

South Swindon Parish Council
Full Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 17th June 2025 at 6.30pm
In the Parish Council Office, Gladstone Street, SN1 2AU

Present:	Cllr Neil Hopkins (Chair) Cllr Saleh Ahmed Cllr Steve Allsopp Cllr Mike Davies Cllr John Firmin Cllr Patrick Herring	Cllr Patrick Herring Cllr Sam James Cllr Linda Kasmaty Cllr Tom Silberberg Cllr Danial Vales Cllr Nadine Watts
Apologies:	Cllr Junab Ali Cllr Rebecca Banwell-Moore Cllr Domingos Dias Cllr Dave Griffiths Cllr Janine Howarth	Cllr Marianne Le Coyte-Grinney Cllr Jamal Miah Cllr Joseph Pereira Cllr Graham Philpot Cllr Trish Philpot
Absent:	Cllr Meural Cardoso	Cllr Abdul Hamid
Officers:	Jake Mee Max Tanner	CEO Committee Officer
Public:	3	
Public Questions:	None	

2526 – 44 **Apologies**
The committee accepted apologies from Cllr J Ali, Cllr R Banwell-Moore, Cllr D Dias, Cllr D Griffiths, Cllr J Howarth, Cllr M Le Coyte-Grinney, Cllr J Miah, Cllr J Pereira, Cllr G Philpot and Cllr T Philpot.

2526 – 45 **Declaration of interest & Applications for dispensation**
None

2526 – 46 **Chair's Report**
Over the last month there has been lots of work at Buckhurst field and we had an excellent event where we formally opened the renovated pavilion for Swindon Robins FC. It is also great to see the redeveloped skate park opened and in use by lots of happy skaters and scooterists. I'm delighted to also mention that work has started on the Buckhurst Play Zone yesterday and this should be completed by the end of the summer, which means that it will be available to use for a large chunk of the summer.

We had a great Old Town Festival this year and I have spoken to many attendees who all said how much they enjoyed the event. The gardeners have commented that the impact on the park was well managed, and from a council point of view the traffic and numbers in the park were controlled effectively. On the whole, it was a really successful Old Town Festival and a great event for the residents of south Swindon.

We had the first meeting of the Newsletter Working Party, discussing content for the next edition. I'd like to ask all councillors to send any photographs of events so that the next edition of the newspaper captures parishioners enjoying our parish events, which should help to bring the Newsletter to life even more.

The Planting in of the summer annuals is complete in both Town Gardens and Queens Park

and I'm sure all of us are looking forward to seeing these parks in full bloom.

We are preparing for our entry to South West In Bloom. We have a tremendous range of areas within the parish that volunteers have been working on. We've done better and better each year and I'm hoping that this year is no exception.

Finally, before too long, we should have an outcome on our Green Flag submission for the Town Gardens. Early indications suggest that we have well and I'm sure we all cannot wait to see how we have done.

2526 – 47 **RESOLVED:** To suspend Standing Orders to allow the Old Town Business Association to deliver a presentation.

2526 – 48 **Old Town Events**

The council received a presentation from the Old Town Business Association detailing plans for future Old Town Events.

Cllr D Vales enters the room during this item.

RESOLVED: That the council are willing to support the Old Town Business Association's plans for future Old Town Events.

2526 – 49 **RESOLVED:** To reinstate Standing Orders.

2425 – 50 **Minutes – Annual Council Meeting**

The Council were presented with the draft minutes for the Annual Council Meeting held on the 19th May 2025 for approval, a copy of which appears in the Minute Book as Appendix A.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on the 19th May 2025 are approved as a true record.

2526 – 51 **Minutes – Extraordinary Full Council**

The council were presented with the draft minutes for an Extraordinary Full Council Meeting held on the 29th May 2025 for approval, a copy of which appears in the Minute Book as Appendix B.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Extraordinary Full Council Meeting held on the 29th May 2025 are approved as a true record.

2526 – 52 **Minutes – Leisure, Environment & Amenities**

The council were presented with the draft minutes for the Leisure, Environment & Amenities Meeting held on the 3rd June 2025 for approval, a copy of which appears in the Minute Book as Appendix C.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Leisure, Environment & Amenities Meeting held on the 3rd June are adopted and approved as a true record.

2526 – 53 **Payment Schedule – May 2025**

The CEO submitted the Payment Schedules for May 2025, a copy of which appears in the minute book as Appendix D.

RESOLVED: That the Payment Schedule for May 2025 be approved.

2526 – 54 **Accounts**

The CEO submitted a report detailing the council reserves and 2024/25 budget underspend. A copy of which appears in the minute book as Appendix E.

Cllr M Davies leaves the room during this item.

Recommendations

3.1 That council approves the reserve allocations as detailed in 2.3.

RESOLVED: To approve the reserve allocations as detailed in 2.3.

2526 – 55

Borough Wide Dog Fouling PSPO Consultation

The council received a report from the Committee Officer detailing a proposed Public Spaces Protection Order regarding dog fouling and dogs in enclosed children's playgrounds. A copy of which appears in the Minute Book as Appendix F.

Recommendations

3.1 That the council determine a response to Swindon Borough Council's Public Spaces Protection Order public consultation.

RESOLVED: To support the PSPO.

RESOLVED: For councillors to submit comments to the Committee Officer to be compiled into one submission.

2526 – 56

Emergency Decisions

The CEO submitted a copy of the Financial Regulations to be reviewed, a copy of which appears in the minute book as Appendix G.

Recommendations

3.1 To note the report and decisions made.

RESOLVED: To note the report and decisions made.

2526 – 57

Admission of Public and Press

RESOLVED: 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**.

2526 – 58

Events at The Bowl

The Events Manager submitted a report regarding events in The Bowl. A copy of which appears in the Confidential Minute Book as Appendix A.

Recommendations

3.1 To note this report.

RESOLVED: To note the report.

2526 – 59

Town Gardens Winter Events

The council were presented with a report from the Events Manager regarding winter events programming at Town Gardens. A copy of which appears in the Confidential Minute Book as Appendix B.

Recommendations

3.1 To agree to the recommendation from the Leisure, Environment and Amenities Committee that a report will be brought to a future Leisure, Environment and Amenities Committee detailing plans for a winter weekend event in the Town Gardens in December 2025.

3.2 To agree to the recommendation from the Leisure, Environment and Amenities Committee to allow Parish Officers to start exploring options for a 2026 winter event, including consulting residents and opening conversations about collaborating with local organisations.

RESOLVED: To approve recommendation 3.1 & 3.2.

Meeting Closes at 19:29

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Parish Council