

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the online meeting of the
WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL held on
Wednesday 15 December 2021 at 7.00 pm

Present:

Cllr Suresh Gattapur (v)
Cllr Nigel Gibbons (v)
Cllr Geoff Gould (v)
Cllr Prakash Khaitan (v)
Cllr Tim Makofu (v)
Cllr Nick Martin (v)
Cllr Mary Martin (v)
Cllr Nandini Singh (v)
Cllr Tim Swinyard (v)
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith (v)

Officers: Paula Harrison (Parish Manager) (v)

Public: Three virtual

Public Questions:

Resident reported that the hedging issue in Eastleaze Road was not resolved satisfactorily. Cllr Gould advised that the plans had been reviewed and it needed reducing. The result should thicken out the hedge and shrubs particularly where they are straggly at the base.

Resident queried the value of investing in external support for social media and communications and suggested the Parish Council should review any plans to make an appointment.

Meeting start 7.11 pm

225. **Welcome**

The Chair opened the meeting and thanked those present for attending.

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

Declarations of Interest required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 24th May 2021.

None.

227. **Minutes of the previous meetings**

As this meeting was an online meeting only, the following were not confirmed or adopted:

To confirm as a true record the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 29 November 2021 – deferred to January 24th Full Council.

Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee

To confirm and adopt the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on Wednesday 8 December 2021 – deferred to January 24th Full Council.

Minutes of the Finance and Staffing Committee

To receive Recommendation (Minute 215) that expenditure for November 21 of 64 Payments totalling **£49,180.98** be approved - – deferred to January 24th Full Council.

To confirm and adopt the minutes of the Finance and Staffing Committee meeting held on Wednesday 8 December 2021 – deferred to January 24th Full Council.

Minutes of the Leisure & Amenities Committee

To receive Recommendation (Min. 223) that the Parish Council purchases the Bess Road Toddler Play Area equipment from Proludic Total supply incl discount £15,998.00 – deferred to January 24th Full Council.

To confirm and adopt the minutes of the Leisure & Amenities Committee held on Monday 13 December 2021 – deferred to January 24th Full Council.

228. **Update from Swindon Borough Councillors**

Cllr M Martin advised that there were no planned changes to the doorstep recycling collections over Christmas and New Year. Teams will work over the bank holidays so residents should present waste as normal.

Cllr Williams advised that the electric charging points in Old Town were now live. The battery plant at Mannington has also been completed but not due to be connected until the spring.

Cllr Gattapur advised Swindon Borough Councillors that the workmanship of the roadworks and utilities in Westlea was very poor, with local residents raising many concerns. Cllr Williams noted the feedback.

229. **Updates from Parish Council Representatives**

Cllr Gattapur reported that the Winter Wonderland project which had a grant from the Parish Council had been very successful across the Westlea area and encouraged everyone to take a walk through Westlea.

Cllr Singh reported that community bulb planting had taken place on 4th December around Oliver Close and thanked everyone for helping.

230. **Artificial Sports Pitches – as requested by Cllr Mike Burtenshaw**

The Parish Manager circulated a report setting out the local availability of sports pitches, a copy of which appears in the Minute Book as **Appendix A**. Councillors noted the information and agreed this could be developed into a future funding proposal if required.

RESOLVED that a question would be put out through social media to gauge local interest in pitches.

7.30 pm

231. **Admission of Public and Press**

Resolved in accordance with Standing Order 3 (d) that 'in view of the confidential nature of

the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they be instructed to withdraw’.

Reason: Budget review

232. **Budget 2022-2023**

Councillors received and reviewed draft budget proposals for 2022-23, a copy of which appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. Budget information was noted and would be considered as part of the next public meeting of Full Council.

Meeting closed 7.50 pm

Signed:

Date:

Chair, West Swindon Parish Council

DRAFT