

South Swindon Parish Council
(Central Swindon South Parish Council)
Leisure, Environment & Amenities Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2022 at 6.30pm
In the Parish Council Office, Gladstone Street, SN1 2AU

Present:	Cllr N. Hopkins Cllr L. Kasmaty Cllr S. Pajak Cllr D. Griffiths Cllr J. Miah	Cllr J. Milner-Barry Cllr S. Allsopp Cllr V. Ayris Cllr P. Herring
Apologies:	Cllr T. Philpot	Cllr J. Ali
Officers:	Matt Leather Natasha Abrahamson Sam Victory	Deputy Chief Executive Officer Planning & Agenda Clerk Communications Officer
Also Present:	David Dewart Lindsey Turner Joanne Greener Martin Hambidge	Planning Manager (SBC) Senior Project Manager (SBC) Assistant Project Manager(SBC) Open Space Project Consultant
Public:	Fourteen members of public	Regarding the Lawns Playground Consultation

**Public Questions and
Comments:**

2223 - 06 Declaration of interest & Applications for dispensation
None

2223 - 07 Fleming Way Bus Boulevard Update
A slide show was presented to Committee by Lindsey Turner and Joanne Greener, Project managers from Swindon Borough Council regarding the changes to Fleming Way. This was followed by a question-and-answer session with Parish Councillors.

2223 - 08 Health Hydro HAZ Project Report
David Dewart presented a slide show to the Committee regarding the upcoming HAZ project at the Health Hydro due to commence in the Spring of 2023, followed by a question's with Parish Councillors

RESOLVED: *To suspend standing orders for the following agenda item: **Lawn Play Area***

2223 - 09 Lawn Play Area
The Deputy CEO provided members with a written report regarding the Consultation that was delivered to Lawns Residents asking if they would like a Play Park installed in the Lawns Area. A copy of which can be found in the minute book as appendix A.

Local residents attending the meeting raised the following points:

- Concerns that not all Lawn residents received the consultation or understood what it was.

- Why a Play Area was needed when there is an older population in Lawn and there are other play areas nearby.
- A new play area will exacerbate existing anti-social behavior and parking problems.
- The area proposed is inappropriate with it being on a hill and a local wildlife area.

Councilors discussed the results of the consultation and the comments made by the members of the public present at the meeting. The Chair asked Councilor V Ayris who had proposed the consultations and as a Ward Parish Councilor for the Lawn area, if he wished to propose taking the next steps towards the building of a new Play Area in Lawn. Councilor V Ayris responded that he solicited opinion from Lawn residents and would leave it to the committee to decide on next steps.

Recommendations

3.1 Note the results of both consultations regarding a new play area and orchard in the Lawn community.

3.2 Request the committee determine the next steps on this issue.

*The Chair asked for **Standing Orders to be reinstated.***

RESOLVED: To **Not Proceed** with the building of a play area in the Lawn area at this time.

2223 – 10

South Swindon in Bloom 2023

Martin Hambidge the Open Spaces Consultant provided members with a written report regarding the South Swindon in Bloom 2023 entry. A copy of which can be found in the minute book as appendix B. Discussions took place around improvements to be considered for next year's entry.

The DCEO thanked all individuals, teams and volunteers that took part in the planning and implementation of the South Swindon in Bloom 2022 entry. All volunteers will be receiving a certificate from South Swindon Parish Council, thanking them for their hard work and contributions.

Recommendations

3.1 Resolve to agree that the Parish Council continues to support the South Swindon in Bloom entry into the Southwest in Bloom competition in 2023.

3.2 Resolve to agree whether to submit another entry into either the Pennant Class or a full entry into the main competition in 2023.

3.3 Resolve to agree that the Judges feedback be considered for any future entry.

3.4 Resolve to agree that the Old Town area shall be the main focus for the Judges Tour but that other appropriate locations within the Parish that meet the judging criteria may also be included within the limitations of the time available for the Tour as well as for inclusion within the Portfolio and Presentation.

3.5 Resolve to agree to continue to encourage greater community and business participation for the South Swindon in Bloom project and the Its Your Neighborhood Scheme.

RESOLVED: To approve recommendations 3.1, 3.3, 3.4 and 3.5

RESOLVED: For South Swindon In Bloom to remain in the Pennant Class for 2023, with a view to enter the main competition in 2024.

2223 – 11 Rewilding Review 2022

Martin Hambidge the Open Spaces Consultant provided members with a written report regarding the Parish Councils Rewilding strategy for 2022. A copy of which can be found in the minute book as appendix C.

Recommendations

4.1 Resolve to proceed with the current list of re-wilding areas listed in Point 2.1 for 2023.

4.2 Request the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Leisure, Environment and Amenities Committee seek agreement with the developer at Marlborough Park regarding the re-wilding of the public highway verge along Lowry Way.

4.3 Request the Services Manager and Open Spaces Consultation work together to improve awareness of the re-wilding areas amongst the Services Team, by investigating ways to make the areas more easily identifiable to the mower drivers.

4.4 Request the Deputy CEO and Open Spaces Consultant to work with the Services Team to improve awareness of the re-wilding areas to local residents.

4.5 Request the Deputy CEO investigate the purchase of a new or suitable second-hand flail mower collector and to purchase this equipment if the cost is within the Clerk's delegated spending limits.

RESOLVED: To approve recommendations 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5

2223 – 12 South Swindon Green Trail – 6 Month Review

The Open Spaces Consultant provided members with a written report regarding the 6-month periodical review on the Green Trail. A copy of which can be found in the minute book as appendix D.

Councilor's queried if it was possible to obtain the analytical data relating to the usage of the Green Trail? The DCEO said he would look into this.

Recommendations

3.1 To note the contents of the report.

3.2 Councillors to consider whether any improvements are necessary regarding any aspect of the South Swindon Green Trail.

RESOLVED: To approve recommendation 3.1

RESOLVED: To add a Recommendation 3.3 to read: To investigate the possible use of surveys to ascertain the participation of the Green Trail

2223 – 13 Tree Planting Update

The deputy CEO provided members with a verbal update regarding the tree planting within the Parish, he informed members that the work on the Blossom Circle at GWR Park is due to commence in December 2022/January 2023.

RESOLVED: To note the verbal report provided by the Deputy CEO.

2223 – 14 2022 Summer Events Review

This agenda item was deferred due to the information not being available.

2223 – 15 Big Dog Art Trail

The DCEO presented the Events Managers written report seeking a decision on the locations to install the Big Dog Art Trail with the South Swindon Parish. A copy of which can be found in the minute book as appendix E.

Recommendations

3.1 Agree to the locations as listed in the presentation from Julia's House regarding locations of the Swindog sculptures in the Big Dog Art Trail in 2023.

RESOLVED: To approve recommendation 3.1

2223 – 16 2023 Events Programme

This agenda item was withdrawn due to the information not being available.

2223 – 17 Badbury Park Community Facility

The DCEO provided a written report regarding a new community facility and the results of the consultation held. A copy of which can be found in the minute book as appendix F.

Recommendations

3.1 Note the research that has been undertaken since the July Full Council Meeting, as detailed in Points 2.3 and 2.4.

3.2 Recommend to Full Council that the Parish accept the transfer of the new Badbury Park Community Facility to the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: To approve recommendations 3.1 and 3.2

RESOLVED: To thank to Councillor Hopkins for putting together the Business Plan for Badbury Park Community Facility.

RESOLVED: That this committee formally write to the residents of Badbury Park to inform them of the Parish Councils intentions to run the Badbury Park Community Facility, subject to Full Council approval.

2223 – 18 Allotments Update

The Deputy CEO provided a written report regarding allotments, a copy of which can be found in the minute book as appendix G.

Recommendations

3.1 To support the request made by the Growing South Swindon Community for the free hire of a vacant allotment plot at Westcott Allotments, as per Point 2.1.

3.2 Support the principle of the allotment service being self-funded.

3.3 Request a proposal be brought back to a future Leisure, Environment and Amenities Committee on how the Parish Council can achieve a self-funded allotment service through increases in the allotment charges.

RESOLVED: To amend recommendation 3.1 to read: To support the request made by the Growing South Swindon Community for the free hire of the unused area subject to flooding at Westcott Allotments

RESOLVED: To defer recommendations 3.2 & 3.3 until 2023 to allow officers to prepare a proposal
RESOLVED: To approve the addition of a recommendation 3.4 to read: To set up regular allotment site rep meetings

2223 – 19 Queen Elizabeth Memorial Bed

The Deputy CEO provided members with a written report regarding the Queen Elizabeth Memorial Bed, a copy of which can be found as appendix H in the minute book.

Recommendations

3.1 To determine whether to support the request for a memorial bed to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II.

RESOLVED: To agree to the creation of a memorial bed to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II

Meeting Closes at 21.00pm

Singed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Parish Council