

**WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the online  
**PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
held online on **MONDAY 13 JULY 2020** at **6.00 pm**

**Present:**

Cllr Mike Burtenshaw  
Cllr Nigel Gibbons  
Cllr Geoff Gould  
Prakash Khaitan (Vice Chair)  
Timothy Makofu  
Cllr Nick Martin  
Cllr Mary Martin  
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith (Chair)  
Cllr Keith Williams

**Officers:** Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)  
Leanne Curtis (Assistant Clerk)

**Public:** Two

**Public Questions:**

A resident indicated that despite asking a question previously for an explanation as to why the self build project at Windmill Hill School site did not progress, the answer provided was not satisfactory. For what reason was it abandoned? When did it happen? Why were interested people not informed? The Chair advised that this was many years before the Parish Council and was not a matter the Parish Council could assist with. The Chair indicated that the questions would be readdressed to Swindon Borough Council but there may not be anyone who can answer those questions exactly.

**Meeting start:** 6.04 pm.

**436. Apologies**

Cllr Simon Firth absent due to work commitments.

**RESOLVED** that all apologies received are approved.

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

Cllr Nick Martin indicated he would not be participating in planning application matters as a Member of the Swindon Borough Council Planning Committee. Cllr Sydney Smith

asked for it to be noted that she was currently deputy Chair of the Swindon Borough Council Planning Committee.

**438. Meadow Update**

The Parish Manager reported that the meadows on Shaw Ridge and Toothill park were planned to be cut in the next few weeks. A new gate had been fitted to improve access for a tractor. The wilding project in Edgehill had also got going. The organiser, Glynis Hales has offered to make a presentation with the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust to a future meeting to explain the benefits of wilding, whenever that would be feasible.

**RESOLVED** that the update be noted, and, the Chair asked the Parish Manager to liaise with Ms Hales to arrange a presentation in the future.

**439. Service Transfer**

The Parish Manager circulated a report setting out requirements proposed for the new team transferring to the Parish. The report set out a list of tools with comparison prices and appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. Councillors reviewed the information. The Parish Manager confirmed that the expenditure was within the annual budget (£6,000) set for tools.

**RECOMMENDED** that Council approves expenditure **£ 5894.37 plus VAT £ 1178.87** for expenditure on tools.

**440. Shrub bed programme**

The Parish Manager circulated a report detailing requests for a higher level of maintenance on shrub beds across the Parish, a copy of which appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. These areas have had problems with weeds, litter, brambles, poor condition shrubbery and generally lacking in a positive well cared for appearance.

- Stamford Close – residents request
- Sheen Close – team request
- Lineacre Close – team request
- Longthorpe Close sign – resident request
- Gairlock Close – resident request

Councillors discussed each shrub bed.

It was agreed as follows

Stamford Close – beds need a makeover or removing and replacing with grass

Sheen Close – heavy prune in the Autumn

Lineacre Close – there is potential interest in the neighbouring household seeking to purchase the shrub bed area. Councillors agreed it to take a cautious approach to avoid wasted investment

Longthorpe Close – propose clearance and weedkiller then review state of shrub bed

Gairlock Close – tidy up and clearance although consider other options as this is in a very visible location.

6.30 pm. Cllr Tim Swinyard joined the meeting.

**RESOLVED** that any shrub beds that are beyond routine recovery work, and requiring additional investment, be identified and costs reported back to a future meeting for approval.

#### 441. Planning Report

Councillors received the Planning Report, a copy of which appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book. Cllr Nick Martin and Cllr Sydney Smith abstained from comment or voting.

Planning applications were considered as follows:

441.1 S/ADV/20/0652	Unit 13, West Swindon Centre Whitehill Way Swindon SN5 7DL	Display of 2no. illuminated fascia signs.  <b>No objection</b>
441.2 S/HOU/20/0656	10 Sheen Close, Grange Park Swindon SN5 6JF	Erection of two storey side/rear and single storey rear extensions.  <b>Reiterate gas flue infringes on adjacent building</b>
441.3 S/20/0685	Pagoda 2, Pagoda Park Westmead Swindon SN5 7UN	Installation of overcladding of the existing roof finish, resulting in approximately 200mm additional height.  <b>No objection.</b>
441.4 S/HOU/20/0690	42 Whittington Road, Westlea Swindon SN5 7DF	Erection of a first floor side extension.  <b>No objection.</b>
441.5 S/20/0712	66 Beaulieu Close, Toothill Swindon SN5 8AH	Erection of two storey side/rear extension and change of use into 3no. flats.  <b>No objection.</b>
441.6 S/HOU/20/0639	7 Rochester Close, Toothill Swindon SN5 8JS	Erection of a front bay window.  <b>To report that there is no plan view, no dimensions for bay window proposed.</b>

441.7 S/20/0706

Mcdonalds, West Swindon  
Centre Whitehill Way  
Swindon SN5 7DL

Installation of kitchen extract  
and 2No Air Handling Units  
on the roof within the  
existing plant well, 8No  
condensers and a additional  
CO2 unit in the rear yard  
and associated works.

**No objection**

Noted, Cllr Williams reported that his son works for Mcdonalds.

**442. Flytipping**

Councillors discussed introducing different approaches to flytipping. Agreed that further monitoring needs to be undertaken and an analysis brought back to the committee for future consideration.

**Date of next meeting: Wednesday 2 September 2020 6.00 pm**

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Planning & Environment Committee