

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 8TH JULY 2024 AT 7:30PM
IN SWINDON VILLAGE HALL

Parish Councillors Present:

Lisa Whitaker (Chair)
Lynne Allen

Sharon Collicutt

Also Present:

Shaun Cullimore (Clerk), Borough Cllr. Flo Clucas, Reverend Jacqueline Henson and Hugh Evans (Churchwarden).

24/105 APOLOGIES

Alison Berry, Natalie Blankley, James Cornish, Borough Cllrs. Frank Allen and Suzanne Williams.

24/106 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

24/107 REPORT FROM BOROUGH CLLR. CLUCAS

Cllr. Clucas said that she was happy to support the Parish Council's efforts to buy the Village Hall car park.

There had been reports of rats locally. People putting food out seems to be contributing to the problem.

Cllr. Allen's petition to the County Council in respect of road safety is now live.

A woman cyclist had been struck by a vehicle on the Swindon Road railway bridge. A meeting is being arranged with Highways and Network Rail to see what can be done to improve safety.

The hedges along Wymans Lane are growing over the pavement. The Borough Council is being asked to cut them.

Cllr. Clucas was thanked for her report and left the meeting.

24/108 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 10th June 2024 as a true record.

24/109 CLOSURE OF THE CHURCHYARD

Reverend Henson and Mr. Evans were present to discuss the future of the churchyard. There is no more room for coffin burials and it is the intention of the church to apply to close the churchyard and to pass responsibility for maintenance to the Parish Council. The law requires a minimum of three months notice to be given but the church intends to give 12 months notice to enable the Parish Council to include the churchyard in its budget.

Once responsibility is passed to the the Parish Council the Parish Council has three months to either accept the responsibility in perpetuity or to pass responsibility to the Borough Council.

Mr. Evans had been advised that, if responsibility was passed to the Borough Council, the Council would be able to levy a charge on the Swindon Village ward to cover the cost of maintenance; the cost would not be spread across all Cheltenham council tax payers.

The Parish Council would consider the implications. Reverend Henson and Mr. Evans were thanked for their attendance and left the meeting.

24/110 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public were present.

24/111 MATTERS ARISING

ACTION 23/149/1 – Cllr. Cornish to approach Bishops Cleeve, Uckington and Elmstone Hardwicke Parish Councils to consider a joint plan for the use of CIL/Section 106 monies. Action continues.

ACTION 24/11/1 – Cllr. Cornish to ask the other Parish Councils via C5 if they also suffer from planning documents being made public at times when in depth review is difficult to accommodate. Cllr. Whitaker would be attending the next C5 meeting and agreed to take up the matter. Action continues.

ACTION 24/61/1 – Clerk to commission a tree inspection in the summer. Action continues.

ACTION 24/98/1 – Clerk to enquire of Persimmon when the next meeting would be. The Clerk made enquiries. A new meeting was not scheduled but a report was received from Persimmon. Action complete.

ACTION 24/101/1 – The Clerk to get in touch with Severn Trent to discuss responsibilities and potential problems arising from the sewer under the park. The Clerk had telephoned Severn Trent. They would not visit the site and would not give a definitive answer. They suggested that when a problem next arises we call them out. Action complete.

ACTION 24/102/1 – The Clerk to ask (via the Village News) if anyone can help to refurbish the noticeboards. Action complete, no responses to date.

24/112 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Members **RESOLVED** to make the payments identified in Appendix 1. Cllrs. Whitaker and Allen were assigned to approve.

24/113 PLANNING AND LICENSING

The following planning applications were considered:

- 24/00970/FUL – Overcladding of asbestos roof with metal sheeting Unit R Kingsditch Industrial Estate.
- 24/01017/ADV – 3 fascia signs and an apex sign unit N Gallagher Retail Park (Card Factory)
- 24/01072/FUL – New entrances and the replacement roof Brandon Tool Hire Unit P1 Kingsditch Lane
- 24/00748/FUL – Erection of two maisonettes 52 River Leys

The Council **RESOLVED** to raise no objections to the above applications.

There were no licensing applications to be considered.

24/114 CLOSURE OF MANOR ROAD

No news beyond action 24/98/1 above.

24/115 MAINTENANCE OF OLD MILL WAY (FORMERLY “THE AMENITY AREA”)

A large branch had broken off a tree near Manor Road. It is now supported by the branches of a neighbouring tree. It is not over a footpath but it was agreed that Chris Arnold be asked to deal with it promptly.

24/116 VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

Cotswold Drain Service have submitted an estimate for excavating and replacing the sewer from the manhole at the north west corner of the building to the manhole cover near the boundary of the park. They also quoted for replacing the sewer under the park, but that would not be our responsibility.

The sewer also needs attention across the front of the building, from the manhole at the north east corner of the building to the manhole at the north west corner of the building. This area is in the ownership of the Village Hall so it would not be funded by the Parish Council.

Further quotes will be needed to progress this.

The Clerk had discussed the issues with Simon Hodges (Cheltenham Borough Council).

24/117 NOTICEBOARDS

See action 24/102/1 above. The request for volunteers would also be put in Facebook.

24/118 MASTER PLAN FOR THE PARK

Item deferred.

24/119 REPORTS

It was noted that flooding takes place near the junction of Manor Road and Runnings Road. The Clerk would ensure that Persimmon are aware.

The meeting noted that Cllr. Whitaker would be attending C5 on 17th July and the police liaison meeting on 18th July.

The meeting closed at 9:18pm.

Signed:	Date:
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APPENDIX 1 – APPROVED PAYMENTS

Description	Amount
Clerk salary and expenses (ref 2425-022, 024, 025)	£601.68
Perpetua printing July/August edition of the Village News (ref 2425-026)	£246.90

The Clerk would set up the payments to be made by bank transfer.

APPENDIX 2 – RECEIPTS

Description	Amount
VAT refund payment received 14/06/2024	£752.48