

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10th OCTOBER 2022 AT 7:30PM
IN SWINDON VILLAGE HALL

Parish Councillors Present:

James Cornish (Chair)

Alison Berry

Natalie Blankley

Sharon Collicutt

Helen Wells

Lisa Whitaker

Also Present:

Shaun Cullimore (Clerk), Borough Councillor Flo Clucas

22/164 APOLOGIES

None.

22/165 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

22/166 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public were present.

22/167 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of 28th September 2022 as a true record.

22/168 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 8th August 2022 item 22/172 herein.

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 are now offering the “Being a Better Councillor” course on 24th November and 8th December. Cllrs. Berry, Blankley and Collicutt are interested in attending. Action complete.

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 had contacted Hilary Grace at GCC Public Rights of Way about getting these paths cleared. No response had been received. Action continues.

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. Cllr. Clucas agreed to progress the issue if the Clerk advised her of our concerns. Action continues.

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

22/169 FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

22/170 REPORT FROM CLLR. CLUCAS

It has been reported that the continued flooding of Hayden Lane is due to broadband/telephone fibre optic cables being routed through the drain pipes, thereby restricting their water carrying capacity. Cllr. Cornish said that if the necessary remedial action cannot be completed quickly he would like to see the road fully reinstated as the cones narrowing the road make it dangerous.

The Mary Godwin Pavilion needs refurbishing/redecorating. The Parish Council was unsure who owned the pavilion and therefore whose responsibility this will be.

NEW ACTION 22/170/1 – Cllrs. Collicutt and Clucas to find out who owns the Mary Godwin Pavilion and the contractual relationship between the play group (a charitable trust) and the owner.

Cllr. Clucas described the wider “warm spaces” initiative and the important role that Sarah Avery is playing in promoting the scheme. We have been considering using the bar area of the Village Hall. The Cross Hands pub might be a more practical alternative venue.

NEW ACTION 22/170/2 – Cllr. Cornish to contact the Cross Hands to see if they would be able to host a “warm space”.

Cllr, Clucas had to leave the meeting at this point.

22/171 PLANNING AND LICENSING

There were no planning or licensing applications to consider.

Cllr. Cornish would like to meet with the Elms Park developers prior to the full planning application being submitted.

NEW ACTION 22/171/1 – Cllr. Cornish to request a meeting with the Elms Park development team.

We have not received a response from the Borough Council planners to our request to meet with them to discuss Local Green Space. Cllr. Cornish agreed to escalate this in association with Cllr. Clucas.

NEW ACTION 22/171/2 – Cllr. Cornish to escalate our request for a meeting with the CBC planners to discuss Elms Park/Local Green Space.

22/172 VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

Cllrs. Cornish said that he would finish drafting our proposal at the weekend and share it with members prior to it being submitted to Cheltenham Borough Council.

22/173 RECRUITING NEW COUNCILLORS

A number of complimentary approaches were discussed. Cllr. Collicutt knows someone who might be a good candidate. Cllr. Whitaker suggested that we look at the projects we are attempting to progress and target our recruitment efforts at the specific skills needed.

NEW ACTION 22/173/1 – Cllr. Berry to produce a brief article with photos of the team.

NEW ACTION 22/173/2 – All members to provide a profile picture and a brief bio to Cllr. Berry.

22/174 “WARM SPACES” INITIATIVE

It was recognised that the recruitment of volunteers to support this initiative would be key. Initial thoughts were that we would use the bar area of the Village Hall every other week. The Clerk suggested that the Cross Hands pub might be able to provide a more suitable venue.

NEW ACTION 22/174/1 – Cllr. Cornish to approach the Cross Hands to assess the practicality of hosting a warm space.

22/175 C5 NETWORKING EVENT

The event will take place on 12th November 2022 at the Civil Service Club, Tewkesbury Road. Each council is being asked to contribute £55 towards the cost (and the members **RESOLVED** to do this).

All members are invited and are requested to sign up (see email invitation).

22/176 FOOTPATH MAINTENANCE

This topic had been discussed under matters arising above.

22/177 FREEMAN AWARD

It was agreed that we would aim for the evening of 1st December for a meal and the presentation. Cllr. Berry agreed to co-ordinate numbers and menu choices for the meal. Cllr. Cornish would contact Peter Allen.

22/178 PARISH/BOROUGH BOUNDARY REVIEW

Nothing further to report at this stage.

22/179 REPORTS

Cllr. Whitaker had attended a Road Safety event organised by GRCC.

Cllr. Wells stated that the next litter picks would be on 23rd October (meeting at the Village Hall and lead by Cllr. Wells) and 27th November (meeting at the Cross Hands and lead by Cllr. Berry).

At the request of a ladies' football team the Village Hall is opening for teas and coffees on Sunday morning.

Cllr. Cornish said that a road scheme is under consideration that would alter M5 Junction 9 and provide a link road to the vicinity of Junction 10.

The meeting closed at 9:48pm.

Signed:	Date:
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APPENDIX 1 – APPROVED PAYMENTS

Description	Cheque	Amount
Clerk salary and expenses for September (ref 2223-042, 043, 044, 045, 047)	1223	£485.24
Karen Evans collecting October Village News (ref 2223-048)	1224	£17.55
Cotswold District Council printing October Village News (ref 2223-040)	1225	£221.92