

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL** on **MONDAY 20 AUGUST 2018** at **6.30pm** at **WEST SWINDON LIBRARY**

Present:

Cllr Steph Exell
Cllr Nigel Gibbons (Chair)
Cllr Vinay Kumar
Cllr John Lenton
Cllr Timothy Makofu
Cllr Nick Martin
Cllr Mary Martin.
Cllr Tim Swinyard
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith
Cllr Keith Williams

Officers:

Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)
Leanne Curtis (Assistant Clerk)

Public: Six

Public Session:

Resident queried update on Great Western Way cleansing/maintenance. Cllr Mary Martin confirmed no updates at the current time.

Resident asked for an update on training of enforcement officers. The Parish Manager indicated that so far numbers for the proposed training session were low so the session would need to be reviewed in terms of costs. It was still planned for training to go ahead in September.

Resident reported positive progress with the Parish Council and volunteers regarding Westlea pond.

Resident asked why Agenda Item 12. was deemed to be private and confidential. The Chair indicated that due to commercial sensitivity, the Parish Council needed to consider the outcomes of the report in a closed session. Decisions arising would be minuted for public record.

Resident queried why Streetsmart payments were not invoiced to SCS. Resident was advised that SCS was no longer delivering the service and Swindon Borough Council were delivering Streetsmart.

Resident asked if the tree canopy along Tregoze Way could be opened up to reduce the current tunnel effect which can obscure vision for drivers. Chair noted the issue for action.

Resident reported recurrence of graffiti in subways in West Swindon. Could the system of identifying subways be improved e.g. numbered? why aren't staff on the ground reporting the graffiti? Chair reported that staff may be reporting graffiti incidents but the Parish may not be aware of it. Action would be undertaken to address the graffiti situation.

Meeting start 6.42 pm

116. Apologies

Cllr Matthew Courtliff, Cllr Suresh Gattapur, Cllr Ellen Heavens, Cllr Prakash Khaitan, Cllr Matthew Walker

117. Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

None.

118. Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 23rd July 2018 be confirmed and adopted.

119. Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on Wednesday 8th August 2018 be confirmed and adopted.

120. Minutes of Finance and Staffing Committee

RESOLVED that the Payment Schedule for July of four payments totalling **£155,258.85** be approved.

RESOLVED that minutes of the Finance and Staffing Committee meeting held on Wednesday 8th August 2018 be confirmed and adopted.

121. Minutes of Leisure and Amenities Committee

Noted that future consideration of sites for play refurbishment takes into account local demand, the potential impact on the quality of life and sites that will bring the most benefit.

RESOLVED that Hags-SMP (Minute 115) be appointed as the preferred contractor for the play area upgrades of Camden Close and Middleleaze/Saltway and Sutcliffe Play South West be appointed as the preferred contractor for the play area upgrades at Clayhill Copse and Claypits (Cartwright Drive).

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting held on Wednesday 8th August be confirmed and adopted.

122. Update from Parish Council Chair

No updates to report.

123. Update from Swindon Borough Councillors

Cllr M Martin reported that since the work was completed at the junction of Tewkesbury Way to Mannington Roundabout, the painted arrow lane markings have introduced a left only lane which is not as functional as three single lanes. It is proposed that the arrows will be removed to reintroduce a better stacking system and will be monitored.

Cllr Williams gave an update on Lydiard Park. The problems with vandalism to parking meters created £2,000 of damage. This has been addressed and should be completed shortly – parking tickets are available from the shop. The conference facility is now serving hot meals at lunch and evenings. Wedding or event bookings can be taken although there is widespread marketing at the current time.

124. Reports from Parish Council Representatives

Cllr Exell reported a successful clean up at Oakham Close and Kirkstall Close involving the Parish Council, neighbourhood wardens and local volunteers. It highlighted the impact of Streetsmart services at a local level and also revealed how these events could be developed and improved.

125. New Working Parties

Councillors received a report from the Parish Manager, a copy of which is attached as **Appendix A** to the Minute Book, detailing requests for additional working parties. Councillors discussed the recommendations from KMC Consultancy Ltd

RESOLVED that

- a) the Litter and Flytipping Working Party includes matters relating to graffiti in future meeting discussions
- b) a Backlands, Communal areas & Former Play Spaces working party be created, and that, Councillors Exell, Makofu, Swinyard & Sydney Smith be appointed to the working party.

126. Admission of Public and Press

In accordance with Standing Order 3 (d) that 'in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they be instructed to withdraw', the public were asked to leave the meeting on the grounds of commercial sensitivity.

127. Streetsmart Service Value for Money Review

Councillors received a report from the Parish Manager, a copy of which is attached as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. Councillors noted the report written by KMC

Consultancy Ltd circulated previously, detailing the outcomes of the Value for Money review.

Councillors discussed the findings and recommendations of KMC Consultancy Ltd. Councillors received a quote from KMC Consultancy Ltd for a second phase of work, a copy of which is attached as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that

- a) KMC Consultancy Ltd's Value for Money Report for West Swindon Parish Council is noted.
- b) the Recommendations from KMC Consultancy Ltd are agreed subject to further discussion and agreement on the design and detail of Street Cleaning and Grounds Maintenance services for West Swindon Parish Council
- c) KMC Consultancy be appointed to continue to develop detailed service level agreements and reporting arrangements for grounds maintenance and street cleaning services

The meeting closed at 7.44 pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Council