

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE held online at **6.00 pm.**
ON THURSDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2020 AT WEST SWINDON LIBRARY

Minutes

Present:

Cllr Umar Ali
Cllr Steph Exell
Cllr Suresh Gattapur
Cllr Geoff Gould
Cllr Prakash Khaitan
Cllr Tim Makofu
Cllr Nick Martin
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith
Cllr Keith Williams (Chair)

Officers:

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

Public: Six

Public Participation:

A resident asked if the new style newsletter was cheaper than the previous Link Magazine articles. The Parish Manager confirmed that it was around two thirds of the price.

Resident reported that a yellow hippo bag of mixed items has remained uncollected for many months in the ditch alongside the Eastleaze cycle path. Cllr Gibbons confirmed the location and advised that it would be reported for collection.

A resident asked if the Parish Council would consider a climate change Champion within the Parish Council to liaise with groups. The Chair thanked the resident for the suggestion and advised it would be considered at the next Planning & Environment Committee.

Meeting started 6.07 pm.

494. Apologies

Cllr Mike Burtenshaw due to IT software issues, Cllr Tim Swinyard due to other committee commitments, Cllr Trish Philpot due to family commitments.

RESOLVED that apologies received were approved.

495. Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

Cllr Gould & Cllr Khaitan indicated that they would not be voting as non members of the Committee.

496. Shelfinch Play Area Update

The Parish Manager circulated a report setting out options to review the exits from the toddler play area at Shelfinch, in order to access the slide. A copy appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. This has been flagged by Cllr Exell and Cllr Makofu. Cllr Makofu reported that residents have asked that a new exit be created that will allow children to exit the toddler play area away from the adjacent footpath to avoid any collisions. The Parish Manager indicated that a new exit could be created with bow top fencing to guide children away from the path. This would potentially be installed by the Parish team. The Parish Manager highlighted that the change creates an opening in a currently secured play area. If Councillors were interested in other options to climb out of the toddler play area, these would need to be considered by a professional play inspector to ensure that safety zones around existing equipment would not be compromised.

RESOLVED that the Parish Grounds Team are instructed to create a new exit from the toddler play area at Shelfinch. Cllr Nick Martin abstained.

497. Swindon Support as requested by Cllr Tim Swinyard

Cllr Sydney Smith gave a verbal update on the Swindon Support service which has assisted local residents with shopping, prescription collection and access to other services. The demands on the service were high in earlier months but have now quietened down. It has highlighted that many people contacted the service to enquire how to access free food services and were not aware of how to use schemes such as the foodbank. Cllr Sydney Smith asked Councillors to consider promoting awareness of the existing foodbank initiatives so that people can access the help they need.

RESOLVED that the Parish Office raise awareness on access to food services and other useful and emergency contacts through the website, noticeboards and facebook.

498. BMX Track Sponsorship as requested by Cllr Suresh Gattapur

Cllr Gattapur reported that he was creating a charitable event to raise funds for the BMX track project at Rivermead. Cllr Gattapur will be walking 26 miles on 10 October 20 and would be both raising awareness of the project whilst also inviting donations. The goal would be to raise £5,000.

Cllr Makofu asked for it to be noted that the BMX track project had been an idea initiated by himself following observations and discussions with local young people.

The Chair noted Cllr Makofu's comments and thanked Cllr Gattapur for his efforts.

499. Grants Update

The Parish Manager distributed a report providing updates on the completion of projects by 1st West Swindon Scout Group and Digital Writes. The report appears in the Minute Book as **Appendix B**.

Councillors noted the update.

500. Lydiard Park – Asset of Community Value

The Parish Manager circulated a communication from Swindon Borough Council's Property Team informing the Parish Council that Lydiard Park and gardens had been recorded as an application for an asset of community value status. A copy appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book.

Councillors noted the communication.

501. Newsletter

The Parish Manager distributed a report with a copy of Council's Summer Newsletter, copies of which appear as **Appendix D** in the Minute Book.

The Parish Manager highlighted that whilst the copy had been put together professionally and effectively, the timeframe for distribution has been postponed numerous times from July distribution to September.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council uses this Newsletter method for items and reports that are not time limited.

502. Website Accessibility Requirements

Councillors received a NALC briefing on how the Parish Council needs to respond to the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018, a copy of which appears as **Appendix E** in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that the Parish Office assess the Parish Council's response, Cllr Gattapur to assist .

Meeting closed 6.58 pm.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 7 October 2020 6.00 pm

Signed:
Chair, Leisure & Amenities Committee

Date: