

South Swindon Parish Council

Full Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2023 at 7.15pm

In the Council Chamber, Parish Council Office, Gladstone Street, Swindon.

Present:	Cllr N. Hopkins (Chair) Cllr S. Ahmed Cllr J. Ali Cllr M. Davies Cllr D. Dias Cllr D. Griffiths Cllr A. Hamid	Cllr P. Herring Cllr R. Leather Cllr J. Pereira Cllr G. Philpot Cllr T. Philpot Cllr T. Silberberg Cllr D. Vales
Officers:	Jake Mee Matt Leather Carol Clark	Chief Executive Officer Deputy Chief Executive Officer Administration Assistant
Also Present:	David Dewart	Swindon Borough Council Planning Officer
Public:	None	
Apologies:	Cllr J. Howarth (Vice-Chair) Cllr S. Allsopp Cllr R. Banwell-Moore Cllr J. Firmin	Cllr M. Le Coyte-Grinny Cllr S. James Cllr L. Kasmaty Cllr N. Watts

2324 – 80 Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

Pecuniary Interests Declared – relating to Agenda Item 10 Cllr R. Leather advised she was an allotment plot holder in the parish.

2324 - 81 Presentation- Milton Road Health Hydro

David Dewart presented a presentation update regarding the first phase of the Health Hydro refurbishment. A question and answer session followed the presentation.

Cllr T. Silberberg arrived during this item.

2324 – 82 Chair's Report

Cllr Ali and Cllr Firmin had represented the Parish Council at the opening ceremony on the 12th July for the Nigel Eady Training Centre, Swindon Town Football Club, Foundation Park.

Quarry Road Tennis Courts - Surface water drainage issues continue. SBC Highways have cleaned out their drainage channels and gulleys. A Civil Engineer is investigating potential drainage proposals. Contractor handover to be arranged following drainage alterations.

Badbury Park Library – our new library and community facility was opened on the 1st July. The new library footfall is increasing. The Chair to the Council attended a Badbury Park Residents Group meeting where this new facility was welcomed.

Town Gardens Aviary Refurbishment – Local artist Tim Carroll is currently painting a mural within the Aviary. The Parish gardeners are altering the Aviary floorspace to accommodate different bird species. The roof is yet to be installed. Work is due to be completed by the end of July.

In Bloom Judging – Judging for the *Tesco Cup* is going ahead Wednesday 26th July.

Staff Changes – We have successfully recruited library assistants and additional events staff to assist with the delivery of our successful libraries and events programme.

Front Garden Competition – Judging took place Friday 14th July. The results of the 5 winners are to be announced and an awards ceremony is to be arranged.

The Events programme continues with the *My Dad is Bigger Than Your Dad Festival* on 22nd July and a production of the *Twelfth Night* on 28th July.

2324 – 83 Information from Borough Councillors

None present.

2324 – 84 Minutes – Full Council

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 27th June 2023 be approved as a correct record.

2324 – 85 Minutes – Extra Ordinary Full Council

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Full Council meeting held on 4th July 2023 be approved as a correct record.

2324 – 86 Minutes – Leisure, Environment and Amenities

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Leisure, Environment and Amenities meeting held on 4th July 2023 be approved as a correct record.

2324 – 87 Tree Management Policy Review

The CEO submitted a revised Tree Management Policy a copy which appears in the minute book as Appendix A.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council adopts the revised Tree Management Policy.

2324 – 88 Task & Finish Working Party Proposal

The Deputy CEO presented a draft copy of the Park North Village Hall (Lyndhurst Centre) Working Party Terms of Reference. A copy which appears in the minute book as Appendix B.

RESOLVED: To approve the formation of the Park North Village Hall (Lyndhurst Centre) Working Party and its Terms of Reference.

RESOLVED: That Cllr J Firmin, Cllr T Philpot, Cllr D Vales & Cllr R Banwell-Moore be appointed to the Working Party.

2324 – 89 Allotment Service Charges

To consider a report from the Deputy CEO regarding the Parish Council's Allotment Service charges for 2023/24. A copy which appears in the minute book as Appendix C.

Recommendation

3.1 Support the increase in allotment charges for 2023/ 24 as proposed in Point 2.7.

	Current Rate	23/24	24/25
Parishioner	£46	£69	£92
Parishioner 65+	£42	£63	£84
Non-Parishioner	£80	£132	£184
Non-Parishioner 65+	£76	£122	£168

RESOLVED: That the recommendation in Point 3.1 of the report be approved.

2324 – 90 Oakfield Development Open Space and Play Area

To receive a verbal report from the CEO regarding the ongoing maintenance of the open space and play area in the new Oakfield Development.

RESOLVED: That the CEO's verbal report is noted.

2324 – 91 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: Personal Confidentiality.**

2324 – 92 Habitual and Vexatious Complainant Policy

To receive a report from the CEO regarding review and implementation of the Habitual and Vexatious Complainant Policy for an anonymised member of the public, a copy which appears in the confidential minute book.

Recommendations

3.1 That the Habitual & Vexatious Complainant Policy is implemented for a member of public.

3.2 That Option 2 from Schedule B of the policy is enforced and communicated to the resident.

3.3 That a decision is made to the method of communication that will be acceptable.

3.4 That these restrictions stay in place for a period of one calendar year and be reviewed after such time.

RESOLVED: To approve recommendations 3.1, 3.2 and 3.4.

RESOLVED: The only communication method that will be acceptable is in a stamped and delivered letter to the Parish Council Chief Executive Officer.

2324 – 93 Enchanted Gardens Light Trail Update

To consider a report from the Deputy CEO on the Enchanted Gardens Light Trail. A copy which appears in the confidential minute book as Appendix B.

Recommendations

3.1 The Parish Council use its own events webpage as the ticket platform for the 2023 Enchanted Gardens Light Trail and approve the costs of enabling this as per Points 2.2 and 2.5.

3.2 A permanent Events Officer position be created to support the 2023 Light Trail and spring/summer events programme as per Point 2.3.

3.3 The marketing budget for the Enchanted Gardens Light Trail be set as £20,000 and focussed on Swindon and areas within 20 miles distance from the event area as per Point 2.4.

3.4 The charging structure for this year's Light Trail as proposed in Point 2.8 be supported.

3.5 That the Parish Council support the Old Town Business Association as its preferred partner for managing the food, beverage and entertainment area, and a detailed proposal will be provided at a future Parish Council Meeting.

AMENDMENT: Proposed by Cllr P Herring and Seconded by Cllr G Philpot that recommendation 3.1 be approved so long as the Deputy CEO, Cllr P Herring, Cllr G Philpot meet with the Parish Council web developer to discuss service level agreement for the maintenance of the webpage.

RESOLVED: to approve recommendation 3.1 with the proposed amendment.

RESOLVED: To approve recommendation 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 and 3.5.

Cllr M Davies left the meeting during this item.

Meeting Closed at 9:19pm

Signed:

Dated:

Chair of the Parish Council