

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE held at 6.00 pm.
ON MONDAY 7TH OCTOBER 2019 AT WEST SWINDON LIBRARY

Minutes

Present:

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

Also in attendance: Cllr Geoff Gould

Officers:

Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)

Public: Two

Public Participation:

A resident asked if the Parish Council would consider community bulb planting along Rowton Heath Way. There are some grass verges that would be suitable. A consultation has been taken with neighbours, all those who responded were in favour. Resident was willing to make a financial contribution. The Chair thanked the resident and advised this would be considered later on the Agenda.

A resident asked if the Parish Council had plans to replace broken fencing. Problems across West Swindon. Resident highlighted missing fencing in Jersey Park which does not deter vehicles from parking on the grassed areas. The Chair thanked the resident and asked for further details to be passed to the Parish Manager.

Meeting started 6.10 pm.

183.

Apologies

Cllr Tim Swinyard & Cllr Khaitan – work related commitment
Cllr Ali – delayed travel, Cllr Makofu – personal bereavement

RESOLVED that apologies received were approved.

184. Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

Cllr Gould indicated that he was not a member of this Committee, Cllr Sydney Smith highlighted that she was a Governor at Oliver Tomkins School.

185. Bulb Planting – Rowton Heath Way (requested by Cllr Steph Exell)

The Chair invited the resident to speak. Standing Orders suspended 6.12 pm. Standing Orders resumed 6.14 pm.

The Committee noted the accompanying report, a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. The Committee noted their support for the request from the community. The Chair advised that checks would need to be undertaken for underground services etc. and land suitable agreed. The Parish Manager advised that the Clean and Green Fund for Toothill had £192.50 remaining.

RESOLVED that work is undertaken to ascertain a suitable planting location and that the Clean and Green Fund for Toothill is used to purchase bulbs for the project.

186. Youth Work Update (requested by Cllr Exell)

The Parish Manager circulated a report, a copy appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. The Parish Manager indicated this youth work was in addition and separate to the application for a Youth Program approved by Full Council last month. Cllr Exell introduced the item and indicated that the key objective is to reach young people who might be at risk of criminal exploitation or linked with support services already. Councillors noted the report discussed options around direct employment. The Parish Manager confirmed that the report set out the principle of a Traded Services Agreement with Swindon Borough Council to utilise the skills of two professional youth workers. The Chair noted the fund required for an initial phase of work were in excess of the budget allocated.

RECOMMENDED that Full Council approves the funding for this phase of youth work at £1770.00.

187. Waste Bin Update

A report outlining progress to date with the installation of new bins was circulated, a copy appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book. Councillors reviewed the remaining requests for bins and proposed locations for new bins.

RESOLVED that the outstanding sites by bus stops continue to be considered.

188. Glyphosates Update (requested by Cllr Trish Philpot)

The Parish Manager circulated a report setting out the use of glyphosate as part of grounds maintenance, noting that the majority of spraying is undertaken by Swindon Borough Council Highways. A copy of the report appears as **Appendix D** in the Minute Book. Councillor Trish Philpot introduced the issue and indicated that the

chemical is reported to be carcinogenic and a danger to wild animals. The Chair indicated that the weed killer product is fully licensed and is used carefully within the parameters of its use. Councillors noted the information and agreed that more information was required in order to consider whether there are potential and realistic alternatives.

RESOLVED that Streetsmart be requested to check for evidence of alternative products with an assessment on frequency of application, and, that any alternative approaches are costed and presented in a report to the Parish Council committee.

189. Blagrove Allotments

The Parish Manager reported that the allotment working party have met and have explored a number of options for additional allotment sites. These are pending site suitability assessments. The Parish Council is due to renew allotment leases for the year and consideration needs to be given to the price for an allotment site for 2020.

RESOLVED that the Parish Manager summarises prices for allotment sites across the Borough and reports to a future meeting.

In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted and commercial sensitivity, the public and press were temporarily excluded and instructed to withdraw.

Standing orders suspended 6.55 pm.
Standing orders resumed 7.05 pm

190. Play Area Tenders and Designs Update

Councillors reviewed play area designs, discussed queries or suggestions for changes for Shelfinch, The Chesters, Nine Elms, Tumpy Field, The Holbeins, Bloomsbury Park and Uxbridge Road.

RESOLVED that a proposal for approving contractors for each play area is taken to the next Full Council meeting as a private and confidential item.

Meeting closed 7.54 pm.

Date of next meeting: Monday 11 November 2019 6.00 pm.

Signed:
Chair, Leisure & Amenities Committee

Date: