

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8th JUNE 2021 AT 7:30PM

Parish Councillors Present:

Peter Allen (Chairman)
Sharon Collicutt

Helen Wells
Lisa Whitaker

Also Present:

Shaun Cullimore (Clerk), County and Borough Councillor Bernard Fisher and two members of the public.

21/95 APOLOGIES

Cllr. Cornish, Borough Councillor Clucas.

21/96 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

21/97 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC SESSION

Two members of the public were present, both considering joining the council. This matter was on the agenda.

21/98 CONSIDERATION OF CO-OPTION

Natalie Blankley and Yolande Booyse were unanimously co-opted to the Council.

21/99 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of 11th May 2021 as a true record.

21/100 MATTERS ARISING

ACTION 20/215/1 – Cllr. Cornish to write a report of the working methods meeting.

Action continues.

ACTION 21/42/1 – Clerk to summarise the findings of the solicitor for the Council. The Clerk was waiting for the invoice and final report from the solicitor. **Action continues.**

ACTION 21/49/1 – The Clerk to enquire about getting the two rights of way onto the definitive map. **Action continues.**

ACTION 21/83/1 – Clerk to invite Craig Hemphill to a Parish Council meeting. We would like to discuss our objections to the Swindon Farm development; our Local Green Space and how to use, protect and maintain it; the government's planning reforms. The Clerk had written to Craig and was awaiting a response. Action complete.

21/101 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The Council **RESOLVED** to make the payments shown in appendix 1.

21/102 PLANNING AND LICENSING

- 21/00885/FUL – Proposed porch and garage conversion 47 Glynbridge Gardens.

The Council **RESOLVED** to make no objection.

There were no licensing applications to be considered.

21/103 REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S STANDING ORDERS

The Clerk had recently distributed a revised draft. Discussion was deferred.

21/104 REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The Clerk had recently distributed a revised draft. Discussion was deferred.

21/105 REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S CODE OF MEMBERS' CONDUCT

The Clerk reported that activity was taking place at national level to produce a new model Code of Conduct. The five parishes of Cheltenham had all adopted a Code suggested by the Borough Council. At the Clerk's recommendation and in the interest of commonality the Council **RESOLVED** to continue to use the existing Code until the Borough Council adopts a new one.

21/106 COUNCIL RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Nothing to report.

21/107 EMERGENCY PLANNING

Deferred.

21/108 VILLAGE HALL

Nothing to report.

21/109 COUNCIL WORKING METHODS

Deferred.

21/110 WAR MEMORIAL

The Council had reviewed the quote from O'Hare Stone Conservation for cleaning the war memorial. It was specialised work and the quote appeared reasonable in terms of an hourly rate. The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the quote.

21/111 FOOTPATH BY THE GYM

Cllr. Fisher reported that Gloucestershire Highways would be investigating the underground services, wall footings, etc. Cllr. Fisher said that if funding were needed this would be a priority from his Highways Local budget.

21/112 FOOTPATH BY NEXT

Nothing further to report.

21/113 CLIMATE CHANGE

The Borough Council had received a Freedom of Information request asking (amongst other things) which, if any, of the Cheltenham parishes had declared a climate emergency. The Borough Council had suggested that the originator approach the parishes directly. To date nothing further had been heard.

Members felt strongly that the Council should consider climate change. There were things that the Council could do and also recommendations that it could make to residents. It was agreed that an initial plan of action should be formulated.

NEW ACTION 21/113/1 – Cllrs. Whitaker and Booyse to draft an initial plan of action for the Council in respect of the climate change emergency.

21/114 REPORTS

Cllr. Fisher reported that he and Cllr. Clucas were looking into ways to best protect the Local Green Space. It might be possible to create a trust.

Members confirmed that they would like to see some of our roads included in the “20 is Plenty” initiative.

In March the Clerk had reported the location of the gates stolen from the entrance to Dog Bark Lane to the County Council. By the time the County Council investigated there was no longer any trace of the gates. The County Council’s attitude to this was extremely casual, suggesting that the gates had been unnecessary anyway. The Clerk and Cllr. Fisher had protested strongly and the matter is under investigation.

It was noted that travellers were in the area.

Cllr. Allen reported that maximum sewage storage levels at Wingmoor Farm had been exceeded and had resulted in a risk of seepage into the River Swillgate. The matter was being monitored closely.

The meeting closed at 10:10pm.

Signed:	Date:
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APPENDIX 1 – LIST OF PAYMENTS

Description	Cheque	Amount
Karen Evans reimbursement for collecting the printed Village News from Cirencester (ref 2122-018)	1157	£17.55
CPRE membership for 2021-2022 (ref 2122-015)	1158	£40.00
Printing Village News (ref 2122-017)	1159	£203.21
Clerk salary and expenses for May (ref 2122-011, 012, 014, 016, 019)	1160	£482.97