

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the
PLANNING, LEISURE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
held on **MONDAY 3rd OCTOBER 2022 at 6.00 pm**
Unit 25, Westmead Industrial Estate, Swindon, SN5 7YT

Present:

Cllr Sydney Smith (Chair)
Cllr Suresh Gattapur
Cllr Geoff Gould
Cllr Nigel Gibbons
Cllr Nandini Singh
Cllr Tim Makofu (Vice Chair)
Cllr Nick Martin (v)
Cllr Mary Martin (v)
Cllr Trish Philpot (v)
Cllr Mike Burtenshaw (v)

Officers:

Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)

Public: 2 Residents

Public Questions:

None.

104. Welcome & Applications for Dispensation

Cllr Sydney Smith opened the meeting and invited declarations of Interest required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 23 May 2022:

- Cllr Gattapur and Cllr Gould declared that they were not members of this Committee.

105. Small Tractor Update

The Parish Manager advised that Lister Wilder had loaned a small tractor with a higher specification than previously quoted as an ex-demonstration model. The cost would be below that previously approved by Full Council. Final details on the suitability of the machine were being reviewed. Councillors noted the position.

106. Grounds Maintenance

The Parish Manager updated the Committee on the grounds maintenance Autumn/Winter works. The shrub and hedge reduction on soft ground has been the main focus. Grass cutting has been resumed and may be the last cut of the season. The new flail mower was proving complementary for ground level cutting alongside the tractor side arm.

The Parish Manager referred to a report, a copy of which appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. The report highlighted the emerging issue of service strips

across the Parish. These are typically maintained by residents as part of their garden, however, it could create a larger volume of work if residents choose to stop maintenance. Guidance indicates that service strips are maintained 'at the public expense'. As a result the team will continue to record service strips and highlight these on mapping information as and when the issue emerges.

Councillors noted the information.

107. Play Update

The Parish Manager updated the Committee on play equipment, a copy of the report appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book. The report highlighted the option to add a basket swing to the Plattes Close design that would offer additional accessibility.

RESOLVED that the Parish Manager will add the basket swing to the order.

RECOMMENDED that Plattes Close is commissioned at £15,761.80 with approximately a further £3,000 for new fencing.

108. Village Centre Maintenance

The Parish Manager circulated a report setting out a schedule of maintenance for village centres, a copy of which appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book.

Councillors noted the information.

109. Christmas Activities

Councillors discussed options for commemorating Christmas with local residents this year. Ideas included a grotto for children and an outdoor Christmas Tree. Preference was stated to partner with an existing organisation or existing event due to the short time available for preparation this year. It was agreed that the Chair and the Parish Manager would investigate these options and report back to a future meeting.

110. Blagrove Allotments

Cllr Gould reported on behalf of the Allotments Working Party that a site meeting at the site had been undertaken to review the markings of underground services. If juvenile trees and self seeded shrubbery were removed this could open up the space further. The 8 metre strip required over the main line through the area was observed, this could be overlaid with a stone pathway/driveway. The Operations Supervisor was now making an assessment of how many plots could be fitted on the extension site and this will be reported to a future meeting. If the number of plots is viable, a soil contamination test would be the next step. Councillors noted the update.

111. Planning Report

Councillors reviewed the Planning report, a copy of which appears as **Appendix D** in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that there were no objections to the following:

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| S/22/1353 | Erection of extensions to create a new centralised dispensary, office space and skywalk | Catalent Pharma Solutions, Unit A
Frankland Road
Blagrove |
| S/22/1321 | Increase in roof height, erection of 2 no. front dormer windows and velux windows to rear. | 12 Darcey Close,
Grange Park Swindon
SN5 6DZ |
| S/HOU/22/1175 | Erection of a first floor side extension. | 3 Romney Way,
Ramleaze SN5 5QB |

Meeting closed: 7.20 pm

Date of next meeting: Monday 7 November 22

Signed:

Chair, Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee

Date: