

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Monday 26 September 2022 at 6.00 pm
Unit 25 Westmead Industrial Estate, SN5 7YT

FULL COUNCIL

Present:

Cllr Mike Burtenshaw (v)
Cllr Suresh Gattapur
Cllr Geoff Gould
Cllr Nigel Gibbons (Chair)
Cllr Tim Makofu
Cllr Mary Martin (Vice Chair)

Others: Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)

Public: Two virtual

Public Questions:

Resident offered congratulations on the successful opening of the West Wheels Track.

Meeting start 6.04 pm.

95. Welcome & Declarations of Interest/Applications for Dispensation

Declarations of Interest required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 23 May 2022 received – none.

Councillors received an application for an extension for a leave of absence for Cllr Steph Exell, a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book.

96. Minutes of the previous meetings

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 22 August 2022 be approved and adopted.

97. Minutes of the Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee

Councillors received Recommendation (Minute Ref: 87) that a grant of £10,000 is issued to Toothill Big Local for (receipted) kitchen refurbishment noting their opportunity to apply for further grants in the future.

RESOLVED that Minute Ref: 87 for a grant of £10,000 to Toothill Big Local (The Hub) be approved.

RESOLVED that the minutes of Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee held on Monday 5 September 2022 be adopted and approved.

98. Minutes of the Finance & Staffing Committee

Councillors received Recommendation (Minute ref: 92) that Full Council approves 54 payments for August 2022 totalling **£123,153.20**.

RESOLVED that the payments for August 2022 totalling £123,153.20 be noted and approved.

RESOLVED that the minutes of Finance & Staffing Committee held on Wednesday 14 September 2022 be approved and adopted.

6.27 pm Cllr Suresh Gattapur joined the meeting

99. Update from Swindon Borough Councillors

Cllr Gattapur reported that the bus shelters on Mead Way would be reinstated. New technology for tarmac has been reviewed.

Whitehill Way resurfacing is due to start at the end of October.

20 mph schemes were moving to the next stage. Speed strips have been laid on Swinley Drive.

100. Updates from Parish Council Representatives

Cllr Makofu reported that the opening of the Wheels Track had gone really well. A large number of children and residents attended and the weather and refreshments helped it be a successful opening.

Cllr Gould proposed that the track be renamed or labelled 'In Commemoration of Queen Elizabeth'. Councillors agreed to consider this at the next Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee.

101. Update on Village Centre Maintenance

The Parish Manager advised Councillors that the Parish Council has agreed to undertake grounds maintenance and bin emptying at Toothill, Freshbrook and Shaw village centres from 1 October 22. This should be business as usual but will also give a new opportunity to improve the planting and planters at the centres. Noted that gulley sucking at Freshbrook Village Centre would be helpful to request from Swindon BC. Options to plant in existing planters at Toothill and Freshbrook. The Parish Manager advised that planting would be developed over a few seasons as some planters would need more work and investment than others.

102. Update on Clay Pits Play Area

Councillors received a verbal update on plans for grounds maintenance at Clay Pits Play Area. The Parish Manager reported that following a site meeting, the goal would be to remove the existing fencing as it is becoming less stable, reduce and improve the landscaping on the slopes and improve the pathway access to the play space. This work would be timed to follow the replacement and refurbishment at Plattes Close and may be staggered to avoid too much disruption on site.

103. Christmas/New Year Arrangements

Councillors agreed it would be positive to engage in a community celebration this year and agreed to discuss it in more detail at the next Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee.

Councillors considered the staffing levels required over Christmas and New Year. It was agreed that bin emptying over the festive period would be the main service to be active.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council office is closed from 24th December to 2nd January 23 with a focus on public bin emptying only.

Date of next meeting: Monday 31 October 2022 6.00 pm