

South Swindon Parish Council
Leisure, Environment & Amenities Committee

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

Present:	Cllr Linda Kasmaty (Chair)	Cllr John Firmin (Vice-Chair)
	Cllr Steve Allsopp	Cllr Sam James
	Cllr Meural Cardoso	Cllr Neil Hopkins
	Cllr Patrick Herring	Cllr Tom Silberberg

Apologies: None

Absent:	Cllr Rebecca Banwell-Moore	Cllr Danial Vales
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Officers:	Matt Leather	Deputy CEO
	Max Tanner	Governance & Support Lead
	Abigail Garside-Scutts	Events Manager

Public: None

Public Questions: None

2526 – 195 **Apologies**
The Committee received no apologies.

2526 – 196 **Declaration of interest & Applications for dispensation**
Cllr S Allsopp declared a personal interest in Item 4 (Swindon Place Partnership) due to his position as a trustee of Buckhurst Community Centre.

2526 – 197 **Swindon BID Area**
The Committee received a presentation from Swindon Borough Council on plans to create a new BID area for the Town Centre and Old Town.

RESOLVED: To note the contents of the presentation.

2526 – 198 **Swindon Place Partnership**
The Deputy CEO submitted a report regarding Sports England Place Partnership in Swindon. A copy of which appears in the Minute Book as Appendix A.

Recommendation

3.1 Note the contents of this report.

3.2 Endorse the Parish Council's Place Partnership delivery strategy as detailed in Points 2.3, 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6.

RESOLVED: To note the contents of the report.

RESOLVED: To endorse the Parish Council's place Partnership delivery strategy as detailed in Points 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6 of the report.

2526 – 199 **Play Area Assessments**
Councillors were presented with a report from the CEO regarding accessibility assessments of South Swindon Parish Council Play Areas. A copy of which appears in the Minute Book as Appendix B.

Recommendation

1. Prioritise investment in Rushey Platt and Wills Avenue Play Areas as the highest-ranking Parish-owned facilities requiring intervention. These sites present the strongest case for immediate capital allocation given their elevated need score and absence of alternative funding mechanisms.
2. Maintain dialogue with Swindon Borough Council regarding Euclid Street to monitor development of the Heart of Swindon Plan and any implications for future play provision at this location. The Council should seek regular updates on the Borough's intentions for this facility.
3. Defer investment in Cavendish Green pending receipt and application of anticipated Section 106 developer contributions. Officers should actively engage with the planning authority to ensure appropriate contribution levels are secured and ring-fenced for play provision enhancements at this site.
4. Develop a medium-term capital programme encompassing sites ranked 4-8 (Wills Avenue, Eastern Ave, Royal Mead, Culverhouse Road, and Broadgreen). This cohort represents facilities requiring intervention within the next 2-5 years and should inform future budget planning cycles.
5. Commission an accessibility audit across the entire play area portfolio, with particular focus on sites scoring maximum points (20) in the accessibility category. The audit should identify cost-effective interventions to enhance inclusive play provision and inform strategic priorities for improving accessibility across the Parish.
6. Explore development of a destination play area that provides comprehensive accessible and inclusive play provision for the entire Parish rather than distributing limited accessible equipment thinly across multiple sites with minimal impact. The CEO to explore funding opportunities with developers
7. Establish annual scoring reviews to maintain currency of assessment data. As equipment ages and condition changes, regular reassessment ensures investment decisions remain aligned with actual need. Annual independent inspections provide the necessary data inputs for this process along with an in-house review using existing resource.
8. Consider community consultation for priority investment sites to understand local preferences and ensure refurbishment schemes reflect community aspirations whilst meeting safety and accessibility standards.

RESOLVED: To approve recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8.

RESOLVED: To prepare communications detailing the council's total expenditure on play areas.

RESOLVED: Arrange meeting of Eastcott Parish and Borough ward councillors to discuss future of Euclid Street Play Area.

2526 – 200

Events Report

The Events Officer presented a verbal report regarding Parish Council's Christmas events and plans for a 2026 Christmas event.

RESOLVED: To note the contents of the report.

2526 – 201

Community Development Update

The Community Development Officer submitted a report regarding Parish Council's community development activities. A copy of which appears in the Minute Book as Appendix C.

Recommendation

3.1 To note the contents of this report and provide feedback to the Community Development Officer.

RESOLVED: To note the contents of the report.

RESOLVED: That the Council are pleased with the hard work of the Community Development Officer.

2526 – 202

Broadgreen Park Improvement Plan Update

The Committee received an update from the Governance & Support Lead on the Broadgreen Park Improvement Plan. A copy of which appears in the Minute Book as Appendix D.

RESOLVED: To note the update.

2526 – 203

Road & Pavement Weeding Strategy

Councillors received a verbal update from the Deputy CEO regarding upcoming plans to control weed growth on the roads and pavements.

RESOLVED: To note the update.

2526 – 204

Vendor Charging Structure

The Deputy CEO presented a report regarding a charging structure for food and beverage vendors within Parish Council Parks. A copy of which appears in the Minute Book as Appendix E.

Recommendation

3.1 To determine the food and drink vendor pitch fee in Queen's Park and GWR Park.

RESOLVED: That food and drink vendor pitch fee is set at 10% of sales.

Meeting Closes at 20:22

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Leisure, Environment & Amenities Committee