

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12th SEPTEMBER 2017
IN SWINDON VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30PM

Parish Councillors Present:

Peter Allen (Chairman)
Glenn Simpson (Vice Chairman)

John Conmee
Helen Wells

Also Present:

Shaun Cullimore (Clerk), Inspector Roddy Gosden, Police Constable Phil Clark, Cllr. Bernard Fisher.

17/112 APOLOGIES

Stuart Deakin, Frances Hunter, Borough Councillor Flo Clucas.

17/113 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

17/114 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public were present.

17/115 DISCUSSION WITH THE POLICE

Inspector Roddy Gosden and Police Constable Phil Clark were present, principally to discuss the situation with the cruisers/boy racers.

The officers introduced themselves and their background. They had considerable experience of policing the Cheltenham area.

Inspector Gosden emphasized that police resources are stretched and the priority has to be tackling serious crime. He stated that it was not illegal for the cruisers simply to meet on the highway and issues of noise were a matter for Cheltenham Borough Council. The police would only take action where road traffic offences occurred (e.g. dangerous driving or exceeding the speed limit).

Inspector Gosden was concerned that shutting down the cruiser activity some years ago had displaced the activity to the town centre where there was a higher risk to the public.

He was of the opinion that there were two factions of car enthusiasts meeting in the area; the cruisers who were interested in looking at cars and the boy racers who wanted to show off their performance. He thought that the cruisers were unhappy with the involvement of the boy racers and that an element of "self-policing" could be encouraged. To this end for the next six months a PCSO would be deployed in area each Sunday evening to see what was going on and to attempt to engage with the cruisers.

The councillors were concerned that they had tried to engage with the cruisers but with little success.

The police agreed to provide the Parish Council with a monthly progress report and would meet the Council again in six months.

Regarding the accident that had occurred on 9th July, enquiries were continuing to build a case against the driver for presentation to the Crown Prosecution Service.

The officers were thanked for attending and left the meeting.

17/116 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Accuracy of Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the two meetings held on 8th August 2017 be accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising

ACTION 15/122/1 – The Clerk to make enquiries about possible sightings for a noticeboard and to obtain quotes. The cost will be of the order of £500 plus fitting. The siting depends on a conversation with Mr. Vale (see action 16/95/4). **Action continues.**

ACTION 16/95/4 – The Clerk to invite the GCC Local Highways Manager Rob Vale to a meeting. Reply awaited. **Action continues.**

ACTION 16/99/1 – Loan of vehicle speed monitoring equipment. Simon Ellson had agreed to investigate this. **Action continues.**

ACTION 16/103/1 – Cllr. Allen to look into pricing a repair of the mosaic. Eileen Allen had spoken with representatives of a Berkley-based company that produce mosaics. They would be willing to take a look at our mosaic to see if they could help. The Council **RESOLVED** to authorise Mrs. Allen to speak with the company. **Action continues.**

ACTION 16/154/1 – The Clerk to set up a meeting with Craig Hemphill (Planning Officer) to discuss our concerns regarding the Elms Park application. We are awaiting confirmation from Craig regarding which meeting he can attend (he was reminded on 4th June, 17th July and 26th July 2017). **Action continues.**

ACTION 16/156/2 – The Clerk to enquire about dog notices. CBC Enforcement had asked how many signs we wanted. A candidate list of locations had been suggested. It was suggested that the Clerk ask what form the signs would take, how many would be available, how and where they could be secured and who would be responsible for their erection before we make a decision. **Action continues.**

ACTION 17/81/1 – Cllr. Allen to draw up a plan of the park. **Action continues.**

ACTION 17/81/2 – The Clerk agreed to contact Adam Reynolds regarding the feasibility of putting a pedestrian entrance into the corner of the park opposite Quat Goose Lane. He had written to Mr. Reynolds but had not received a reply. **Action continues.**

ACTION 17/90/1 – The Clerk was asked to respond to the Amey winter preparations questionnaire. This had been done.

ACTION 17/106/1 – Cllr. Wells agreed to prepare an outline of the pros and cons involved in the production of a Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr. Wells presented a document to the Council. It was **RESOLVED** that due to a lack of both money and councillor time the Council would not pursue the production of a Neighbourhood Plan. It might be appropriate to review this decision in a couple of years time in case the circumstances had changed.

ACTION 17/111/1 – The Clerk to report to CBC Enforcement yet again the matter of cars parked behind Next by the car dealerships. **Action continues.**

ACTION 17/111/2 – The Clerk to write to the occupier of a house in Rivelands Road with a particular hedge problem. **Action continues.**

ACTION 17/111/3 – The Clerk to contact Network Rail regarding the poor state of the railway bridge on Swindon Road. Cllrs. Clucas had taken this matter up with Network Rail. The vegetation had been cut back. Action discontinued.

17/117 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The Council **RESOLVED** to give a donation of £80 to the Royal British Legion poppy appeal.

The Council agreed the payments shown in appendix 1.

17/118 PLANNING AND LICENSING

The following planning applications had been received.

- 17/01310/FUL – Construction of car park and access ramp C D Bramel Van Centre Manor Road. The Council **RESOLVED** to submit the objections prepared by Cllr. Allen.

No licensing applications had been received.

17/119 NEW DRAFT STANDING ORDERS

The Clerk had distributed revised draft Standing Orders. The Standing Orders were based on a model text provided by NALC. The internal auditor had observed that the Swindon Parish Council document contained typographical

errors (mainly in inter-section references) and that where the model text offered more than one option a specific option had not been chosen. The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the revised document.

17/120 TRAINING

The Clerk had distributed details of GAPTC-sponsored training opportunities. The Council had set aside a budget of £300 for training. Cllr. Simpson said that as Vice-Chairman he felt the chairmanship course would be of benefit. The Council **RESOLVED** to sanction Cllr. Simpson's attendance.

As a new councillor Stuart Deakin should be offered the opportunity to attend a councillor training course.

17/121 EXTERNAL AUDIT

The Clerk advised the Council that the external audit process had been completed. No observations had been raised. The notice advising the public of the completion of the audit had been placed on the main noticeboard and on the web site.

17/122 REPORTS

Cllr. Clucas had provided a report which was read by Cllr. Allen.

Cllr. Fisher reported that GCC would be able to construct a footpath around the Halfords Autocentre. The pavement along Manor Road had also been repaired which should alleviate the flooding problem.

The Elms Park consortium had stated that they would not be able to complete the proposed new senior school in phase 1 of the development as planned. Planning permission would be dependent on the school being built and there were no spare places at other schools to absorb the additional numbers.

Cllr. Wells reported that at the resumed JCS planning inquiry the JCS Transport Strategy had been called into question as it did not offer a sustainable way forward.

The meeting closed at 10:10pm.

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| Signed: | Date: |
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APPENDIX 1 – LIST OF PAYMENTS

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Sub-Total</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Cheque Number</u> |
|---|------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Clerk | | | |
| Salary (ref 1718-029) | £397.34 | | |
| • Expenses (ref 1718-029) | £32.00 | | |
| • Cost of web hosting (July) (ref 1718-022) | £3.59 | | |
| • Cost of web hosting (August) (ref 1718-028) | £3.59 | | |
| • Purchase of card for David Iliffe (ref 1718-024) | £2.99 | | |
| • Purchase of A1 print for review of planning application (ref 1718-027) | £3.00 | | |
| | | £442.51 | 1016 |
| Cotswold District Council for printing of September Village News (ref 1718-033) | | £189.71 | 1017 |
| CommuniCorp printing of Freeman scrolls (ref 1718-031) | | £88.56 | 1018 |
| Cleeve Picture Framing for framing of scrolls (ref 1718-32) | | £70.65 | 1019 |
| Grant Thornton UK LLP cost of external audit (ref 1718-035) | | £120.00 | 1020 |
| Karen Evans for collecting the September edition of the Village News (ref 1718-034) | | £17.55 | 1021 |
| Royal British Legion grant to annual appeal (ref 1718-038) | | £80.00 | 1022 |