should be the responsibility of Swindon Borough Council.

A resident raised concerns about how to complain about damage to property by Streetsmart. The Chair reported that the resident should contact Swindon Borough Council directly to raise any requests for a claim.

A resident asked if the Parish had any responsibility or influence on the road repairs programme. The Chair confirmed that this was the responsibility of Swindon Borough Council. Discussions have been underway whereby residents and/or Parish Councils could work together to purchase additional work themselves in the future.

A resident asked that pot holes in Castledore be reported.

A resident asked if the Parish Council would be issuing fines for dropping litter. Cllr Keith Williams advised that there were ways this could be done however the Parish Council had no plans for this currently.

Meeting start 6.53 pm

206. Apologies

Cllr Matthew Courtliff, Cllr Ellen Heavens, Cllr Peter Stoddard, Cllr Tim Swinyard.

207. Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

Cllr Exell declared a personal interest in Item 14 (Minute 219) as a Swindon Borough Council Ward Member.

Cllr Mary Martin declared a personal interest in Item 14 (Minute 219) as the Swindon Borough Council Cabinet Member for Communities and Place.

208. Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20 October 2017 be confirmed and adopted.

209. Minutes of the Leisure and Amenities Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting held on Wednesday 1st November 2017 be confirmed and adopted.

210. Minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 13 November 2017 be confirmed and adopted.

211. Minutes of Finance and Staffing Committee

RESOLVED that approval be given to Recommendation (Minute 201) to agree the Payment Schedule for November 2017:

£5770.98 Library Service Quarterly Payment

£3750.00 Payment for office rental to 31 March 2018

£11,005.20 Payment to Swindon Borough Council for bulb planting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Finance and Staffing Committee meeting held on Monday 13th November 2017 be confirmed and adopted.

212. Update from Swindon Borough Councillors

Cllr Mary Martin reported that extended access in libraries was progressing well. West Swindon had gone live a month ago and Central Library would be going live on 28.11. The scheme offers shared access so residents with extended access permissions can access other libraries out of hours.

Junction 16 works have been progressing with the opening of the slip road to Wootton Bassett. It is possible that there will be some congestion issues from now until Christmas. Discussions have been underway with the Outlet and Steam with contingency arrangements to keep traffic moving e.g. manual operators on the parking barriers. Double yellow lines will be in at Bridgemoor to assist with queuing. It may not prevent gridlock but looking for ways to alleviate it quicker when it is happening.

Cllr Keith Williams updated that the Swindon Half Marathon will be taking place again at the beginning of October 2018. The team have been reviewing traffic implications and will aim to alleviate bottlenecks.

213. Reports from Parish Council Representatives

None

214. Report from the Chair

The Chair reported that he had represented the Parish Council on Remembrance Day at the War Memorial. The Chair had engaged with Lydiard Park Academy students for a logo design for the Parish. The Chair has spoken to other Parish Council Chairs to consider meeting as a group to share ideas and updates. The Chair had attended a Conservative Westminster Dinner.

215. Streetsmart Update

The Council received a report regarding Streetsmart Services, a copy of which appears in the Minute Book as **Appendix A**. The Chair noted thanks to Mr Rob Core for the Streetsmart report.

216. Reserves Policy

The Council received a draft Reserves Policy from the Policies and Governance Working Party, a copy of which appears in the Minute Book as **Appendix B**.

RESOLVED to adopt the Reserves Policy as recommended by the Policies and Governance Working Party.

217. Committee Delegation (Minute 22)

The Council received a report from the Parish Manager to review the delegated authority set at the Annual Parish Council meeting on 18 May for Council Committees, a copy of which appears in the Minute Book as **Appendix C**.

RESOLVED that a cap of £2,500 for delegated expenditure within the purview of each Committee is continued and all expenditure over that amount to be approved by Council.

218. Admission of Public and Press.

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’, the public were asked to leave the meeting.

219. Toothill Community Centre and Toothill Working Party

The Chair summarised a number of actions undertaken to date in respect of matters relating to Toothill and the Toothill Community Centre Charity. The Chair advised that the involvement of the Parish Council had not brought about the outcomes it had intended despite its best intentions. Parish Councillors discussed the matters relating to Toothill Community Centre including the best way to support all stakeholders to secure collaboration and investment to achieve positive outcomes for the residents of the Toothill.

RESOLVED that

- a. The Parish Council confirms its complete support for helping all parties engage in a dialogue about the opportunity to consider a refurbishment of Toothill Community Centre.
- b. The Toothill Working Party is disbanded.
- c. Cllrs Tim Makofu and Cllr Matt Walker, supported by the Parish Council, will act as an interface for all parties and facilitate the discussions.
- d. Cllrs Tim Makofu and Cllr Matt Walker to agree Terms of Reference for their roles and regularly report back to the Parish Council on progress.

(Cllr Sydney Smith arrived at the meeting during this item)

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Council