

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14th OCTOBER 2014
IN SWINDON VILLAGE HALL

Councillors Present:

Peter Allen (Chairman)
Glenn Simpson
John Conmee

David Iliffe
Shannon Kerr
Arran Stibbe

Also Present:

Shaun Cullimore (Clerk)

14/118 APOLOGIES

Frances Hunter, Helen Wells

14/119 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Simpson declared an interest in planning application 14/01727/FUL (see item 14/126 below).

14/120 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC SESSION

Seven residents of Manor Court were present to state their objections to planning application 14/01823/FUL, a proposed housing development at Manor Farm.

Residents thought that they had not been adequately kept informed. The Clerk had referred to the plans in the Village News and notices were published on the noticeboards. Formally it was up to the Borough Council (as planning authority) to publicise applications.

A resident expressed concern that there were no comments on the application from the Parish Council. Cllr. Allen stated that the Council would be considering the application in this meeting and that comments would be submitted before the deadline of 28th October.

Some of the residents thought that access to the development was to be via Manor Court; this was not what was shown on the plans.

In summary, residents' objections to the development were:

- Highway safety would be an issue with access shared between pedestrians and vehicles and vehicles emerging onto Church Road
- The buildings are so high that they will result in a loss of light and privacy (with dormer windows even the bungalows are effectively two storey)
- There will be additional noise in a (currently) tranquil area
- The importance of the field in terms of the Conservation Area is described in the "Swindon Village Conservation Area Character appraisal and management plan" (the formal definition and description the Conservation Area)
- The field contains three badger setts

- The plans represent over development of the site with insufficient parking spaces for the proposed dwellings

A resident reported that one of the architects said there would be no windows in the walls of the new properties that faced Manor Court. The plans did not support this.

Changing topic, a resident complained about the continuing inconvenience and danger caused by car transporters unloading cars the dealerships. Cllr. Allen replied stating that the Parish Council had been actively pursuing this matter for a long time. Borough Councillor Bernard Fisher was to meet with Chris Riley, Highways Manager for Gloucestershire County Council. It was anticipated that we might be closer to a solution.

14/121 PRESENTATION ON LOCAL GREEN SPACES

Elin Tattersall of GRCC was present to discuss Local Green Spaces. GRCC had been commissioned by Cheltenham Borough Council to assist Parish Councils and Neighbourhood Co-ordination Groups wishing to prepare a case for designating areas of Local Green Space. Ms. Tattersall described the process that had to be used to identify, justify and prioritise green areas and left the Council with resources to use.

14/122 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Accuracy of Minutes

In section 14/111 seventh paragraph "...worthwhile representatives..." should read "...worthwhile for representatives...". In the last paragraph of section 14/111 "thanks" should read "thanked".

RESOLVED that, with these changes, the minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 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. The Clerk had written to Janice Peacey. Ms. Peacey will investigate the problem of litter in mowers and whether the football teams are at fault. She would also like to see local voluntary litter picks in action. The Borough Council has asked GCC to investigate the continued flooding in Church Road as this may contribute to flooding problems in the park.

ACTION 14/20/6 – Clerk to approach Peter Langley (Borough Council) regarding funding towards ditch clearing in the allotments area. The Clerk had written to Hester Hunt at the County Council.

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. The Clerk had written to Hester Hunt at the County Council.

ACTION 14/67/2 – Clerk to write to Borough Council regarding the fence post in the brook. The Clerk had reported the matter to the Borough Council.

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

ACTION 14/112/1 – Clerk to ask GAPTC/NALC for legal advice about what can be done regarding the wall of Swindon Lodge which had not been reinstated. The Clerk had written to Sue Creswell at GAPTC.

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. The Clerk had emailed Cllr. Fisher.

ACTION 14/107/2 – Clerk to ask for the sign outside Topps Tiles to be removed. The Clerk thought the sign had gone but Cllr. Allen said that it was still there. **Action continues.**

ACTION 14/111/1 – Clerk to contact Network Rail regarding the difficult passage for pedestrians across Swindon Road rail bridge and also the operating procedures for the level crossing. The Clerk had raised a service request (141014-000126) and would be contacted by Network Rail in due course.

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

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. It is in the draft to be submitted.

NEW ACTION 14/122/1 – Clerk to ask Cheltenham Borough Council if they monitor the quality of the water in the brook. If they do, how many instances of pollution had there been?

ACTION 14/111/4 – Clerk to see what the Allotment Tenant's Agreement says about bonfires. Paragraph 32 states that bonfires can only be lit at least 2 hours before sunset, the weather conditions must be suitable and the fire must be supervised. The Clerk had spoken to Ian Brown (Allotments Manager) who had had a word with some of the tenants.

ACTION 14/116/1 – Clerk to include an item in the Village News regarding the spate of burglaries in the Wyman's Brook estate. It is in the draft to be submitted.

ACTION 14/116/2 – Clerk to establish whether the sign for the racecourse

that had appeared at the Hyde Lane bridge was legitimate. **Action continues.**

ACTION 14/116/3 – The Clerk to liaise with Janice Peacey regarding parking and litter in the park. The Clerk had written to Janice. Ms. Peacey did not feel that parked cars overlapping the footpath was a great problem as pedestrians still had room to walk round. Regarding the litter see 14/15/1.

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

14/123 MAINTENANCE OF AMENITY AREA

NEW ACTION 14/123/1 – The Clerk was asked to get three quotes for cutting back the trees and undergrowth in the Amenity Area.

14/124 USE OF VOLUNTEERS

This matter was deferred to the next meeting when it is hoped Cllr. Wells will be present.

14/125 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The Council agreed the following payments.

<u>Description</u>	<u>Sub-Total</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Cheque Number</u>
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal (signed prior to meeting)		£50.00	896
Cotswold District Council (printing of Village News October edition)		£202.35	897
Clerk			
Salary	£333.37		
Expenses	£32.00		
Purchase of 12 x first class stamps	£7.44		
		£372.81	898

The Council's spend versus budget for the first six months of the year was circulated.

14/126 PLANNING AND LICENSING

The following planning applications were considered.

14/01823/FUL

Proposed development at Manor Farm. It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council would support the residents' objections.

NEW ACTION 14/126/1 – Clerk to draft a statement of objection to planning

application 14/01823/FUL for the Council to consider.

14/01727/FUL

Cllr. Simpson, as the applicant, withdrew from the debate. The Council had no objection to the proposals.

14/127 REPORTS

Cllr. Kerr felt that the Council should consider news ways with which to engage with the community. It is important that we engage people in ways that suit them. Email lists were suggested. The Clerk said that this would be possible once the web site was updated.

Cllr. Simpson reported that tractors had made a number of load carrying journeys along Rivelands Road leaving a trail of clay soil on the road. He had reported the matter to the Police (incident number 180), the County Council (reference 4200-9034) and Severn Trent (reference number 200-186-9196). The registration numbers of the tractors were VX58EFJ, VX08KHZ, VX14AXW, VX11GHF and FJ60AGV.

14/128 SUBSCRIPTION TO CPALC

The Clerk asked the Council to authorise membership of CPALC (Communities, Parish and Local Councils). This is a web site with guides to best practice for councils. The cost is currently £18.95 per annum.

RESOLVED that the Clerk take out a subscription to CPALC.

The meeting closed at 10:25pm.

Signed:	Date:
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