

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the
LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE held online at 6.00 pm.
on MONDAY 14TH JUNE 2021**

Minutes

Present:

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

Officers:

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

Public: Three.

Public Question Time:

None

Meeting started 6.10 pm.

39. Apologies

Cllr Exell and Cllr Swinyard due to meeting commitments.

All apologies received were approved.

40. Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

Noted that Cllr Khaitan was not a member of this Committee and would not be voting.

41. Play Area Upgrade Proposal

The Parish Manager circulated a proposal setting the option to upgrade Bess Road Toddler play area, a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. The Parish Manager indicated that the Income Generation Working Party had identified play installation as a

potential income stream and had agreed that a small refurbishment using the skills of the team would be a sensible way to test run the proposal. Bess Road toddler play is a small site which has three pieces of equipment. The fencing is in need of attention due to concrete deterioration. Total cost would be £12,000 to £17,000 depending on the type of play equipment installed.

RESOLVED that a scoping exercise be undertaken with companies being invited to design a new play area for the existing footprint with costs up to £12,000 requested for

- a) supply of equipment and
- b) supply of equipment and installation

Responses to be brought back to a future Committee meeting.

42 . CCTV Proposal as requested by Cllr Philpot

Cllr Philpot reported that residents had expressed concerns regarding the safety of young children, potential bullying and incidents of anti social behaviour at Bloomsbury Park, which had led to local requests for CCTV. The Parish Manager indicated that work had been undertaken and was set in a report, a copy of which appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. The Committee considered the value and impact of introducing CCTV. The introduction of cameras would need to be proportionate and justified. The Report proposed that monitoring and retrieval of images would be conducted by the existing CCTV control room at Swindon Borough Council. It was requested that the Parish Manager liaises with other Parish Councils for feedback on the effectiveness of CCTV in recreation areas.

RESOLVED that the issue of anti social behaviour in parks and open spaces continues to be monitored

43. Youth Council Update as requested by Cllr Exell

Cllr Makofu and Cllr Burtenshaw jointly reported on the positive feedback from Hazelwood Academy regarding the opportunity to develop representation within the school to link with the Parish Council. The school would potentially be interested in understanding how democracy works and how to support local priorities such as litter picking and re-wilding/nectar cafes. Cllr Gibbons agreed that a presentation would be offered to the school. The Parish Manager indicated that a summary report, a copy of which appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book proposed a school by school approach to create the foundation of a youth voice/council for West Swindon. The report and ongoing work was noted.

44. Communications Report

A report summarising social media, publicity and local communications was circulated, a copy of which appears as **Appendix D** in the Minute Book. The Assistant Clerk indicated that the key topic had been grass cutting and wildflowers/long grass. Opinions were generally split in favour and against. Volunteer of the month would continue as would spotlight stories on the employees and the Councillors. Everyone welcome to submit stories, photos or articles. It was suggested that Cineworld be approached to see if they would sponsor an advert for the pre-show trailers. The report was duly noted.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 14 July 2021 6.00 pm.

Meeting closed 6.54 pm

Signed:

Date:

Chair, Leisure & Amenities Committee

DRAFT