

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2014  
IN SWINDON VILLAGE HALL

Councillors Present:

Peter Allen (Chairman)	David Iliffe
Glenn Simpson	Shannon Kerr
John Conmee	Arran Stibbe
Frances Hunter	Helen Wells

Also Present:

Shaun Cullimore (Clerk)

Hester Hunt (Gloucestershire County Council), Hannah Wright (Cheltenham Borough Council)

**14/109 APOLOGIES**

Cllr. Bernard Fisher, PC Amy Limbrick

**14/110 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**14/111 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC SESSION**

Car dealers trading from Highways land continues to be a problem. Cllr. Allen thought that dealers had to apply for a licence for each individual car. Ms. Wright agreed to check.

Cllr. Allen stated that the lack of strategic traffic management (or lack of) was a major concern. The JCS does not address it. Tewkesbury Road and Princess Elizabeth Way are already very busy. New developments will make matters worse and the proposed Park and Ride might be good for the town centre but would bring more cars to this area.

Cllrs. Conmee, Hunter and Simpson arrived at this point of the meeting.

Ms. Hunt suggested that the Parish Council prioritise their issues, perhaps in a Parish Plan, and also engage with County Councillor Fisher (who has Highways Local funding). Ms. Hunt said that the County Council was under huge financial pressure and that there was only funding to maintain existing highways and address safety issues.

Ms. Wright suggested the Council should get involved in the preparation of the Cheltenham Local Plan, and/or prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr. Allen stated that Neighbourhood Plans seemed to be about identifying land for development and that local residents should have the opportunity to comment on traffic policies.

It was suggested that a separate footpath was needed over the rail bridge in

Swindon Road. Ms. Hunt suggested the Parish Council contact Network Rail but said that she would raise the matter with Cllr. Fisher and Chris Riley (Highways).

It was agreed that it would be worthwhile representatives of the Parish Council meeting with planners from the County and Borough Councils. Ms. Hunt and Ms. Wright agreed to see if this could be organised.

The Clerk was asked to contact Network Rail regarding the Swindon Road bridge and also the operation of the level crossing which causes prolonged delays.

**NEW ACTION 14/111/1 Clerk to contact Network Rail.**

In response to concerns about litter from the local food outlets Ms. Wright agreed to investigate the extent to which these shops had a duty to perform litter picks.

The Clerk was also asked to contact the food outlets requesting that they take action.

**NEW ACTION 14/111/2 Clerk to write to local food outlets requesting that they take action with regard to litter.**

It was reported that a dog had been injured by contact with pollutants in the brook. Some of the councillors had received such reports before. The brook runs through land formerly used as rubbish dumps. It was thought that from time to time chemicals leech out into the water. Pets and children should be kept out of the water.

**NEW ACTION 14/111/3 Clerk to include a piece in the Village News advising against people and pets coming into contact with the water in the brook.**

Complaints had been received about bonfires on the allotments causing a nuisance. Cllr. Allen said that the law did not prohibit bonfires outside certain times but that they should never be allowed to cause a nuisance.

**NEW ACTION 14/111/4 Clerk to see what the Allotment Tenant's Agreement says about bonfires.**

Ms. Hunt and Ms. Wright were thanks for their contribution and left the meeting.

**14/112 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Accuracy of Minutes

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2014 be accepted as a true record.**

Matters Arising

**ACTION 14/7/6** – Clerk to enquire about the apparent change of use of the “Seasons” site. The Clerk had written to the enforcement team. He had

received an acknowledgement but the answer would be delayed. **Action continues.**

ACTION 14/15/1 – Clerk to contact the Borough Council (Ubico) regarding park maintenance and clearance of drains. **Action continues.**

ACTION 14/20/6 – Clerk to approach Peter Langley (Borough Council) regarding funding towards ditch clearing in the allotments area. Peter actually works for Chris Riley at the County Council. **Action continues.**

ACTION 14/20/7 – Cllr. Wells to write a proposal for the further drainage work needed on the allotments. It was suggested that when the report is available it should be forwarded to the Borough Council. **Action continues.**

ACTION 14/67/1 – Clerk to ask GCC whether the areas in Quat Goose Lane and at the entrance to The Firs are GCC owned. **Action continues.**

ACTION 14/67/2 – Clerk to write to Borough Council regarding the fence post in the brook. **Action continues.**

ACTION 14/67/4 – Clerk to write to Borough Council enforcement regarding the cars parked behind Next. **Action continues.**

ACTION 14/96/1 – Clerk to approach the Borough Council enforcement officer with regard to the fact that the wall of Swindon Lodge had not been reinstated. The Clerk had raised this at a meeting with planning officers. They stated that the only stipulation with regard to time was that the works commence within three years of the granting of permission. Since no time had been stipulated for the completion of the works enforcement action could not be taken. Action complete.

**NEW ACTION 14/112/1 – Clerk to ask GAPTC/NALC for legal advice about what can be done.**

ACTION 14/101/1 – Clerk to request that the County Council supply two bags of road salt. The Clerk had returned the County Council's questionnaire. Action complete.

ACTION 14/106/1 – Clerk to respond to the above applications 14/01366/CACN and 14/01313/FUL. This had been done.

ACTION 14/107/1 – Clerk to ask Cllr. Vernon Smith about progress on pothole repairs. Cllr. Smith had replied that the “fix on first visit” policy was operating and was successful but he indicated that it was delivered using Highways Local funding. Action complete.

**NEW ACTION 14/112/2 – The Clerk was asked to follow up with Cllr. Fisher on the suggestions we had made for Highways Local funding and also for any news on the proposed transporter lay by in Manor Road.**

ACTION 14/107/2 – Clerk to ask for the sign outside Topps Tiles to be

removed. **Action continues.**

**14/113 POPPY WREATH**

**RESOLVED that the Council donate £50 to the Royal British Legion to fund a poppy wreath.**

**14/114 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

The Council agreed the following payments.

<u>Description</u>	<u>Sub-Total</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Cheque Number</u>
Severn Trent Water (water supply to allotments, reference [0034])		£180.78	893
Cotswold District Council (printing of Village News September edition, reference [0035])		£200.82	894
Shaun Cullimore			
Salary (reference [0031])	£333.37		
Expenses (reference [0031])	£32.00		
Purchase of 2 x printer toner cartridges (reference [0030])	£27.80		
		£393.17	895

**14/115 PLANNING AND LICENSING**

The Council had no objection to planning application 14/01566/FUL (23 Dark Lane).

**14/116 REPORTS**

Cllr. Wells stated that the hedge along Manor Road and at the entrance to the Amenity Area needed cutting back. It was agreed that this should be on the agenda of the next meeting.

Cllr. Simpson stated that there had been a spate of burglaries in the Wyman's Brook estate.

**NEW ACTION 14/116/1 – The Clerk was asked to include an item in the Village News.**

Cllr. Kerr said that he would look into the Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

Cllr. Allen said that an apparently unofficial sign for the racecourse had appeared at the Hyde Lane bridge.

**NEW ACTION 14/116/2 – The Clerk was asked to find out whether the sign was legitimate.**

Parking at the Mary Godwin Pavilion continues to be a problem when the

football pitches are in use. Also a large amount of litter gets left behind (though some teams do bag up their rubbish). It was suggested that larger capacity bins and/or a levy on users might be required.

**NEW ACTION 14/116/3 – The Clerk to liaise with Janice Peacey regarding parking and litter in the park.**

The employment of volunteers had come up under a number of topics (maintenance of the sundial, dealing with snow and ice and litter picking). The Parish Council had concerns about recruiting, training, insuring and equipping volunteers. However, it was clear from the earlier discussions with Ms. Hunt and Ms. Wright that the County and Borough Councils were both cutting services to the bone. It was agreed that we discuss the pros and cons of using volunteers at the next meeting.

**NEW ACTION 14/116/4 – The Clerk was asked to put the subject of volunteers on the agenda for the next meeting.**

**14/117 CO-OPTION TO FILL VACANCY ON THE COUNCIL**

No candidates had been identified.

The meeting closed at 9:35pm.

Signed:	Date:
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