

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12th DECEMBER 2022 AT 7:30PM
IN SWINDON VILLAGE HALL

Parish Councillors Present:

Natalie Blankley

Alison Berry

Sharon Collicutt

Helen Wells

Also Present:

Shaun Cullimore (Clerk),

22/197 APOLOGIES

James Cornish, Lisa Whitaker, Borough Councillor Flo Clucas, County and Borough Councillor Bernard Fisher.

22/198 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Council the meeting elected Cllr. Wells to chair the meeting.

22/199 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

22/200 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public were present.

22/201 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of 14th November 2022 as a true record.

22/202 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.

ACTION 22/115/1 – Cllr. Cornish to source a laptop and a conference speaker. The conference speaker had been purchased previously. Cllr. Cornish had now purchased the laptop and would be reimbursed under this meeting's payments. 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. Cllr. Collicutt had spoken with Barry Simon. Barry had offered to talk to John and to walk the footpaths and report back. The Clerk agreed to provide a map of the footpaths. Action complete.

ACTION 22/136/1 – Clerk to obtain schedule of footpath maintenance from GCC. Cllr. Wells agreed to write to Hilary Grace thanking her for her action in respect of the bridleways and also asking for the schedule. Action complete.

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. Collicutt had met with the play group leader, who had promised to supply a list of issues. However, in recent conversation with the play group leader Cllr. Collicutt had been told that the necessary matters were in hand. Action closed on the

basis that no further action is required of the Council.

ACTION 22/170/2 – Cllr. Cornish to contact the Cross Hands to see if they would be able to host a “warm space”. Cllr. Cornish had not been able to get a response from the venue manager. Action discontinued.

ACTION 22/171/1 – Cllr. Cornish to request a meeting with the Elms Park development team. A provisional date of 9th January 2023 had been set. Action complete.

ACTION 22/171/2 – Cllr. Cornish to escalate our request for a meeting with the CBC planners to discuss Elms Park/Local Green Space. Cllr. Wells agreed to pursue this. Action continues.

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

ACTION 22/191/1 – Clerk to distribute the Project Proposal template for task leaders to use. Action continues.

ACTION 22/191/2 – Task leaders to complete a Project Proposal for each of their tasks. Action continues.

ACTION 22/194/1 – Cllr. Berry to contact the local police regarding the problem of drug use within the parish. Action continues.

ACTION 22/195/1 – Cllr. Whitaker to draft a response to the Mini-Holland scheme. Action continues.

ACTION 22/196/1 – Cllr. Wells to draft a proposal for improved planning measures to C5. Action continues.

22/203 FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

22/204 BUDGET FOR 2023-2024

The Clerk had supplied members with a draft budget dated 30th November 2022.

It was noted that advertising income had dropped dramatically with the onslaught of the Covid pandemic. It was suggested that advertisers be offered two free months.

Members decided that the sundial in the park had declined to the point where refurbishment would not be economically practical. Money would be used for a new initiative (e.g. sustainability or in celebration of the coronation).

Members thought it would be good to have four competitions advertised in the Village News and spread throughout the year. A prize of £25 would be offered for each. Perhaps the themes could be “Spring”, “the Coronation” (relevant photographs or perhaps making a crown or other relevant object), “Halloween” and “Christmas”.

It was agreed that we should set the date for the Annual Parish Meeting early to allow maximum publicity. 9th March 2023 was suggested subject to availability of the hall.

Cllr. Whittaker had suggested via email a budget of £150 - £200 to provide refreshments at the Annual Parish Meeting and a budget of £200 for printing/publicity in support of Climate Change Policy.

It was agreed that the M5 J10 team could be invited to the Annual Parish Meeting.

Other possible topics included Elms Park, Village Hall, what locals want, the Coronation, meet your councillors.

22/205 VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

If we are not going to purchase the car park then we should consider how we could utilise the available grant money.

NEW ACTION 22/205/1 – Clerk to contact Cllr. Fisher with regard to the deadline for a grant application and possible use of the money to upgrade the park.

22/206 REPORTS

Members are concerned that the tree works associated with the development at Manor Farm have included felling of trees outside the boundary of the development (i.e. on Parish Council land).

For security residents wished to trim trees/bushes at the rear of properties in Manor Court backing onto the Amenity Area. The Council had no objection to this, however planning consent would be needed to remove major limbs of trees.

The meeting closed at 9:30pm.

Signed:	Date:
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APPENDIX 1 – APPROVED PAYMENTS

Description	Amount
Clerk salary and expenses for November (ref 2223-058, 060, 062, 063)	£529.45
Karen Evans collecting December Village News (ref 2223-064)	£17.55
James Cornish reimbursement for purchase of laptop (ref 2223-065)	£825.64
Alison Berry reimbursement for Christmas meal (ref 2223-067)	£50.00

The Clerk had set up the payments to be made by bank transfer. Cllrs. Wells and Whitaker were delegated to approve the payments.