

## **WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL**

### Minutes of the **LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE** held at **6.00 pm.** **ON WEDNESDAY 12 JUNE 2019 AT WEST SWINDON LIBRARY**

**Present:**

Cllr Umar Ali  
Cllr Mike Burtenshaw  
Cllr Steph Exell  
Cllr Suresh Gattapur (Vice Chair)  
Cllr Nigel Gibbons  
Cllr Tim Makofu  
Cllr Nick Martin  
Cllr Trish Philpot  
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith  
Cllr Keith Williams (Chair)

**Officers:**

Leanne Curtis (Assistant Clerk)  
Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)

**Public:** Twelve

**Public Participation:**

Resident reported that as it is an offence to destroy nesting habitat under the Town and Countryside Act is it possible for the Parish Council to review the work of its grounds team?. The Parish Manager confirmed that the team works very carefully to check local habitat prior to work. It is possible to work on other tasks this time of year and this is a matter to be further discussed by the Parish Council. Cllr Philpot agreed that the environment should be preserved and would welcome re-wilding to be considered alongside the use of glysohates.

Another resident commented that bulb planting, wild flower meadows and tree work can create new habitats.

Resident queried if there is a tree planting to replace trees that are felled. The Parish Manager confirmed that this would be led by Swindon Borough Council.

Resident raised concern that there is overcrowding from trees affecting footpaths along Idovers Drive. The Chair confirmed that this would be checked.

Resident raised concern about amount of rubbish in the Prinnels pond and asked for the Parish Council to work with volunteers to improve it. Chair confirmed this would be reviewed.

Resident thanked the Parish Council for opting for a lower priced bin with a more vandal resistant quality. Also thanked for securing sponsorship from McDonalds and suggested that a similar approach could be taken with the new play areas. Cllr Gattapur confirmed

that KFC, Barclays Bank and McDonalds have agreed to sponsor bins and work is progressing to have them installed.

Resident asked the Parish Council to rethink options to secure a bin near Wilmot Close and exit from Lydiard Park.

Resident asked for an update on no.23 Oakham Close. Cllr Exel updated on the progress to clear up and address the issues. A meeting is being organised with the Head of Housing to consider the impact the property has on the local community.

### **Meeting start 18.21**

**44. Apologies**

None

**45. Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**

None

**46. Bin Update**

Councillors received a report from the Parish Manager on litter bins, a copy of which is attached as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. It was agreed that local Parish Councillors follow up on any outstanding bin requests.

**47. Youth Work – Requested by Cllr Steph Exel**

Councillors received a report detailing a request for youth work, as proposed by Cllr Steph Exell, a copy of which appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. Councillors noted that there is existing provision in West Swindon that could be better coordinated.

18.34 Standing Orders Suspended

Mavis Childs from Toothill Youth Club spoke in support of the principle of youth work and with the Chair of the Toothill Youth Club, Joanne Wiggins, would be keen to further discuss with the Parish Council opportunities to extend their current reach.

18.36 Standing Orders Reinstated.

**RESOLVED** that a sub group be created to take this discussion further in conjunction with representatives from Toothill Youth Club with membership reflecting Toothill, Freshbrook and Westlea.

**48. Noticeboards**

Councillors received a report outlining requests for noticeboards and a repair for the wooden noticeboard at Peatmoor Lake, a copy of which appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book.

**RESOLVED** that Streetsmart are instructed to repair the Peatmoor Lake noticeboard and other locations in the Parish at village centres are investigated for feasibility.

**49. Communications**

The Parish Manager reminded the Committee that it had been previously agreed to form a sub group to support the Parish Office with key communications such as Link Magazine

articles. As the next article is now due, it was requested that the sub group be convened.

**RESOLVED** that a Communications sub group be created.

**50. Conisborough Clean Up – Requested by Cllr Steph Exel**

Councillors discussed a report promoting a clean up at Conisborough, Toothill, a copy of which appears as **Appendix D** in the Minute Book.

**RESOLVED** that the Conisborough Clean Up be supported as proposed in the report and that an 8 ton skip is hired as part of the project.

**51. Play Area Programme 2019-20**

Councillors received a report outlining options for play area refurbishment 2019-20, a copy of which appears **Appendix E** in the Minute Book. The report highlighted the following play areas based on previous condition surveys:

- The Chesters (Westlea) – consultation enclosed with the report
- The Holbeins (Grange Park)
- Shelfinch (Toothill) – consultation enclosed with the report plus £15,000 pledged from Toothill Big Local
- Tumpy Field (Shaw Ridge)
- Nine Elms

Councillors discussed the sites.

**RESOLVED** that Shelfinch (Toothill) and The Chesters (Westlea) go forward with the 2019-20 budget but that the tender process includes invitations to tender over an extended time period to include all five play areas.

**52. Bulb Planting- Requested by Cllr Steph Exel**

Cllr Exel reported a resident request for bulb planting on Rowton Heath Way. Councillors suggested that this item be deferred with an invitation to the resident to attend a future meeting.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 03 July 2019 6.00 pm

**Meeting closed 19.25**

Signed: .....  
Chair, Leisure & Amenities Committee

Date: .....