

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2023 AT 7:30PM  
IN SWINDON VILLAGE HALL

Parish Councillors Present:

James Cornish (Chairman)  
Natalie Blankley  
Sharon Collicutt

Helen Wells  
Lisa Whitaker

Also Present:

Shaun Cullimore (Clerk).

**23/1 APOLOGIES**

Alison Berry, Borough Councillor Flo Clucas, County and Borough Councillor Bernard Fisher.

**23/2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**23/3 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC SESSION**

No members of the public were present.

**23/4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

In section 22/202 action 22/171/1 the words "A provisional date of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 had been set. Action closed." should be replaced with "Action continues".

In section 22/204 "Whittaker" should be replaced with "Whitaker".

In section 22/206 "trtee" should be replaced with "tree".

With these changes the Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 as a true record.

**23/5 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. Action complete.

ACTION 22/171/1 – Cllr. Cornish to request a meeting with the Elms Park development team. Action continues.

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 complete.

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.

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. Action continues.

**23/6 PLANNING**

There were no outstanding planning or licensing applications.

**23/7 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

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

**23/8 BUDGET FOR 2023-2024**

The Clerk had supplied members with a revised draft budget for the meeting.

In an attempt to reinvigorate the advertising income it was agreed that advertisers should be offered four adverts when they paid for two.

**NEW ACTION 23/8/1** – Clerk to communicate the four for two advertising offer to Karren and let the local Chamber of Commerce about what we offer.

**NEW ACTION 23/8/2** – Cllr. Cornish to look at savings products that might offer better interest rates.

**NEW ACTION 23/8/3** – Cllr. Blankie to ask the school whether they would like us to publicise the food bank in the Village News and also to ask if they would welcome a donation of £1,000 to support the initiative.

Ian Brown had collected this year's rental income.

**NEW ACTION 23/8/4** – Clerk to ask Ian Brown whether there are free plots and whether a community allotment might work.

In the budget, it is now known that, following the national agreement on Local Government pay, the Clerk's salary will be higher than the figure in the "Forecast 2022-2023" column. It was **RESOLVED** that the known figure should be used.

It was **RESOLVED** that the "Digital services" budget should be increased to £500, to include Zoom and other services (e.g. cloud storage). It was **RESOLVED** that we would continue with the Zoom contract for the time being but keep it under review.

It was **RESOLVED** that the "Legal Advice for Village Hall" budget be increased to £2,000 to include legal aspects of both the Village Hall and the car park. The separate

item "Village Hall Car Park" would be removed.

With these changes the budget may be summarised as follows.

|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Projected income (other than precept) | £1,487.00  |
| Projected expenditure                 | £19,164.19 |
| New spending requirement              | £17,677.19 |
| Precept (unchanged)                   | £12,175.58 |
| Funding from reserves                 | £5,501.61  |

**NEW ACTION 23/6/5** – Clerk to communicate the precept requirement to the Borough Council.

**23/9 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

To give more time for preparation and publicity it was agreed that the date be moved from 22<sup>nd</sup> March to 26<sup>th</sup> April (provisionally, subject to the hall being available).

**NEW ACTION 23/9/1** – Cllr. Whitaker to draft an advert for the Annual Parish Meeting for the Village News.

**23/10 VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK**

It was **RESOLVED** that we would buy the car park from the Borough Council for a maximum consideration of £30,000, subject to the availability of grant money (see action 22/205/1 above).

**23/11 SUMMER EVENT**

The Council had put £1,000 in the budget to support this activity. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council would liaise with the Village Hall to come up with an agreed, joint event.

**23/12 LOCAL GREEN SPACE**

Cllr. Wells had been put in touch with Paul Instone of the Borough Council. Cllr. Wells would discuss LGS issues (including ownership, usage and maintenance) with Mr. Instone and Cllr. Fisher.

**23/13 REPORTS**

It was noted that the water meters of residents of the Manor had been rendered unreadable by the incursion of detritus from recent contractor activities in Church Road.

It was noted that fly tipping continues to be a problem. The Clerk would mention this in the Village News.

It was noted that a litter pick would be taking place on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January. The next one would be on 19<sup>th</sup> February.

It was noted that the annual Save the Countryside Walk was slated for 21<sup>st</sup> May.

The meeting closed at 9:35pm.

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

**APPENDIX 1 – APPROVED PAYMENTS**

| <b>Description</b>  | <b>Amount</b> |
|---|---------------|
| Clerk salary and expenses for December (including back pay)<br><i>(ref 2223-066, 069, 070, 073)</i> | £783.68       |
| Cotswold District Council printing December Village News<br><i>(ref 2223-071)</i>                   | £228.65       |
| Helen Wells reimbursement for purchase of rubbish sacks<br><i>(ref 2223-074)</i>                    | £6.00         |
| Ian Brown reimbursement for allotment expenses<br><i>(ref 2223-069)</i>                             | £7.24         |

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