

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 28<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 7:30PM  
IN SWINDON VILLAGE HALL

Parish Councillors Present:

James Cornish (Chair)  
Natalie Blankley  
Sharon Collicutt

Helen Wells  
Lisa Whitaker

Also Present:

County and Borough Councillor Bernard Fisher.

**22/149 APOLOGIES**

Alison Berry, Shaun Cullimore (Clerk) and Borough Councillor Flo Clucas.

**22/150 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**22/151 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC SESSION**

No members of the public were present.

**22/152 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

In the minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> August 2022 (section 22/141 action 22/110/1) "car park" should have read "play park". With that change the Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> August 2022 as a true record.

**22/153 MATTERS ARISING**

ACTION 22/95/1 – Cllr. Cornish to produce a business plan for the resolution of the issue of the purchase or rental of the village hall car park. Action continues, but see item 22/146 in the minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

ACTION 22/110/1 – The Clerk to contact the Borough Council to state our position in respect of the play park, to request evidence that the play area is safe, to seek evidence of recent safety inspections and to request that the Parish Council has a presence at the next inspection. The play area has now been resurfaced. Action discontinued.

ACTION 22/113/1 – The Clerk to ask representatives of the M5 Junction 10 team to attend a Parish Council meeting. Action discontinued.

ACTION 22/115/1 – Cllr. Cornish to source a laptop and a conference speaker. A conference speaker had been purchased. Action continues in respect of the laptop. Dell will not accept payment by cheque. Cllr. Cornish suggested the purchase is made with a personal credit card and subsequently reimbursed.

ACTION 22/116/1 – The Clerk to progress "out of hours" training. GAPTC have been approached and have promised to come up with something. Action continues.

ACTION 22/119/2 – The Clerk to approach John Heathcott to ask him his view of our

footpaths. The Clerk had been in touch with John. He had confirmed that many of our paths are badly overgrown and that action from GCC Rights of Way is unlikely. Members also noted that the track at the back of seasons is virtually impassable. Cllr. Wells would speak with Hilary Grace at GCC Public Rights of Way about getting these paths cleared. Action continues.

ACTION 22/119/4 – Cllr. Collicutt to pursue funding opportunities with local businesses. Cllr. We were going to seek funding for the purchase of the car park and the resurfacing of the play area. However, CBC have completed the works on the play area and grant funding is available for the car park. Action discontinued.

ACTION 22/119/5 – The Clerk to ask the Borough Council to get the recycling bins emptied more frequently. Noted that there had been talk of the bins being removed but that had not happened. Action continues.

ACTION 22/126/5 – Clerk to set up an email address 'planning@swindonparish.org.uk' to collect comments from residents. The email address has been set up. Action complete. The Clerk needs guidance as to how it is intended to be used. At the moment emails sent to the address are forwarded to Cllr. Cornish.

ACTION 22/136/1 – Clerk to obtain schedule of footpath maintenance from GCC. Action continues.

ACTION 22/136/2 – Clerk to set up a Parish Council email address for Cllr. Blankley. Action complete.

ACTION 22/145/1 – The Clerk to draft a response to the Home Farm pre-application consultation, send it to members for review and submit the agreed position. Action complete.

ACTION 22/145/2 – The Clerk to invite John Rowley (CBC officer) to a meeting to discuss Local Green Space. Cllr. Clucas has forwarded our request to appropriate officers within the planning department. Action complete.

ACTION 22/147/1 – Clerk to notify the appropriate authorities that Cllr. Berry is our flood warden. Helen Down (CBC) is aware. Action complete.

#### **22/154 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the payments shown in Appendix 1.

#### **22/155 PLANNING AND LICENSING**

- 22/01625/FUL – Extension at 19 Drayton Close. The Council **RESOLVED** to make no objection.

There were no licensing matters to consider.

#### **22/156 VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK**

Cllrs. Cornish and Berry have continued discussions with Cheltenham Borough Council. Cllr. Cornish will put our proposal in a letter. We have agreed a purchase price of £30k providing the car park is "made good" prior to the purchase. Second entrance costs will be carried out by us using funds that may be available from Shire Hall. The Council

noted that application for the Build Back Better funding would need to be made by Spring 2023. If CBC do not agree to resurfacing the car park it will be too expensive to buy.

**22/157 FREEMAN AWARD**

The Clerk had organised the framing of the scrolls and they were shown to members. It is hoped that a presentation can be made week commencing either the 17<sup>th</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup> October.

**22/158 PARISH/BOROUGH BOUNDARY REVIEW**

Cllr. Cornish showed members a map with the current boundaries. Changes to the boundaries are being considered and will be discussed at the C5 meeting.

**22/159 "WARM SPACES" INITIATIVE**

Cllr. Whitaker has researched ways in which we might support the "Warm Spaces" initiative and produced a proposal. The bar area of the Village Hall would make a good space, perhaps with the addition of comfortable chairs. It might be possible to show films. Borough Council funding might be available to support this. Members **RESOLVED** an initial funding limit of £1000 to support this activity if it goes ahead.

**22/160 LOCAL GREEN SPACE**

The Clerk (in conjunction with Cllrs. Clucas and Wells) is trying to arrange a meeting with CBC representatives.

**22/161 ASSET REGISTER**

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Asset Register.

**22/162 ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL**

The Council **RESOLVED** to make a grant of £100 to the above.

**22/163 REPORTS**

Cllr. Wells led a litter pick on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September, meeting at the Cross Hands. Four volunteers had collected five bags but they couldn't be left in the pub bins as they were not clear plastic. The Council needs to obtain some heavy duty clear bags for future litter picks in that area.

Cllr. Wells reported the blocked drain near the pub on Hayden Lane via Fix My Street. Cllr. Fisher stated that this has been an ongoing problem that never seems to get sorted.

Cllr. Fisher reported on a meeting with the Atkins Project Manager for M5 Junction 10. He wants the junction to be totally closed for the duration of the alterations. Cllr. Cornish objected to this. It will take up to two years to complete the work.

Cllr. Fisher stated that Craig Hemphill's departure from CBC has resulted in staffing problems which could adversely affect Elms Park.

Cllr. Whitaker attended last week's meeting of Gloucestershire Rural Community Council to hear an interesting talk on community action with regards to, for example, road safety. Cllr. Wells stated that we have already asked for '20 is plenty' in the past, and will ask the Clerk to have a look for the letters on this subject sent previously.

Unconfirmed Minutes of Swindon Parish Council 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Cllr. Cornish reported that City Fibre has not been granted licence to continue with the work around the Parish. He will follow this up. Cllr. Cornish also said that he had received a request from another company asking to put fibre cables in his area which would not require digging up the road.

Cllr. Cornish invited members to a C5 meeting at 10:00am on 12th November where key speakers will give talks.

The meeting closed at 9:43pm.

Signed:	Date:
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**APPENDIX 1 – APPROVED PAYMENTS**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Cheque</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Gallagher Insurance <i>(ref 2223-027) SIGNED IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING</i>	1216	£418.37
Clerk salary and expenses for August <i>(ref 2223-036, 037, 038)</i>	1217	£485.24
Karen Evans collecting Sept Village News <i>(ref 2223-039)</i>	1218	£17.55
Cleeve Picture Framing <i>(ref 2223-041)</i>	1219	£129.36
Cotswold District Council printing September Village News <i>(ref 2223-040)</i>	1220	£254.65
Prinsegate for valuation of car park – original cheque (1215) was not received and has been stopped <i>(ref 2223-028)</i>	1221	£900.00
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal grant <i>(ref 2223-046)</i>	1222	£100.00