

SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
(CENTRAL SWINDON SOUTH PARISH COUNCIL)

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 21 December 2021 at 7.15pm
at the Marriot Hotel, Pipers Way Swindon SN3 1SH

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| Present | Cllr C Watts (Chair) | Cllr P Herring |
| | Cllr J Howarth (Vice Chair) | Cllr N Hopkins |
| | Cllr S Ahmed | Cllr S James |
| | Cllr J Ali | Cllr L Kasmaty |
| | Cllr V Ayris | Cllr J Miah |
| | Cllr J Firmin | Cllr J Milner-Barry |
| | Cllr D Griffiths | Cllr S Pajak |
| | Cllr E Heavens | Cllr T Philpot |
| Officers | Jake Mee | Chief Finance Officer/Deputy Chief Executive Officer |
| | Matt Leather | Deputy Chief Executive/Events and Communications Manager |
| | Theresa Gordon | Planning and Agenda Clerk |
| Public | One | |
| Public Questions | None | |

Apologies

Cllr S Allsopp
Cllr M Gladman
Cllr A Hamid
Cllr W Horley
Cllr J Miah
Cllr M Strinkovsky
Cllr N Watts

1591 Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

None

1592 Chair's Report

The Chair said that the Parish Council had planted fungus resistant walnut trees from Old Town to the Lawns which will replicate past views at the entrance to the Lawns.

A Christmas tree was placed in Cavendish Square and attended by a large amount of the local community and well received. The tree looked spectacular, and thanks go to Parish Officers and Councillors for the area who made it all take place. We also hope to expand on the event next year.

The Broadgreen Centre Manager, Gifty Tawiah has handed in her notice. Gifty did extremely well in taking the centre on and her management brought it back to be used as a community centre and she made a great job in bringing it back to good use. Due to the Covid outbreak the centre was re-purposed as a Government Local Testing Centre and Gifty was reallocated work within the Parish office team. We would like to thank Gifty and pass on our gratitude for all the work she has done for the Broadgreen community centre.

Queens Park wheelchair ramps have been completed in the Secret Garden and stonework and ramps have been completed in the memorial garden, excellent work all done by the in-house team due to supply issues we are waiting on the railings for the memorial garden but hope to have them in-situ by the end of February and pass on our thanks for the fantastic job done by the in-house team.

Enchanted Lights Trail has been a fantastic success and to date we have taken £191,000 in ticket sales, with over 20,000 people attending to date and are exceeding the targets we had set. The feedback we have received and reviews on the booking site

have been wonderful, and the work done by Councillor Neil Hopkins and the Events Manager Matt Leather has been tremendous, and the Council are really pleased that we were able to put on this fantastic outdoor event and proud of what has been achieved.

Update on the museum and art gallery is that we tried and made an offer to the Borough Council to try and keep the museum and art gallery in place as their plan was to close it and put everything into storage Parish we put forward an easier solution but communications with the Borough were sporadic and the Borough have now refused our offer, therefore we will have to wait for the outcome.

1593 Minutes of the Finance & Staffing Meeting - 26 October 2021

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Finance & Staffing Meeting held on 26 October 2021 be approved as a correct record.

1594 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting - 26 October 2021

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 26 October 2021 be approved as a true record.

1595 Minutes of the Leisure, Environment and Amenities Meeting - 9 November 2021

Resolved that the amended minutes of the Leisure, Environment and Amenities meeting held on 9 November 2021 be approved as a correct record.

1596 Minutes of the Planning Meeting – 16 November 2021

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning meeting held on 16 November 2021 be approved as a correct record.

1597 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting – 22 November 2021

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 22 November 2021 be deferred to a future meeting.

1598 Planning Applications Delegated to the Chair & Vice Chair

The Chief Executive Officer submitted a report containing the delegated responses of the Chair and Vice Chair, a copy of which appears as Appendix A in the Minute book.

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

1599 Planning Decisions

The Chief Executive Officer submitted for information a report containing the decisions made by Swindon Borough Council, a copy of which appears as Appendix B in the Minute book.

NOTED

1600 Queens Park Hot House Update

The Chief Executive Officer submitted a report regarding a survey of Queens Park Hot House, a copy of which appears as Appendix C in the Minute book.

The Chief Executive Officer highlighted that the survey had shown that the structure is in need of extensive work which would be expensive but if agreed the parish officers would work with contractors to provide options and costings.

Cllr Pajak said that currently the area looked untidy and asked if it could be made more presentable. The CEO said that he would look at improvements for the area.

3 Recommendations

3.1 That high level costings are sought for different options of rebuild replacement or removal. These findings to be taken to a future meeting of the Assets Working Party to scrutinise and make recommendation.

RESOLVED that recommendation 3.1 be approved.

1601 Internal Audit Report (First Interim) 2021 – 2022

The Chief Executive Officer submitted a report from the appointed Internal Auditor regarding the Interim Audit Report for 2021-22, a copy of which appears as Appendix D in the Minute book.

The Chief Executive Officer said that the report was late in being provided by the Auditors and only went to the end of September. Councillor Hopkins gave thanks to the Finance team for the excellent work they had done.

NOTED

1602 Admission of Public and Press

To resolve 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'. Reason: Commercial Sensitivity.

1603 Broadgreen Community Centre

The Chief Executive Officer submitted a report regarding the use of the Broadgreen Community Centre, a copy of which appears in the Confidential Minute book.

Councillors discussed the report and recommendations.

3. Recommendations

3.1 That the extension of the use of Broadgreen Community Centre as a local Testing Site be approved to 31st March 2022.

RESOLVED that recommendation 3.1 with amended date be approved

3.2 That a survey be conducted within the local community and user groups to establish what they would like to see from Broadgreen Community Centre when it re-opens and that the Assets Working Party meet in January 2022 to approve the content of the survey.

RESOLVED that recommendation 3.2 be approved

1604 Services Working Party

To receive an update from the Services Working Party regarding the current service provision within the Parish, a copy of which appears as Appendix F in the Minute book.

The Chief Executive Officer submitted a report and gave a verbal overview of the content which was discussed by Councillors.

3 Recommendations

3.1 The view of the Council are sought.

RESOLVED to serve notice effective from 31st December 2021 to terminate the deed from 31st March 2022 and to sign a one year rolling extension to the current deed whilst the new one is negotiated.

The meeting closed at 19.55 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Council