

## WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the  
**PLANNING, LEISURE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
held on **WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2022** at **6.00 pm**  
**Unit 25, Westmead Industrial Estate, Swindon, SN5 7YT**

**Present:**

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

**Officers:**

Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)

**Public:** One virtual.

**Public Questions:** None.

### **162. Welcome & Applications for Dispensation**

Cllr Sydney Smith opened the meeting and invited declarations of Interest required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 23 May 2022:

- Cllr Gould declared that he was not a member of this Committee.

### **163. Christmas Event Update**

The Parish Manager advised that everything was in order for the Saturday 17 December event at Westlea Fire Station. Letters to Santa would be reviewed and an update on the event would be reported to Full Council on Monday 19 December. Parking available at the Bible Society.

### **164. Communications Working Party**

The Parish Manager referred to a report, a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. This set out a summary of observations and recommendations from the Communications Working Party with regard to creating an improved website.

**RESOLVED** that the Parish Council commissions two stages of website development from H2 Creative Digital at a cost of £1430 and that the Communication Working Party liaises with the company to design the initial framework.

The Parish Manager circulated a copy of the Facebook social media report, a copy of which appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. The report was noted.

**165. Volunteer Groups Meeting**

Cllr Mary Martin reported that a meeting with representatives from volunteer groups had gone well. A summary of actions appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book. Key actions were investigating the opportunity to extend Peatmoor Woodland insurance cover to include other similar groups on West Swindon, furthering the opportunity to involve young people and children, creating a resource/equipment library and improving communication.

**166. Waste Bins Update**

The Parish Manager advised that two requests for outdoor waste bins were outstanding. These were

- a) Corner of Mannington Lane
- b) Cartwright Drive

Cllr Gattapur reported that a request had been made for an extra bin near the Prinnels pond and Cllr Singh asked for Plattes Close play area to be noted. The Parish Manager advised that new bins were on order.

**167. Play Equipment Analysis**

The Parish Manager reported that at the request for the Finance & Staffing Committee, a stock condition survey had been undertaken across all play areas. The general feedback is that all are in good working order due to the regular care and maintenance undertaken by the team. The Parish Manager circulated report setting out a list of play areas based on condition, a copy of which appears as **Appendix D** in the Minute Book. Clay Pits, Shaw Ridge and Whitehill Park were the top three play areas requiring attention over the next twelve to eighteen months. Eastleaze play area was excluded due to queries over the lease arrangements. Councillors noted the information.

The Parish Manager advised that life expectancy across play areas could be extended by either

- a) replacing on a piece by piece basis or
- b) b) by setting a timeframe for full refurbishment. The committee considered the benefits of each approach.

**RESOLVED** that removal and restitution work to be undertaken on a number of pieces of equipment at Shaw Ridge and Claypits play areas this financial year, and, replacement work on a piece by piece basis to be initiated at Whitehill Park.

**168. Highways Proposals**

The Parish Manager circulated proposals from Swindon Borough Council Highways Team for

- a) Langstone Way School Safety Zone
- b) Ashworth Road Industrial Estate

Copies of which appear as **Appendix E** in the Minute Book. Councillors noted that

any restriction work around Westlea Primary School would be welcome. Councillors queried the necessity of works to Ashworth Road when there are significantly more challenges at Rivermead Drive. Concern was raised that there were insufficient plans to address the issues arising from displacing the dozens of cars currently parking on a daily basis.

**RESOLVED** that Committee feedback is submitted as follows:

- a) The Parish Council supports the school safety zone measures proposed for Langstone Way
- b) The Parish Council raises concern at the inevitable displacement created by parking restrictions proposed on Ashworth Road and asks what measures will be in place to address these
- c) The Parish Council asks Shaw ward Swindon Borough Councillors to lobby for restrictions to be introduced to limit long stay parking on Rivermead Drive.

### **169. Planning Report**

The Committee received and agreed the following:

169.1 S/HOU/22/1691	Erection of a front porch	19 Silchester Way, Westlea SN5 7DY
		<b>No objection.</b>
169.2 S/HOU/22/1707	Erection of a 1.8m wall.	5 Feather Wood, Westlea SN5 7AG
		<b>No objection.</b>
169.3 S/HOU/22/1697	Erection of a single storey rear extension and single garage	15 Mildmay Close, Grange Park SN5 6HY
		<b>No objection</b>
169.4 S/22/1650	Siting of a hot food trading van	Land At Rivermead Drive Rivermead Industrial Estate

#### **Objections:**

- Swindon Borough Council Highways department have received representation from West Swindon Parish Council regarding problems with long stay parking on Rivermead Drive. This creates severe problems with toileting in public open space, poor visibility for children exiting the skate park/pump track, high volume of littering and flytipping and use of public bins as toilets.
- The addition of a takeaway food outlet would potentially add an additional obstruction that will restrict visibility of children and users of the skate park/pump track and would likely increase the issues of littering.
- There is an existing established take away van on Westmead Drive.
- The Parish Council does not support any provision that enhances the provision for the long stay of hgv's on this road
- The Parish Council requests that this be called in to the Planning Committee for

closer consideration of these and other issues.

Meeting finished at 7.00 pm

Signed: .....

Chair, Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee

Date: .....