

SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
(CENTRAL SWINDON SOUTH PARISH COUNCIL)

COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2020 at 6.30pm
at a VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

- Present** Cllr C Watts Chair
Cllr J Howarth Vice-Chair
Cllr S Ahmed
Cllr J Ali
Cllr S Allsopp
Cllr V Ayris
Cllr J Firmin
Cllr M Gladman
Cllr D Griffiths
Cllr A Hamid
Cllr P Herring
Cllr N Hopkins
Cllr W Horley
Cllr S James
Cllr L Kasmaty
Cllr M J Miah
Cllr J Miah
Cllr J Milner-Barry
Cllr T Philpot
Cllr M Strinkovsky
Cllr N Watts
- Officers** Rob Core Clerk
Jake Mee Deputy Clerk and RFO
Matt Bradley Communications and Events Manager
Theresa Gordon Agenda Clerk
- Public** Two
- Public Session** A member of the public asked why the agenda referred to approval of signage on the Parish electric van as they believed it had been approved at a previous meeting. The Chair said that it is the Service Supervisors Vehicle and whilst the signage company had been closed, the Council were taking the opportunity to approve a final design.
- A member of the public referred to the agenda which showed an item referring to the installation of various security equipment at the Parish Council Depot and asked where the new depot was located. The Chair said that for obvious reasons security arrangements could not be discussed, and the depot is located in Techno Trading Estate, Kembrey Park.
- 1117** **Apologies.**
Cllr S Pajak
Cllr E Heavens
- 1118** **Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**
None
- 1119** **Chairs Report**
The Chair gave a verbal report and said that as we gradually emerge out of lockdown, we are beginning to consider how we can reopen facilities we had to close back in March, while taking all necessary safety measures.
- Our parks have been really valued during lockdown and we are considering in this meeting whether to reopen the public toilets in Town Gardens and Queens Park from

July.

Parish Officers have been working hard to consider how Old Town Library and Broadgreen Community Centre could reopen in a way that is safe for both staff and users of these centres. That work is still taking place and we are working with Swindon Borough Council with regards to the library provision.

Our parks and allotments have remained open and Old Town Café has now reopened.

Following recent nice weather, we have had problems with overflowing bins at weekends in our green open spaces. The Parish Council has therefore increased bin emptying to include weekends at GWR Park, The Lawns, Shaftesbury Lake, and the Polo Ground. This was previously only a five-day service.

Play Areas continue to remain closed with no word from the government about when they will reopen. We are picking up instances of people breaking in to play areas and when this has happened our Services Supervisor and Parish Team are doing a great job to re-secure those areas, removing any mess left and putting up new signage.

Projects that have been mothballed because of Covid-19 are also restarting.

The new resin bound gravel the Parish Council commissioned for GWR Park is now down. It has improved the look of these areas and we have received positive feedback, especially with how it has improved the human sundial.

Groundwork took place last week along the right of way between Pipers Way and Coate Water as part of our program of works to create an accessible wildlife corridor across South Swindon Parish.

The redevelopment of Queens Park Hothouse and Town Gardens Bowl is being pursued with a local construction company and an architect who specialises in Heritage based redevelopments is putting together a feasibility study for the redevelopment of both sites for Parish Councillors to consider.

The refurbishment of Cavendish Green is set to restart soon after stalling when lockdown was announced.

In the last Chair's Report, it was mentioned that Swindon Borough Council had written to the Parish about bringing forward TUPE Transfer to the 31st July after initially agreeing to a transfer in September.

Parish Officers are working hard to get the new depot ready for the transfer of staff and services. And we are delighted to report that the Parish Council's application for a government loan to secure the new vehicles we need has been accepted by the Secretary of State. A big thanks needs to go to the RFO for obtaining this permission from the Secretary of State.

Finally, we would like to put on record our thanks to the Clerk, Deputy Clerk, and all other Parish Officers for their continued hard work during this challenging time for the Parish Council.

1120 Payment Schedule May 2020

The Deputy Clerk submitted the Payment Schedule for May 2020, a copy of which appears as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that the May 2020 Payment Schedule be Approved.

1121 Accounts April 2020

The Deputy Clerk submitted the Accounts for April 2020, a copy of which appears as Appendix B in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that the April 2020 Accounts be approved.

1122 Accounts May 2020

The Deputy Clerk submitted the Accounts for May 2020, a copy of which appears as Appendix C in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that the May 2020 Accounts be approved.

1123 Planning Applications delegated to the Chair and Vice Chair

The Deputy Clerk submitted a report containing the delegated responses of the Chair and Vice-Chair, a copy of which appears as Appendix D in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that the responses of the Chair and Vice Chair be approved.

1124 Planning Decisions

The Deputy Clerk submitted for information a report containing the decisions made by Swindon Borough Council, a copy of which appears as Appendix E in the Minute Book.

NOTED

1125 Electric Van Signage

The Deputy Clerk submitted for approval a design of graphics to be applied to the Parish Electric Van, a copy of which appears as Appendix F in the Minute Book.

The Deputy Clerk recommended the removal of the Facebook logo from the previously presented graphic design as there would be no benefit to the parish from obtaining it.

RESOLVED that the design for the parish electric van excluding the Facebook logo be approved.

1126 Depot Security

The RFO submitted a report for consideration of the installation of various security equipment at the Parish Council Depot, a copy of which appears as Appendix G in the Minute Book.

Quotes were itemised and sought from three local suppliers as follows:

	Quote 1	Quote 2	Quote 3
Entry System and Door Locking	1,200.00	770.40	1,525.00
CCTV	4,500.00	3,298.00	8,490.00
Fire System	3,000.00	3,070.00	3,390.00
Alarm System	2,900.00	1,984.60	2,945.66
Total	11,600.00	9,123.00	16,350.66
Annual Monitoring	350.00	475.00	285.00

Recommendations

3.1 That the necessary equipment as detailed in 2.3 of the report be purchased and installed.

3.2 That the equipment be purchased using quote 2.

RESOLVED that recommendations 3.1 and 3.2 be approved.

1127 Hand Tool Procurement

The Deputy Clerk submitted a report for consideration, of the procurement of required hand tools a copy of which appears as Appendix H in the Minute Book.

The Clerk confirmed that all equipment included electronic security tagging and the ability to monitor tracking.

Quotes were itemised and sought from three local suppliers as follows:

Quote 1	21,483.00
Quote 2	21,076.01
Quote 3	Declined to Quote

Recommendations

3.1 That the necessary equipment as detailed in 2.2 of the report be purchased.

3.2 That the equipment be purchased from Supplier 2 as per 2.5 in the report based on 100% price.

RESOLVED that recommendations 3.1 and 3.2 be approved.

1128 World Wars Working Party

The Deputy Clerk to submit a report for consideration.

DEFERRED to a future meeting.

1129 Grants Working Party

The Deputy Clerk submitted a report for consideration, a copy of which appears as Appendix I in the Minute Book.

The Grants working party had met and looked at grant applications received to date, several had been approved, and a few applications required further information.

RESOLVED that seven of the grant applications as tabled in the report be approved.

1130 Loan Funding Grounds Maintenance & Street Cleaning Equipment

The Deputy Clerk/RFO submitted a report regarding funding approval from the Secretary of State for consideration for the proposed borrowing to fund new equipment for the Parish.

At the Central Swindon South Parish Council meeting of 26th May 2020, it was **RESOLVED** to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Housing Communities & Local Government to apply for a PWLB loan of £512,085 over the borrowing term of 5 years for the purchase of vehicles, machinery and equipment for the provision of Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleaning Services. The annual loan repayments will come to around £108,163.

NOTED

1131 Formal Parks Toilets

The Clerk submitted a report regarding the formal park's toilets for consideration, a copy of which appears as Appendix J in the Minute Book.

The Clerk explained that the public toilets at both Town Gardens and Queens Park had been closed due to the possibility of virus transmission and the report provided details of how both facilities could be re-opened.

Recommendations

3.1 If there is further relaxing of the distancing rules in July 2020, an enhanced level of cleaning could allow safe public use of the toilets. Therefore, it is for the council to consider if it is to open the public toilets in both parks.

3.2 To adopt either the enhanced cleaning regime as recommended by the Clerk or to self-deliver a reduced cost service. The cost of the enhanced professional service if the toilets are reopened on the 4th July including an initial deep clean would be £21,872.00

RESOLVED that recommendations 3.1 and 3.2 be approved.

The meeting closed at 18.59 pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Council