

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13th DECEMBER 2016
IN SWINDON VILLAGE HALL

Parish Councillors Present:

Peter Allen (Chairman)
Glenn Simpson (ViceChairman)
John Conmee

Frances Hunter
Helen Wells

Also Present:

Shaun Cullimore (Clerk)

16/144 APOLOGIES

David Iliffe, Stuart Deakin.

16/145 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

16/146 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public were present.

16/147 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Accuracy of Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of 8th November 2016 be accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising

ACTION 15/122/1 – The Clerk to make enquiries about possible sightings for a noticeboard and to obtain quotes. **Continues.**

ACTION 16/95/1 – The Clerk to write to “Seasons” asking if permission for the sign had been sought. **Continues.**

ACTION 16/95/4 – The Clerk to invite the GCC Local Highways Manager Rob Vale (Chris Riley's replacement) to a meeting. The Clerk had sent an email to Mr. Vale but had not yet received a reply. **Continues.**

ACTION 16/99/1 - Cllr. Fisher agreed to look into the possible loan speed monitoring equipment. The Clerk would pursue this. **Continues.**

ACTION 16/103/1 – Cllr. Allen to look into pricing a repair of the mosaic. **Continues.**

ACTION 16/140/1 – The Clerk to obtain health data related to local air quality. **Continues.**

16/148 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The Council agreed the payments shown below.

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Sub-Total</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Cheque Number</u> |
|---|------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Clerk | | | |
| • Salary (ref 1617-052) | £393.38 | | |
| • Expenses (ref 1617-052) | £32.00 | | |
| • Web site hosting (ref 1617-047) | £3.30 | | |
| • Renewal of web hosting domain name (ref 1617-045) | £11.99 | | |
| • Purchase of 12 second class stamps (ref 1617-046) | £6.60 | | |
| | | £447.27 | 984 |
| | | | |
| Ian Brown - miscellaneous allotment expenses (ref 1617-049) | | £16.21 | 985 |
| | | | |
| Karen Evans - collecting December Village News (ref 1617-050) | | £17.55 | 986 |

The Clerk reported that the Allotment Manager had collected £713 in allotment rents and was pursuing the remaining debts. The allotments were fully let.

Cllr. Wells reported that the vehicle gate nearest the end of Stantons Drive had been swinging and she had temporarily secured it.

NEW ACTION 16/148/1 – Clerk to advise Ian Brown of unsecured gate.

16/149 GAPTC MEMBERSHIP

The Clerk stated that the Parish Council were long standing members of the Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils (GAPTC). GAPTC is an important source of training and advice. If the Council did not wish to continue in membership for 2017-2018 (1st April 2017 onwards) it would need to notify GAPTC by 31st December 2016. The subscription for 2017-2018 would be approximately £464. The Clerk recommended that the Council remained in membership and the Council **RESOLVED** to do so.

16/150 BUDGET AND PRECEPT

The Council had to set its budget and precept for the following year. The Clerk had prepared and circulated:

- a statement of income and expenditure for 2015-2016 up to 30th

November 2016 with projections for the rest of the year

- a draft budget based on a 1% increase in the precept

The following factors were discussed:

- The Council's ambition to improve the park including better access and better play provision for older children
- The maintenance work required by the mosaic. It was suggested that the mosaic become part of a play area. This would alleviate the problem of heavy mowers damaging the surface.
- The further tree work that will be required in the Amenity Area.
- The uncertainty over the resources required to support Elms Park/JCS discussions/actions.
- The possibility that future precept increases may be capped.

In light of the above the Clerk was asked to prepare a budget based on a 2% increase in precept.

NEW ACTION 16/150/1 – Clerk to prepare a draft budget based on a 2% increase in the precept.

16/151 PLANNING AND LICENSING

16/02151/FUL

Single storey rear extension 37 Riverview Way. Cllr. Allen had not received the drawings.

NEW ACTION 16/151/1 – The Clerk to enquire why the Borough Council had not been supplying drawings for recent applications.

Elms Park

The promised input had not been received from Harris Ethical.

NEW ACTION 16/151/2 – The Clerk to lodge a “holding” response with the Borough Council and state that a full response was in preparation.

There were no licensing matters for the Council to consider.

16/152 JOINT CORE STRATEGY

The Council was awaiting further news.

NEW ACTION 16/152/1 – The Clerk to write to Ian Kemp for an update on future activities and to ask if the Transport input had been received.

16/153 CHELTENHAM LOCAL PLAN

The Council were pleased to see that Cheltenham Borough Council had included in the draft Local Plan the Local Green Space area that had been the subject of a concerted campaign.

NEW ACTION 16/153/1 – The Clerk to write to Cheltenham Borough Council to ask about the future of this land (e.g. ownership, maintenance, uses).

NEW ACTION 16/153/2 – The Clerk to write to GAPTC about how best to protect this land into the future.

16/154 ENHANCEMENTS TO THE PARK

Cllrs. Allen and Wells had met with Gary Stacey (GRCC). The document that Cllr. Wells had prepared described the “current” status of the parish; a document describing our aspirations would be produced next. Mr. Stacey had produced a mind map as a starting point. All councillors were asked to submit comments on this document to the Clerk for incorporation.

NEW ACTION 16/154/1 – The Clerk to set up a meeting with Craig Hemphill (Planning Officer) to discuss our concerns regarding the Elms Park application.

16/155 TELEPHONE BOX IN RIVELANDS ROAD

The Council **RESOLVED** not to oppose the removal of the telephone box.

16/156 REPORTS

Cllr. Simpson had attended a meeting with Gloucestershire Constabulary. Roddy Gosden is now the inspector for the local area; Simon Ellson (acting inspector) has returned to his role as Sergeant. The Police were reporting a high level of public satisfaction. This was at odds with our experience of the travellers incursion. A presentation had been shown. We will try to obtain a copy.

The Council noted with regret that a burglary had taken place in Rivelands Road.

It was reported that a local farmer wanted to enlist the help of the Parish Council in getting the message across to walkers to keep to the paths and to pick up after their dogs. It was noted that this was the same farmer who had covered the roads in mud and declined to take any action to prevent it from happening or to remove it. It was agreed that we would put a message in the Village News but also ask him to meet us halfway.

NEW ACTION 16/156/1 – The Clerk to include an article in the Village News asking walkers to act responsibly.

NEW ACTION 16/156/2 – The Clerk to enquire about dog notices.

The meeting closed at 9:30pm.

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| Signed: | Date: |
|---------|-------|