

South Swindon Parish Council
Leisure, Environment & Amenities Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2026 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 Patrick Herring	Cllr Tom Silberberg
Cllr Neil Hopkins	

Apologies: Cllr Rebecca Banwell-Moore

Absent: Cllr Meural Cardoso Cllr Danial Vales

Officers: Matt Leather Deputy CEO
Max Tanner Governance & Support Lead

Public: None

Public Questions: None

2526 – 308 **Apologies**
The committee received apologies from Cllr R Banwell-Moore.

2526 – 309 **Declaration of interest & Applications for dispensation**
Cllr L Kasmaty declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 4, as they are a trustee of Artsite, which is involved in the murals under discussion.
Cllr P Herring declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 10, being employed by the office of Heidi Alexander MP, which is involved in the Pride in Place Funding deployment.

2526 – 310 **Old Town Business Association- Service Level Agreement**
The CEO submitted a report regarding the severing of the Parish Council's Service Level Agreement with the Old Town Business Association. A copy of which appears in the Minute Book as Appendix A.

Recommendation

3.1 Note that the current Service Level Agreement expired on 31st December 2025 and will not be renewed.

3.2 That the Council does not enter into a partnership arrangement with Old Town Business Association for event delivery beyond 2026.

3.3 That the council approves a one-off grant of £2,000 to Old Town Business Association Limited as a contribution toward event insurance costs for 2026, notwithstanding that this grant falls outside the Council's existing grants policy, on the grounds that:

(a) This payment represents a transitional arrangement to support the cessation of the long-standing Service Level Agreement for event delivery;

(b) The grant facilitates the transfer of insurance responsibility and liability risk from the Council to Old Town Business Association, thereby protecting the Council's interests and reducing future financial and legal exposure.

3.4 The Council further resolves that this grant shall not create any precedent for future funding requests and that no further partnership arrangements or grants for event insurance will be considered in 2026/27.

RESOLVED: To approve recommendation 3.1, 3.2 & 3.3.

RESOLVED: The Council further resolves that this grant shall not create any precedent for future funding requests.

2526 – 311

Community Fund

The committee received a report from the Health, Wellbeing & Community Working Party regarding potential uses of the Community Fund. A copy of which appears in the Minute Book as Appendix B.

Recommendation

3.1 To note the update on spending from the Community Project Earmarked Reserve.

3.2 To approve the GWR Gate Mural as proposed in Point 2.5 and the Pot Planting Workshops detailed in Point 2.8.

3.3 To determine whether to authorise the CEO to commission the adopted alleyway clearance work and Lawn Planter subject to the necessary information and permission as detailed in Points 2.6 and 2.7.

3.4 To authorise the CEO to utilise the Community Projects reserve to offset the cost of Swindon Borough Council's Live Well team hiring use of Broadgreen Community Centre.

RESOLVED: To approve recommendation 3.1 & 3.2.

RESOLVED: To authorise the CEO to commission the adopted alleyway clearance work and Lawn Planter subject to the necessary information and permission as detailed in Points 2.6 and 2.7 of the accompanying report.

RESOLVED: To authorise the CEO, in conjunction with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the committee, to utilise the Community Projects reserve to procure 5 litter picking stations and determine the locations.

RESOLVED: To authorise the CEO to utilise the Community Projects reserve to offset the cost of Swindon Borough Council's Live Well team hiring use of Broadgreen Community Centre for a period of 6 months whereafter a review will take place.

2526 – 312

Walcot East & Park North Pride in Place Update

The Community Development Officer submitted a report regarding the Walcot East & Park North Pride in Place project. A copy of which appears in the Minute Book as Appendix C.

Recommendation

3.1 Note the contents of this report.

3.2 Endorse the recruitment of 2 ground workers for an initial 3 months to complete tasks listed in Point 2.4. This recruitment will be fully funded from the Walcot Pride in Place project.

RESOLVED: To note the contents of the report.

RESOLVED: Endorse the recruitment of 2 ground workers, and procurement of appropriate equipment for an initial 3 months to complete tasks listed in Point 2.4. This will be fully funded from the Walcot Pride in Place project.

2526 – 313

Christmas Trees

The Community Facilities Officer submitted a report regarding Christmas Tree locations and cost for 2026. A copy of which appears in the Minute Book as Appendix D.

Recommendation

3.1 Approve the order of three Christmas trees from the quote detailed in Point 2.2.

3.2 Subject to the necessary permissions from Lawn Community Centre and Swindon Borough Council, order a fourth Christmas tree for Lawn. This will be funded from the Parish Council's Community Projects reserve.

RESOLVED: To approve recommendation 3.1 & 3.2.

2526 – 314

Quarry Road Tennis Courts

The committee received an update on the National Tennis Association's plans for the Quarry Road Tennis Courts. A copy of which appears in the Minute Book as Appendix E.

RESOLVED: To note the contents of the report.

Meeting Closes at 19:30

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Leisure, Environment & Amenities Committee