

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH JUNE 2025 AT 7:30PM
IN SWINDON VILLAGE HALL

Parish Councillors Present:

Alison Berry (Chair)

Lynne Allen

Natalie Blankley

Sharon Collicutt

James Cornish

Ruth Hudson

Also Present:

Shaun Cullimore (Clerk), Borough Councillors Frank Allen and Flo Clucas, Chaz Pearce (Allotments Manager), two PCSOs, one member of the public.

25/87 APOLOGIES

Tom Harcourt, Lisa Whitaker.

25/88 DISCUSSION WITH THE POLICE

As the two PCSOs could be called away at any time police matters were discussed first.

The Parish Council outlined the issues with car parking at the school and its attempts to improve matters. The police officers had experience of similar issues at other schools and were not optimistic that the problem could be solved. Parents of children at our school and others in the area disregard instructions regarding parking. The Parish Council was determined to continue in its efforts.

The problems with graffiti were discussed. The police have a good idea who is responsible.

The police left the meeting.

25/89 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

25/90 REPORT FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

The Borough Councillors are doing what they can to counter graffiti.

GCC/CBC have been asked to clear signage of vegetation. Cllr. Berry has asked for signage to deter the use of Swindon Village/Brockhampton as a cut through whilst the A435 is closed.

Boro. Cllr. Allen said that he felt the best solution for a unitary authority would be to have an east/west split in the county. This would see Gloucester, the Forest of Dean and Stroud forming one council, Cheltenham, Cotswolds and Tewkesbury forming the second. The County Council cease to exist.

The Borough Councillors left the meeting.

25/91 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC SESSION

A resident stated that since trees were planted at the back of her property in Manor Court the grass can no longer be mowed up to the fence and brambles had become a problem. The Parish Council would look into the matter.

It was noted that since the ex-Evans Cycles building is being refurbished the car parking area is not available and more cars have been using the car park adjacent to the Mary Godwin pavilion. The Parish Council has no power to intervene.

25/92 ALLOTMENTS ISSUE

An allotment plot is being used in a manner which breaches the terms of the tenancy agreement. The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the wording of a letter the Clerk proposed to send.

NEW ACTION 25/92/1 – Clerk to write a letter to allotment tenant.

25/93 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the meeting of 12th May 2025 as a true record.

25/94 MATTERS ARISING

ACTION 25/36/2 – Cllr. Cornish to discuss the possibility of pedestrian access from Seasons to the school with Cllr. Fisher and Seasons. Action complete.

ACTION 24/61/1 – Clerk to commission a tree inspection in the summer. After no response from previous contractor the Clerk has a new contact. Action continues.

ACTION 25/27/2 – Clerk to raise sewer problems with Simon Hodges (CBC) and Cllr. Fisher. Nothing can be done until a problem arises and Severn Trent are called to investigate. Action complete.

ACTION 25/29/1 – Cllr. Cornish to discuss devolution with Paul Jones (CBC) and produce a summary of the possible consequences. Action discontinued.

ACTION 25/57/1 – Cllr. Cornish to draft a request that GCC Highways attend a Parish Council meeting, Clerk to submit. Action discontinued.

ACTION 25/57/2 – Cllr. Cornish to ask Paul Instone about the location of the Integrated Transport Hub. The position of the Transport Hub is shown on the latest master plan. Action complete.

ACTION 25/57/3 – The Clerk to ask the Uckington Parish Council if there are notes of the Elms Park meeting available. Action was transferred to Cllr. Allen who obtained and distributed the notes of the meeting. Action complete.

ACTION 25/64/1 – Cllr. Cornish to discuss the play group's requirements with Borough Councillor Allen. It was agreed that representatives of the play group should approach the Parish Council if they want help. Action discontinued.

ACTION 25/64/2 – Cllrs. Cornish and Blankie to discuss the Village Hall constitution and operation in a bid to assist the current officers. Action continues.

ACTION 25/75/1 – Clerk to open a fixed term savings account. The Clerk had placed £25,000 into a 12 month fixed term deposit account paying 2.34% interest. Action complete.

ACTION 25/77/1 – Clerk to examine existing insurance cover to see if it is adequate.

The Clerk had established that the Council has £10,000,000 public liability cover. The Council **RESOLVED** to accept this level of cover as adequate. Action complete.

ACTION 25/77/2 – Cllr. Hudson to see if template grant awarding policies are available. GAPTC were unable to help. Action complete.

ACTION 25/83/1 – Cllr. Berry to see if Persimmon would put a Parish Council noticeboard on the Swindon Farm development. Persimmon has agreed to purchase and install a noticeboard. Action complete.

ACTION 25/83/2 – Cllr. Berry to ask Persimmon to advise us as residents move in to Swindon Farm. Mr. Evans had been supplied with figures. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Hudson would draft a welcome letter for new residents and that the print run of the Village News would be increased appropriately. Action complete.

25/95 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Members **RESOLVED** to make the payments identified in Appendix 1.

25/96 INTERNAL AUDIT

The internal audit had been completed and the report circulated to members. No shortcomings had been identified.

25/97 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

The Annual Governance Statement was completed and signed.

25/98 ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

The Accounting Statements were reviewed and signed.

25/99 NOTICE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS

The Clerk had prepared the Notice of Public rights that give the public the right to examine and query any aspects of the Council's accounts. The period chosen was 17th June through 28th July.

25/100 PLANNING AND LICENSING

There were no planning or licensing applications to be considered.

25/101 ELMS PARK

The Borough Council planning committee met on 29th May to determine the Elms Park outline planning application (16/02000/OUT). Cllr. Cornish spoke on behalf of the Parish Council with Cllr. Allen also in attendance. The planning application was approved subject to over 50 planning conditions.

25/102 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

The councillors would hold an informal meeting on 23rd June. It was agreed that Cllr. Cornish would buy large scale maps to assist the discussion.

25/103 SUPPORT TO VILLAGE FAIR

The Council had set a budget of £1,100 and it was **RESOLVED** that this amount be offered to the Village Hall to offset the costs of the event.

25/104 REPORTS

Mr. Beasant had stated that he could install a bench in the bus shelter in August.

Unconfirmed Minutes of Swindon Parish Council 9th June 2025

The County Council had stated that the finger post at the junction of Church Road and Quat Goose Lane (pointing to Brockhampton) had been scrapped. Any new non-standard post would have to be purchased by the Parish Council and installed by the County Council. It was agreed that the matter should be placed on the agenda of the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 9:55pm.

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

APPENDIX 1 – APPROVED PAYMENTS

Description	Amount
Clerk salary and expenses (ref 2526-016, 2526-020)	£569.43
Perpetua printing June Village News (ref 2526-022)	£271.90
GAPTC fee for undertaking internal audit (ref 2526-018)	£285.00
Lynne Allen reimbursement for Annual Parish Meeting refreshments (ref 2526-021)	£55.46
Swindon Village Community Hall room hire (ref 2425-062, 2526-019)	£80.00

The Clerk would set up the payments to be made by bank transfer. Cllrs. Allen and Berry to approve.

APPENDIX 2 – RECEIPTS

Description	Amount
Interest (May)	£2.97
Precept	£13,423.58
CIL money	£38,368.65