

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Monday 25 July 2022 at 6.00 pm
Unit 25 Westmead Industrial Estate, SN5 7YT

FULL COUNCIL

Present:

Cllr Geoff Gould
Cllr Nigel Gibbons (Chair)
Cllr Tim Makofu
Cllr Nick Martin
Cllr Mary Martin (Vice Chair)
Cllr Nandini Singh
Cllr Tim Swinyard
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith
Cllr Keith Williams

Others: Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)

Public: Two virtual

Public Questions: None.

Meeting start 6.04 pm.

62. Declarations of Interest/Applications for Dispensation

The Chair opened the meeting and invited Declarations of Interest as required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 23 May 2022, none received.

63. Minutes of the previous meetings

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 27 June 2022 be approved and adopted.

64. Minutes of the Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee held on Monday 11 July 2022 were approved and adopted.

65. Minutes of the Finance and Staffing Committee

RESOLVED that Recommendation (Minute 58) that expenditure for June 2022 of 50 payments listed above totalling **£78,527.59** be approved.

RESOLVED that Recommendation (Minute 61) that the pay award for 2022-23 is agreed at 3% or to match the national pay award if it is agreed above 3% be approved.

RESOLVED that minutes of the Finance and Staffing Committee meeting held on Wednesday 13 July 2022 be approved and adopted.

6.13 pm Cllr Sydney Smith joined the meeting.

66. Update from Swindon Borough Councillors

Cllr Keith Williams updated that the scheme for 20 miles per hour in parts of Shaw (Grandison Close, Swinley Drive, Dennis Street and Old Shaw Lane) had progressed and would be reviewing feedback over the next couple of weeks.

Cllr Keith Williams updated that Solar Together had higher take up than originally anticipated. Prices were also higher than expected due to demand and supply. Residents would be receiving quotes and would be making their own decisions as to whether they proceed.

Cllr Nandini Singh queried progress on costs for grasscrete or other solutions to facilitate parking on grass (Redcap Gardens). Cllr Nick Martin had no response yet but the status was marked as 'in progress'.

Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith reported that communications indicated that Mead Way would be completed by September.

67. Updates from Parish Council Representatives

Cllr Nandini Singh advised that parking issues in Redcap Gardens persisted to be problematic. Reports to the Community Safety Group had resulted in the recommendation that a letter be circulated encouraging considerate parking. Cllr Singh would be distributing this letter. Cllr Williams agreed to chase parking enforcement for a visit.

68. Vehicle Insurance Renewal

Councillors received a renewal quote from James Hallam Ltd for vehicle insurance covering 22-23 a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that the quote be approved and actioned.

69. Small Tractor Quotes

The Parish Manager circulated three quotes for a small tractor and side arm (George Brown, TH White and Lister Wilder), copies of which appear as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. It was agreed that this would be reviewed at the next meeting.

70. Play Area Update

The Parish Manager circulated a report updating on play areas, a copy of which appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book. Bess Road Toddler Play Area was now complete and open, self-installation created a cost benefit in the range of £4,000 to £7,000.

Woodchip was being distributed across all bark-pit play areas at a cost in the region of £11-12,000. A number of repairs had been undertaken across the play areas. Ongoing issues with equipment being deliberately tampered with – bolts and screws being taken or loosened. Inspections are now twice weekly.

Sparcells:

The Parish Manager asked for feedback on the removal of fencing at Sparcells Youth play area to leave it open. Councillors considered this and agreed that it would be a reasonable

approach.

Claypits Youth Play Area:

The Parish Manager advised that this play area needed a review as the peripheral fencing needed replacing and refixing – or could be removed altogether. The landscaping work would be significant.

RESOLVED that a site visit be organised to consider the best course of action.

Shaw Ridge Play Area:

The Parish Manager advised that the plans to remove two pieces of equipment had been paused to avoid excavation during the summer holidays. It would be helpful to have a site visit to re-confirm plans on this site.

West Wheels Track:

The Parish Manager confirmed that work was underway. AbbyPPR would be filming on a regular basis to create a video of the build. A separate facebook had been created to allow for more detailed updates. There should be a formal opening organised by 414 Skate parks at the end of the summer holidays.

6.38 pm.

Admission of Public and Press

In accordance with Standing Order 3 (d) that 'in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, public were temporarily excluded and instructed to withdraw'. *Reason: Planning Op. London Bridge*

71. Councillors received a report setting out background information relating to Op. London Bridge, a confidential copy appears as **Appendix D** in the Minute Book. Councillors considered a number of options including an online condolence book, a memorial garden and preparing official statements ahead of time. It was agreed that this would be reviewed again at a future date.

Date of next meeting: Monday 22 August 2022 6.00 pm

Chair, West Swindon Parish Council:

Date: