WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Newsletter Report

1. Background

- 1.1 West Swindon Parish Council has booked four pages in the Link magazine in order to run a single page editorial four times a year. This is a total cost of £773.00 plus VAT and is distributed to 25,000 households.
- 1.2 Parishes across Swindon take an individual approach to the production of a newsletter. Some parishes such as Wroughton have moved towards e-bulletins or community noticeboards on their website and others have a single printed communication to residents. Sources such as the Link Magazine, Parish (church) Newsletter, and the Handymag also often feature Parish Council updates.

2. Detail

2.1 Councillors have expressed interest in a newsletter with more editorial than that achieved in the current Link Magazine arrangement. Costs will depend on the number of pages and the scale/type of distribution.

For example,

A four page full colour newsletter arranged by the Link magazine would be priced at £89.00 + VAT per 1,000 leaflets/flyers delivered. So if you wanted 10,000 newsletters distributing to 10,000 homes, it would be £890.00 + VAT.

Central Swindon North Parish Council produced a 18 page newsletter. Costs were £1500.00 for printing 15,000 copies, £135 for the artwork and design and £430 for the delivery. Total cost in the region of £2065.

Haydon Wick Parish Council produce their own magazine. The cost of a 64 page A5 magazine is £2623.00 for 10,000 with precision colour printing. The distribution is usually £180.00 and they charge for advertising.

3. Recommendations:

- 3.1 Councillors note the information in the report and consider whether to progress with additional newsletter/s.
- 3.2 Councillors give feedback on style, content and length of a proposed newsletter to enable costs to be secured.

Paula Harrison Parish Manager