

## WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

**LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE** held at 6.00 pm.  
**ON WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020 AT WEST SWINDON LIBRARY**

### Minutes

#### **Present:**

Cllr Mike Burtenshaw  
Cllr Suresh Gattapur  
Cllr Nigel Gibbons  
Cllr Tim Makofu  
Cllr Nick Martin  
Cllr Trish PhilpoT  
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith  
Cllr Keith Williams (Chair)

#### **Officers:**

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

**Public:** Four

#### **Public Participation:**

A resident asked why rubbish/flytipping remained in the rear of Toothill Village Centre car park. Abandoned vehicles are also still around. The Parish Manager advised it would be removed.

A resident asked if the Parish Council would consider whether or not a particular colour choice for the workforce uniform might convey a political bias. The Chair advised that the colour choices were based on what options are commonly available, avoiding similar colours to other outdoor staff e.g. wardens, a colour that is visible, easy to clean and durable.

A resident advised that Robert Buckland MP would give support and assistance to the BMX park if the Parish Council needed it. The Parish Manager confirmed that delays were wholly due to the challenges in securing designs and quotes to submit to the external funder.

Resident advised that the Westlea Litterpickers had been shortlisted for a Pride of Swindon Award. The Chair congratulated the group and thanked them for their efforts. Meeting started 6.06 pm.

A resident asked if the Parish Council would install a bollard to prevent cars passing onto the Eastleaze cycle path. The Assistant Clerk advised that the Police had not yet found any vehicles illegally parked but had made some patrols to the area. The Parish

Council would consider obstructing access providing it did not disrupt access for mowers.

**347. Apologies**

Cllr Steph Exell absent due to illness. Cllr Umar Ali & Cllr Tim Swinyard absent due to work commitments.

**RESOLVED** that apologies received were approved.

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

None.

**349. Annual Parish Meeting**

The Parish Manager reported that the Parish Council was approaching the date for the next Annual Parish Meeting and circulated a draft Agenda, a copy of which appears as Appendix A in the Minute Book. Councillors agreed that it would be good to find some interesting local speakers who could speak on climate change, and an update on waste and recycling. Other topics that should be included are presentations from the local clean and green groups, and progress on tree planting projects.

**RESOLVED** that the Parish office staff invite as above and redraft the Agenda.

**350. Communications**

The Parish Manager circulated a report summarising newsletter costs secured to date, a copy of which appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. Councillors discussed the merits of a distributed leaflet alongside using other communication sources such as facebook and noticeboards. It was agreed that after the last quarter edition of the Link Magazine (April) that a new approach would be taken that would include leaving copies available in the library, waiting rooms, website and noticeboards. It was suggested that the Link Magazine be asked to make available any free editorial space in the future.

**RESOLVED** that 2.3 in the report (Appendix B) be agreed; that the Parish Council works with the Swindon UK Leaflet Company to create a leaflet for local distribution via Royal Mail

**351. Future Workforce Uniform**

The Assistant Clerk showed the Committee a finished fleece in Royal Blue and polo shirt in black with West Swindon Parish Council printed and embroidered on the front and back. The Assistant Clerk advised that the outdoor coat previously preferred in blue needed to be either yellow or orange to comply with visibility standards for Health and Safety. The Parish Manager advised that the goal would be to establish a policy for the use/wear and tear of uniform, and, make available an agreed budget allocation per employee that would enable individual team members to select their preferred combination of tops and bottoms. The Parish Council would also provide an outer coat

and steel toes shoes/boots. Work on personal protective equipment to follow.  
Councillors noted the information.

**352. Play Area Updates**

The Parish Manager reported that work at The Holbeins was complete and the team were now awaiting a final play inspection report. Work at The Chesters was nearing completion and final rubber surfacing and new ropes for the tree house were awaited. This would also need the final play inspection report. Work at Uxbridge Road was almost complete, just awaiting thermo graphics on the tarmac. The play installers were now moving to Bloomsbury Park. Councillors considered the format for opening the play areas. Wicksteed had ordered 'goody bags' to give away which were expected to be delivered in the next week.

**RESOLVED** that the Parish Team liaises with the relevant Chairs and Parish ward councillors to agree individual opening dates.

**353. BMX Track Update**

The Parish Manager reported that since the last discussion of the proposal to create a BMX track at Rivermead, the funder (Landfill Tax Grant) had circulated a list of proformas and details required in order for the application to be put to the Funding Committee. All the necessary information has been collated however delays have been created as follows;

- The Parish Council has been able to secure two designs for the proposal but has struggled to secure a third design despite meeting numerous companies on site. It is hoped that a third one is now underway
- The Funder expects a percentage contribution from an additional third party source. Ideally it has been hoped that this could be found in external/business sponsorship however, recently, Swindon Borough Council Planners have indicated that Section 106 funding from development at Delta could be allocated to the project if agreed with the developers. The Parish Council needs to secure approximately £21,000 from third party sources. Cllr Gattapur indicated that there may be a local business that will make a contribution.

Councillors agreed that further work to secure third party funding from sponsorship would be ideal. If there is a small shortfall, this should be made available from reserves.

**RESOLVED** that the proposal is progressed as detailed in Minute 353.

Meeting closed 6.47 pm.

**Date of next meeting: Wednesday 08 April 2020 6.00 pm**

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

Date: .....