

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the
PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
held on **MONDAY 12TH JULY 2021** at **6.00 pm**

Present:

Cllr Mike Burtenshaw (V)
Cllr Suresh Gattapur
Cllr Geoff Gould
Cllr Nigel Gibbons
Cllr Tim Makofu (V)
Cllr Nick Martin
Cllr Mary Martin
Cllr Tim Swinyard

Others:

Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)

Public: Three

Public Questions:

Cllr Burtenshaw highlighted concerns from residents about speed of cars along Stokesay Drive during school hours exacerbated by the current diversions. Ms Pinson echoed these concerns for Langstone Way.

Cllr Mary Martin advised that regular reports to either a Swindon Borough Ward Councillor or to the Parish Clerk to be submitted to members hotline is one of the best ways to promote a case for prioritisation on the school crossing list. A drip-feed approach can be more effective than a single survey. If residents have repeated concerns they are encouraged to report them in so that the case for school safety measures can be established.

Meeting start 6.15 pm

58. Apologies

Apologies received from Cllr Keith Williams (Vice Chair) (V) due to meeting conflict and Cllr Prakash Khaitan (Chair) due to work commitments.

RESOLVED that all apologies received were approved.

59. Declarations Of Interest & Applications For Dispensation

Cllr Nick Martin as a member of the Swindon Borough Council Planning Committee would not be participating in Planning related matters.

60. Tree Planting Sites

The Parish Manager introduced a report, a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. The report set out sites proposed in partnership with Swindon Borough Council's community forest team. These sites are nominated for additional tree planting – designed mostly to fill in around existing tree lines and borders. Query raised re:

depth of soil at Shaw Forest.

RESOLVED that the sites proposed are agreed with a request that a site visit is conducted at Shaw Forest prior to any planting to ensure that desire lines/ walkways are not impeded.

61. Sustainability Plan

The Parish Manager circulated a draft outline Sustainability Plan, a copy of which appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. The purpose would be to have a clear reference for the public as to why the Parish Council opts to deliver services in a particular way and to support future decision making on managing public open spaces. The framework is from Bioregional: One Planet Living.

Noted that some points needed clarification to ensure that Parish/Swindon Borough Council responsibilities were defined.

RESOLVED that the Plan be circulated as a draft framework to local groups and residents for wider input.

62. Preparing for the Shrub Cutting Season

The Parish Manager reported that the shrub cutting season in 2017 and 2018 had been harsh due to the high levels of sustained growth in previous years. Complaints were received in response to the very visible changes that resulted. In 2019 and 2020 cuts were less dramatic and very few complaints received. A small number of shrub beds and hedges remain that require intervention. The reason being that they have been left due to residents concerns in previous years and are now too tall for the tractor side arm. The goal would be to reduce these to 3-4 feet to then be maintained by hand cutting in future years. This will not be the preferred course of action for some residents who have safety or privacy concerns.

RESOLVED that the Councillors support the team to manage shrubs and hedges as best suited to the environment and long term maintenance. Where there are problematic spaces, Councillors to be invited to a site visit. Residents in close proximity to be notified in writing in advance of the work taking place.

63. Planning Report

Councillors considered the Planning Report, a copy of which appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book. Refusals within the report duly noted. Decisions were as follows:

63.1 S/HOU/21/0860	73 Marney Road, Grange Park Swindon SN5 6AN	Erection of a single storey side extension
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Note that drawings do not match the application. No covering letter of explanation.

63.2 S/21/0926	Waylands Volvo Cars Swindon, Great Western	Erection of a new dealership building comprising showroom,
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| | Way Swindon SN5 8UY | workshop and MOT facility with ancilliary valet bay and associated external display and landscaping.

No objection. |
| 63.3 S/HOU/21/0971 | 39 Harvester Close,
Middleleaze Swindon SN5
5GJ | Erection of a two storey side extension.

No objection. |
| 63.4 S/HOU/21/0915 | 89 Thornford Drive,
Westlea SN5 7BH | Erection of a single storey front extension.

No objection. |
| 63.5 S/21/0998 | 6 Teeswater Close,
Ramleaze Swindon SN5
5QE | Erection of a dwelling.

Endorse Highways comment re:
provision for turning option. |

Meeting closed 6.54 pm

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 01 September 2021 6.00 pm

Signed:

Date:

Chair, Planning & Environment Committee