

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE held online at 6.00 pm.
ON WEDNESDAY 15TH JULY 2020 AT WEST SWINDON LIBRARY

Minutes

Present:

Cllr Umar Ali
Cllr Mike Burtenshaw
Cllr Suresh Gattapur
Cllr Geoff Gould
Cllr Tim Makofu
Cllr Nick Martin
Cllr Trish Philpot
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith
Cllr Keith Williams (Chair)

Officers:

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

Public: Three

Public Participation:

A resident reported that the new play equipment was being well used and enjoyed by many families.

Meeting started 6.07 pm.

450. Apologies

Cllr Nigel Gibbons due to family commitments, Cllr Steph Exell due to illness, Cllr Tim Swinyard due to work commitments.

RESOLVED that apologies received were approved.

451. Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

Cllr Gould indicated that he would not be voting as a non member of the Committee.

452. Play Area Update

The Parish Manager reported that the play refurbishment was nearing completion. Nine Elms should be able to open. Some issues had arisen at Shelfinch and the installers were waiting for new parts to be manufactured, so the toddler area remains closed. Tumpy Field was also waiting for new parts but should be completed in the next week and would then be able to open subject to a clean inspection report. Committee

members indicated that bins near play areas were successful and these sites would need to be reviewed.

RESOLVED that the Committee notes the update information.

453. Play Area CCTV as requested by Cllr Trish Philpot

The Parish Manager circulated a report in response to Cllr Philpot's request for consideration of CCTV, a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. The report set out broad costs and key considerations for installing, monitoring and maintaining CCTV systems. The Committee debated the information. Cllr Philpot indicated that this item had been brought forward at the request of residents expressing concern about littering, anti social behaviour and drug related issues in play areas. Councillors agreed that promoting the reporting of issues would be helpful in order to highlight the problems. It was noted that Crimestoppers signs could be installed in key locations. Councillors debated whether CCTV would impact on the behaviours and act as deterrent.

RESOLVED that

- a) The Parish Manager investigates options for stand alone/mobile CCTV cameras
- b) Anti social behaviour issues are monitored and reviewed by the Committee at a future meeting (six months time).
- c) Crime reporting signs are initiated in key locations

454. Play Refurbishment 2021

The Parish Manager circulated a report setting out options for future expenditure from the play refurbishment budget for 2021. A copy of the report appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. Decisions for the expenditure are usually initiated in August/September to allow the procurement process to be completed in time for the next financial year. The report suggested the next location for a play area refurbishment would be Shaw Ridge. Councillors noted that Tumpy Field had been refurbished only a short distance away. The Parish Manager asked Councillors to consider using the budget to invest more fully into the proposal for an expansion of the Rivermead skate park with a bmx track. This would attract more interest in creating a design and quote and should also enable the Council to proceed with applications for external funding. Councillors debated this and considered the degree to which this would attract interest from users outside of the Parish. The Assistant Clerk reported that initial consultation attracted positive comments through the Parish Council's Facebook page and would most likely have been people connected to West Swindon Parish. It was noted that a cycle facility is being installed in Moredon, Akers Way and that any new design for Rivermead should take that into account.

RESOLVED that

- a) The Parish Manager invites proposals from prospective companies through Contract Finder identifying a budget of £60-90,000.
- b) The Parish Manager contacts neighbouring Parishes and invites them to make a contribution

455. Play Inspections Quote

The Parish Manager asked the Committee to review a quote for the annual play inspections. It was proposed to use the same company as used previously, to enable warnings or flags to be reviewed. The Parish Manager asked the Committee to confirm whether they wished all play areas to be inspected or whether to omit those that had just been refurbished and therefore very recently inspected. The quote appears in the Minute Book as **Appendix C**.

RESOLVED that West Swindon Parish Council commissions the Play Inspection Company to undertake the annual play inspections Dec/Jan 21 and that all play areas be inspected.

456. Vehicle Signage

The Parish Manager reported that the Parish will be acquiring 9 vehicles and Swindon Borough Council has asked that these are 'labelled or logo'd' for access on and off the Waterside site. This gives an opportunity to use the vehicles for promotion. The Committee debated options for displaying messages on the vehicles. Councillors agreed that there may be an opportunity for corporate sponsorship or advertising. Councillors agreed that West Swindon Parish Council should be visible on all vehicles

RESOLVED that the Parish Office ensures that vehicles display the name and contact number of the Parish and where possible promotes a message about flytipping.

7.01 pm Cllr Gattapur and Cllr Ali left the meeting.

457. Shelfinch Youth Shelter Consultation

The Assistant Clerk distributed a report setting out a summary of the consultation on Shelfinch youth shelter, a copy of which appears as **Appendix D** in the Minute Book. The Assistant Clerk highlighted that responses had been returned via an online form or by email. A majority of residents advocated for the shelter to be removed, however some others including the Community Police team suggested that it should remain or at least be monitored more closely in the event that the improvements in the play area reduce negative behaviours

Councillors discussed the consultation report and concluded that the sample was targeted and relatively small. It was noted that removal of the shelter may not remove the anti social behaviour, and it may then orientate to somewhere else in the play area.

RESOLVED that the Parish Office collate any reports of anti social behaviour, broken glass and sharps, and, the shelter be monitored for 3-4 months with an update coming back to this Committee thereafter.

458. Grant Applications

Councillors noted receipt of the following grant applications Sharp Close Grant

Application £210 Shaw Primary School £2000. Councillors agreed that these applications were not time dependent and should be held until the grant decision making round in September, (as previously agreed by the Council). Copies appear in the Minute Book as **Appendix E**.

Meeting closed 7.25 pm.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 10 September 2020 6.00 pm

Signed:
Chair, Leisure & Amenities Committee

Date: