

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the online meeting of the
WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL held on
Monday 26 April 2021 at 8.30 pm

Present:

Cllr Mike Burtenshaw
Cllr Steph Exell
Cllr Nigel Gibbons (Chair)
Cllr Geoff Gould
Cllr Prakash Khaitan
Cllr Tim Makofu
Cllr Nick Martin (Vice Chair)
Cllr Mary Martin
Cllr Trish Philpot
Cllr Tim Swinyard
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith
Cllr Keith Williams

SBC Councillors: Cllr Matthew Courtliff

Officers: Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)

Public: Six

Public Questions:

None.

Meeting start 7.23 pm

734. Apologies

Apologies received from Cllr Ali due to family commitment. Cllr Suresh Gattapur due to a work commitment

RESOLVED that all apologies received were approved.

735. Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

To receive any Declarations of Interest required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 14th May 2019.

None.

736. Minutes of the previous meetings

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 29 March 2021 be confirmed and approved.

737. Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on Monday 12 April 2021 were confirmed and approved

738 Minutes of the Finance and Staffing Committee

RESOLVED that Recommendation (Minute 723) that expenditure for March 21 of 71 Payments totalling £72,428.66 be approved

RESOLVED that Recommendation (Minute 724) that Council notes and approves the annual rates bill total £14,595.75 subject to an appeal on the overall charge.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Finance and Staffing Committee meeting held on Monday 12 April 2021 be adopted and approved

739. Minutes of the Leisure & Amenities Committee

RESOLVED that Recommendation (Minute 654) that the appointment of Clark Kent Contractors Ltd. (Agenda Item 7) be reconsidered by the BMX Track Working Party and Leisure and Amenities Committee.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Leisure & Amenities Committee held on Wednesday 14 April 2021 be adopted and approved.

740. Update from the Parish Council Chair

Cllr Nigel Gibbons (Chair) reported no updates since the last meeting.

741. Update from Swindon Borough Councillors

Cllr Williams reported that Waterside was connected to the solar farm and uses 40% of its fuel needs from this source – this could be unique. Recently successful in achieving a grant for a solar battery to store unused solar power.

Cllr Courtliff advised that the verges report would be released after the elections. Cllr Courtliff advised that Councillors were aware of concerns about the closure of the play area at Lydiard Park and this was being chased for it to be done.

742. Updates from Parish Council Representatives

Cllr Williams advised that following the Leisure and Amenities meeting, a review of the proposed relocation of the Sparcells toddler play area had been undertaken. It would now be moved to a new location closer to both the youth play area and kickabout. Target completion July 2021.

Cllr Martin reported a good return on the investment in play areas.

743. Calendar Updates

The Parish Manager circulated a draft of the meeting dates for the next municipal year, a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. Councillors noted the draft dates.

744. Covid Testing Kits – Collection Point

The Parish Manager circulated a report setting out an invitation to offer to be a host for the

collection of lateral flow tests. A copy appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. Councillors considered the options available to local people. It was noted that there were many points locally available through the pharmacies, schools and Asda West Swindon, alongside the option to have tests posted to your address. Councillors offered to assist people if necessary.

RESOLVED that

- a) The Parish Council publicises the options for the collection of Covid Testing kits
- b) The Parish Councils offers assistance to anyone who is unable to access the options available.

745. Services/Depot Update

The Parish Manager updated that work was progressing in line with seasonal requirements. Staff and services were functioning well from the depot.

It was noted that Google maps did not recognise the postcode for the new premises.

Date of next meeting: Monday 24 May 2021 Annual Parish Council 7.00 pm

Meeting closed 8.57 pm

Signed:

Date:

Chair, West Swindon Parish Council