

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the

COMMUNITY & LEISURE COMMITTEE

held on Monday 29th September 2025 at 6.00 pm.

Unit 25, Westmead Industrial Estate, Swindon, SN5 7YT

Present:

Cllr Peter Bates
Cllr Suresh Gattapur
Cllr Leon Grother
Cllr Rose Llewellyn
Cllr Graham Philpot (Chair)
Cllr Tricia Philpot
Cllr Andrew Swinyard
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith
Cllr Keith Williams

Officers Paula Harrison (Parish Clerk), Jacqui Jones (Deputy Clerk), Mark Jones (Engagement Officer)

PC Tom Ashforth and PCSO James Young

Public member 6

Public questions: None

Meeting started 6.00pm

96. **Apologies & Declarations of Interest/Applications for Dispensation**

Apologies: Cllr Ali, Cllr Dayan, Cllr Ertas, Cllr Singh

The Clerk put forward an application for dispensation on behalf of Cllr Sean Wilson to accept his apologies due to ill health and enable virtual attendance at Council meetings for the foreseeable future. The Council resolved to grant the dispensation in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Declarations of Interest required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 19 May 2025: none

97. **Engagement Activities**

Councillors received a report, a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. The Engagement Officer updated the Committee on the

engagement activities and events so far since the appointment and with a look forward to proposed events. It was requested that an evaluation of the pop up events including results of residents surveys to be shared at a future meeting. The Committee noted the update.

98. **Review of Youth Provision**

Councillors received a report detailing the youth provision supported by the Parish Council. A copy of which appear as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. The Engagement Officer circulated details of a proposal from Youth For Christ organisation to create a new youth club at the Link Centre. It was confirmed that the organisation does not deliver faith-based activity. The Chair advised that further information would be helpful and requested that the Engagement Officer research and establish services currently available within West Swindon and identify areas that may require further support. This is to area and aged based. The Committee noted the report. It was requested that discussions with Best Be a Better you be initiated to explore improved systems of communication and registration that could attract funding from the Parish Council.

RESOLVED:

- a) Future funding for Swindon ATB youth sessions at Rivermead be funded from March onwards £3000.00
- b) West Swindon Family Project Youth Club £2802.00 grant application be approved with delivery up to September 2026.

99. **Volunteer Update**

The Councillors received a verbal report from the Deputy Clerk on volunteer coordination efforts and health and safety measures relating to ongoing community litter-picking activities and related volunteer projects. The Committee noted the update.

100. **Murals Update**

Councillors received a verbal update from the Clerk. A copy of which appear as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book. The Committee noted the update.

101. **Newsletter & Social Media**

The Councillors received a copy of Quarter 3 newsletter a copy of which appears as **Appendix D** in the Minute Book.

102. **Defibrillator Update**

The Councillors received a verbal report on the progress with public access to defibrillators as work ongoing. The Committee noted the update.

103. **West Swindon – 50th Anniversary**

Councillors received a verbal update from the Engagement Officer outlining opportunities to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of West Swindon including '50' in bulbs being planted in locations in Toothill. It was noted that the anniversary covers the whole of West Swindon. It was noted that a Working Party may be formed to progress further ideas.

Meeting Closed at 18:55