

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2019  
IN SWINDON VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30PM

Parish Councillors Present:

John Conmee (Chairman)  
Yvonne Pirso

Helen Wells

Also Present:

Shaun Cullimore (Clerk), County and Borough Councillor Bernard Fisher, two members of the public.

**19/180 APOLOGIES**

Cllr. Peter Allen, Cllr. James Cornish.

**19/181 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**19/182 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC SESSION**

Two members of the public were present.

The Council was asked about the situation regarding the Local Green Space (LGS) and the Elms Park development. The planning officer reviewing the Cheltenham Local Plan had suggested that the area of the LGS should be reduced. Cllr. Wells had attended a meeting with Cheltenham Borough Council and confirmed that the Cheltenham Local Plan would include the LGS as outlined in the Joint Core Strategy (JCS). It is due to go to the Borough Council on 14<sup>th</sup> October to be approved for public consultation commencing mid November. Regarding Elms Park, the Council could give no indication when development work would start. This would require detailed planning applications which had not yet been submitted.

**19/183 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Appendix 1 (List of Payments) should have included the payment of £80 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal (cheque 1109).

Subject to this change the Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019 as a true record.

**19/184 MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr. Cornish joined the meeting via telephone conference at this point.

ACTION 19/106/1 – The Clerk to approach other local councils to firm up the requirement for evening training places. During the meeting Cllrs. Cornish and Pirso agreed that weeks commencing 4<sup>th</sup> November and 25<sup>th</sup> November would be suitable.  
**Action continues.**

ACTION 19/135/1 – The Clerk was asked to write to Cllr. Bernard Fisher to complain at the lack of action on the speed reduction initiatives. Action complete. Cllr. Fisher reported that the Highways Department was in disarray. The Area Highways Manager

had resigned. Cllr. Fisher had been told that installation of the noticeboard had not taken place because of the proximity of a gas main. A survey of traffic speeds and volumes had been done but the results had not been shared. The Parish Council was concerned that speed measurements had been taken at points that might not represent a worst case (e.g. close to a junction). Cllr. Fisher agreed to supply a list of outstanding issues he was trying to progress with the County Council. The Clerk would highlight the parish's issues to Peter Bungard, Chief Executive of Gloucestershire County Council.

ACTION 19/150/1 – Clerk to request a method statement for dealing with the asbestos present in the Vibixa site. The Planning Officer had responded to our concerns by simply quoting the relevant law. **Action continues.**

ACTION 19/164/1 – The Clerk to report the blocked gully in the car park of the Village Hall. Action completed 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 via the CBC website.

ACTION 19/166/1 – Clerk to invite Chris Mead to a Parish Council meeting. The Clerk had obtained Chris Mead's contact details and would liaise with Cllr. Allen regarding inviting Mr. Mead to a meeting. **Action continues.**

ACTION 19/169/1 – Cllr. Pirso to approach the school head teacher with a view to the school being represented at a meeting on the parking situation. **Action continues.**

ACTION 19/175/1 – Clerk to advise the Village Hall Committee of the details of our new noticeboard. The Clerk had sent details to Ben Williams. Action complete.

ACTION 19/179/1 – The Clerk was asked to inform the police that the car parks of the Village Hall and the Mary Godwin Pavilion were being used at night for drug dealing. Action complete.

ACTION 19/179/2 – The Clerk to request that the hedge at the boundary of Seasons and behind Church Road be cut back. The Clerk had written to John Murphy (Cheltenham Town Football Club). Action complete.

ACTION 19/179/3 – The Clerk to request that the hedge in Wymans Lane be cut back. The Clerk had gone to photograph the hedge but found that it had already been cut back. Action discontinued.

**19/185 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Details of all the month's payments are shown in appendix 1.

**19/186 PLANNING AND LICENSING**

The meeting didn't have any planning applications to hand, so they would be considered after the meeting.

The Village Hall Committee had submitted an application to extend the hall's license so that sporting events like the Rugby World Cup could be accommodated in the future. The Council had no objection.

**19/187 SUNDIAL MOSAIC**

Nothing to report.

**19/188 SPEED REDUCTION INITIATIVES**

See discussion under action 19/135/1 above.

**19/189 INCONSIDERATE PARKING OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL**

See action 19/169/1 above.

**19/190 NOTICEBOARD**

See action 19/135/1 above.

**19/191 CHELTENHAM LOCAL PLAN**

See the report of the public section (19/182) above.

**19/192 EMERGENCY PLANNING**

This item was deferred.

**19/193 USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA**

This item was deferred.

**19/194 RISK MANAGEMENT**

This item was deferred.

**19/195 VILLAGE HALL**

The Council noted with concern that two people had resigned from the Village Hall Committee. In future the committee intends to hold monthly trustee meetings and quarterly meetings that are open to the public. The next public meeting will work towards the production of a five year plan for the hall.

Ownership of the hall continues to be debated. A legal opinion will be needed then the hall can be registered with the Land Registry.

In the interests of better understanding and communication it was agreed that the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee should meet.

**NEW ACTION 19/195/1** – Cllr. Cornish to set up an informal meeting between the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee.

**19/196 ALLOTMENT RENTS**

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Clerk's recommendation that the rent for a half plot be increased from £25 to £27 per annum.

**19/197 BENCH FOR THE AMENITY AREA**

The Council **RESOLVED** to purchase the bench offered by Glasdon.

**NEW ACTION 19/197/1** – The Clerk to purchase the Glasdon bench.

Cllr. Wells offered to accept delivery of the bench.

**19/198 WAR MEMORIAL**

The Clerk had sought advice from Cheltenham Borough Council regarding maintenance of the war memorial. The Borough Council use specialist contractors so do not have in-house expertise. A check will need to be made whether the memorial is a listed structure.

**19/199 COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL POSITION**

The Clerk provided the Council with an update on the Council's financial position against budget at the end of the first half of the year (30<sup>th</sup> September) and a bank reconciliation for the same date.

**19/200 REPORTS**

Cllr. Wells had attended a planning seminar organised by the Borough Council and had distributed the notes.

Cllr. Cornish reported that the closure of Homebase would result in the loss of a number of local jobs.

Cllr. Fisher had asked the County Council to repair or replace the electronic traffic speed sign in Hyde Lane. The Parish Council would be interested in a portable speed sign if Cllr. Fisher could arrange it. The speed humps in Malmesbury Road should be installed before the end of the year.

The meeting closed at 9:35pm.

Signed:	Date:
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**APPENDIX 1 – LIST OF PAYMENTS**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Cheque Number</b>
Clerk salary and expenses (ref 1920-037)	£489.36	1110
Karen Evans collection of October Village News (ref 1920-038)	£17.55	1111