

SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
(CENTRAL SWINDON SOUTH PARISH COUNCIL)

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 22 November 2021 at 6.30pm
at the Marriot Hotel, Pipers Way Swindon SN3 1SH

Present	Cllr C Watts (Chair)	Cllr P Herring
	Cllr S Ahmed	Cllr N Hopkins
	Cllr S Allsopp	Cllr S James
	Cllr V Ayris	Cllr J Milner-Barry
	Cllr J Firmin	Cllr S Pajak
	Cllr D Griffiths	Cllr T Philpot
	Cllr E Heavens	Cllr N Watts
	Cllr J Miah	
Officers	Rob Core	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
	Jake Mee	Chief Finance Officer/Deputy Chief Executive Officer
	Theresa Gordon	Planning and Agenda Clerk
Public	One	
Public Questions	None	

Apologies

Cllr J Ali	Cllr J Howarth
Cllr M Gladman	Cllr L Kasmaty
Cllr A Hamid	Cllr M J Miah
Cllr W Horley	Cllr M Strinkovsky

1574 Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

None

1575 Chair's Report

The Chair said that tickets for the Enchanted Gardens Light Trail had been on sale for several weeks and that sales are exceeding expectation and it is hoped that the target of 45% is reached by the 1st of December. Installation will take a week and be started tomorrow. We are looking forward to the first night to which we have invited local neighbours of Town Gardens along with other guests to the event.

We have also managed a number of other events which includes a Christmas tree in Cavendish Square. We had hoped to string lights along Whitbourne Avenue but were advised by Swindon Borough Council that the lampposts we were hoping to use were unsuitable. Parish officers therefore worked really hard to make sure that a Christmas tree lights switch on with carol singers and mince pies would happen by working with the library, and support from the local charity shop and Co-op store. A big thank you to both Parish officers and SBC who moved quickly to enable the event to happen.

On Remembrance Sunday Councillors laid wreaths at the Cenotaph, Radnor Street Cemetery, GWR Park, Town Gardens and Queens Park and our thanks are passed to all Councillors who laid wreaths on behalf of South Swindon Parish Council.

This Full Council meeting is the last Full Council meeting for Rob Core, who we owe a debt of gratitude for joining us from Swindon Borough Council just as we were starting to develop and take on services in-house. We could not have found a better person to work directly with us, who knew how to circumvent many issues and problems that we had noticed and who has put together a services team that as far as Swindon is concerned is second to none and the envy of others. Since services have been taken on directly the services provided along with street smart and grounds team we have achieved so much more. It has been a joy over the last year getting to know the people directly and see how flexible and involved they all want to be. Rob has been key to the setting up of the Services teams along with the work he has done to get the depot up and running smoothly. The Parish Council owe Rob a debt of gratitude for all he has achieved with the amount of work he has done, and he will be sorely missed.

1576 Accounts October 2021

The Chief Finance Officer submitted the Accounts for October 2021, a copy of which appears as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that the Accounts for October 2021 be approved.

1577 Payment Schedule October 2021 – Part 2

The Chief Finance Officer submitted Payment Schedule - Part 2 for October 2021, a copy of which appears as Appendix B in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that the Payment Schedule - Part 2 for September 2021 totalling, £202,777.91 be approved.

1578 Payment Schedule - November 2021 - Part 1

The Chief Finance Officer submitted Payment Schedule - Part 1 for November 2021, a copy of which appears as Appendix C in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that the Payment Schedule - Part 1 for November 2021 totalling, £161,367.21 be approved.

1579 Real Living Wage

The Chief Finance Officer submitted a report the real living wage, a copy of which appears as Appendix D in the Minute Book.

The CFO said that the report was as tabled.

RESOLVED that the report be approved.

1580 Speeding and Support to CSW

The Chief Finance Officer submitted a request from the Chief Police and Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire and Swindon, a copy of which appears as Appendix E in the Minute Book.

The CFO said that the Police and Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire and Swindon had asked if a South Swindon Parish Councillor would be willing to become a representative of (CSW) Community Speed Watch

RESOLVED that Councillor Stan Pajak be elected as the representative for South Swindon Parish Council.

1581 Councillor Allowances

The Chief Finance Officer submitted a report for consideration regarding Councillor Allowances 2022-23, a copy of which appears as Appendix F in the Minute Book.

The CFO gave additional verbal information and said that allowances currently stand at £1,056 for individual councillors and £5,279 for the Chair, therefore 2.75% increase on those figures is in line with inflation at the time the report was set. The National Joint Council (NJC) proposal is 1.75% and the figure will not be known until January 2022 as the information will not be available until then.

Councillor J Firmin proposed to defer the decision and that any Councillor allowance increase be set on the basis of the National Joint Councils (NJC) decision.

RESOLVED that the National Joint Councils increases that are proposed and set in the budget as an estimate based on what is known at that time be approved.

The meeting closed at 18.56 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Council