

## WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the  
**PLANNING, LEISURE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
held on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 6.00 pm**  
**Unit 25, Westmead Industrial Estate, Swindon, SN5 7YT**

**Present:**

Cllr Suresh Gattapur  
Cllr Rose Llewellyn  
Cllr Graham Philpot  
Cllr Trish Philpot  
Cllr Nandini Singh  
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith  
Cllr Sean Wilson (Vice Chair)

**Officers:** Steven Anns (Operations Supervisor), Hayley Bell (Deputy Clerk)  
Paula Harrison (Parish Manager/Clerk)

**Public:** Two

Craig Hiscock from Best Be a Better You attended to share information on the summer holiday sessions funded by the Parish Council. Craig reported that of 162 bookings, 120 attended to participate in activities including boxing, football and karate. Generally over subscribed for each session. Potentially outgrowing Freshbrook Community Centre and will look for alternative spaces. Positive feedback from families.

Cllr Wilson chaired the meeting.

Meeting start 6.15pm

**85. Apologies & Applications for Dispensation**

Apologies: Cllr Dayan, Cllr Grother, Cllr Swinyard. Declarations of Interest required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 20 May 2024: None.

**86. Play Update**

The Operations Supervisor advised that the refurbishment of Whitehill Park is due at the end of September early October. Councillors discussed Shaw Ridge play area and agreed that another site visit would be useful. Suggestions included creating a play space that is unique in comparison to other typical play spaces. A request from Cllr Gattapur for a graffiti wall at Rivermead was noted. Recent vandalism to Shelfinch play area was discussed and noted that reporting to the Police is actioned.

**RESOLVED** that

- a) A site meeting for Shaw Ridge is arranged
- b) Designs for alternative play are brought to a future meeting
- c) Publicise and report incidents of vandalism to the Police
- d) Communicate to households neighboring play area hot spots and encourage reporting of incidents

**87. Community Events**

The Deputy Clerk advised that the Wheels Track anniversary event was in place for Saturday 21 September from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm.  
The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the Westlea Fire Station Christmas open day was scheduled for Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

**88. Bleed Kits & Defibrillator & Amnesty Bin Update**

The Deputy Clerk circulated a report, a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book and advised that the defibrillator project was nearing completion. More employers have added their defibrillators to the national Circuit network. Westlea Fire Station would be willing to run community first aid training for residents in Sparcells. Final installation should be at the end of September.

The knife amnesty bin is being led by Police colleagues who are in the process of seeking funding. Once secured it will be located outside of Freshbrook Church or Westlea Fire station. Councillors thanked the Deputy Clerk.

**89. Graffiti Murals**

Councillors noted that the murals project was ongoing with discussions underway with Paintfest. The goal would be to create a mural trail with work getting underway in March.

**90. Community Pantry**

The community pantry project is ongoing. The Pantry is good to go the library and the only piece remaining is to secure supermarket food pick ups.

**91. Bulb Planting**

The Clerk confirmed that numerous Councillors had submitted requests for Autumn bulb planting and all the sites proposed were on track for planting in the coming weeks.

**92. Memorial Garden**

The Clerk circulated a proposal for a commemorative space off Corton Crescent, a copy of which appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. The Clerk advised that the green open space area would be left unchanged and the focus would be on the disused tarmac areas. The Committee suggested provision for a mental health within the scheme. A more detailed scheme with costings would be brought to a future meeting early next year with work planned for the Spring. Councillors supported the proposal.

**RESOLVED** that work continues with the Memorial Garden proposal.

**93. Update from Climate Change Action**

The Operations Supervisor advised that the baseline was being established in order for the Parish Council to be able to benchmark its progress. The Clerk suggested that Climate Change Impact could be one of standing items detailed on relevant reports.

**94. Planning Report**

The Clerk circulated the Planning Report, a copy of which appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book. Councillors made no objections to the following applications:

| <b>APPLICATION</b> | <b>PLANNING APPLIED FOR</b>   | <b>LOCATION</b>  |
|--------------------|---|--|
| S/HOU/24/0875      | Erection of a single storey rear & first floor side extensions and associated works         | 1 Danestone Close<br>Middleleaze<br>SN5 5GP                      |
| S/HOU/24/0897      | Installation of an Air Source Heat Pump   | 51 Horseshoe Crescent<br>Peatmoor<br>SN5 5AX                     |
| S/24/0883          | Change of use from car park to car wash incorporating erection of 2no. canopies & storeroom | Hongxin Oriental Buffet<br>Pepperbox Hill<br>Peatmoor<br>SN5 5DP |

Meeting closed 7.20 pm