

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14TH JULY 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), County Councillor Ian Cameron, Richard Lawler (representing Borough Councillor Frank Allen), two members of the public.

25/105 APOLOGIES

Lisa Whitaker, Borough Councillor Frank Allen.

25/106 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The old cider press in Newland View will be discussed. Ownership of the press is unclear. Cllr. Cornish, as a resident of Newland, declared a potential interest.

25/107 ADJOURNMENT FOR THE PUBLIC SESSION

Two residents of Newland View (in addition to Cllr. Cornish) were present to discuss the cider press. It is in a poor, potentially unsafe, condition. The residents wished to know if the Parish Council would be prepared to support the renovation of the press. It was agreed that the ownership of the press, presently unknown, is a key factor. If the press is found to be owned by either the residents or the developer it would not be legal for the Parish Council to provide financial support.

NEW ACTION 25/107/1 – Cllr. Collicutt to approach Eileen Allen to see if her history archives contain any pertinent information about the press.

NEW ACTION 25/107/2 – Cllr. Cornish to obtain quotes for the remedial work the cider press requires.

NEW ACTION 25/107/3 – Clerk to ask GCC Highways about the cider press.

The two residents of Newland View left the meeting.

25/108 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR IAN CAMERON

Cllr. Cameron reported on his first nine weeks in office. He is a member of the Health Overview, Scrutiny and Commons and Rights of Way committees. He has been discussing the consequences of the A435 closure. The Parish Councillors felt that the effect on local traffic is significant.

Cllr. Cameron and some of the Parish Councillors agreed to set up a walk around the Elms Park site to consider the green spaces.

Cllr. Berry asked if Cllr. Cameron would take up the issue of overgrown alleys and agreed to email details.

25/109 REPORT FROM RICHARD LAWLER

Richard Lawler reported on behalf of Cllr. Frank Allen.

The Parish Council had held an informal meeting to discuss the Community Governance Review and would make a submission following the meeting.

A 20mph speed limit consultation is being conducted.

Cllr. Allen has reported examples of graffiti and has had some success in getting cleaning done. We continue to have major problems.

Cllr. Cameron and Mr. Lawler were thanked and left the meeting.

25/110 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the meeting of 9th June 2025 as a true record.

25/111 MATTERS ARISING

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

25/112 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

NEW ACTION 25/112/1 – Clerk to cancel Zoom account as no longer needed.

25/113 PLANNING AND LICENSING

- 25/00040/PRIOR – Conversion of Home Farm agricultural buildings to residential use. No objection.

There were no licensing applications to be considered.

Cllr. Frank Allen had arranged a meeting with Cheltenham Borough Council's Head of Planning on 15th August to discuss our issues with the planning portal.

25/114 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

The councillors held an informal meeting on 23rd June. Various possibilities were discussed. The Parish Council did not wish to take more from Wymans Brook/St. Peters. Cllr. Cornish thought that more of properties south of the Tewkesbury Road should be included in the parish. It was agreed that it makes no sense for Elms Park to be split between Swindon and Uckington. However, as Uckington is currently part of Tewkesbury a recommendation to change this is outside the scope of the Cheltenham based review. It may be considered as part of the devolution changes.

NEW ACTION 25/114/1 – Cllr. Cornish to write up the Parish Council's response to the Community Governance Review.

Cllr. Cornish left the meeting.

25/115 MISSING FINGER POST

The County Council had scrapped the finger post that had been at the junction of Church Road and Quat Goose Lane. They were offering to replace it with a modern sign, or to install a more traditional sign that we would need to source. It was agreed that we would look at options.

25/116 GRIT BINS AND ROAD SALT

The three grit bins that are owned by the Parish Council (Church Road, Manor Road and Glynbridge Gardens) are in a poor state. It was **RESOLVED** that they should be scrapped.

NEW ACTION 25/116/1 – Cllr. Collicutt to look into scrapping the three grit bins.

25/117 REPORTS

The Village Hall is seeking a grant for audio visual equipment. Cllr. Blankley asked if the Parish Council would be prepared to write a letter of support. The Council **RESOLVED** to do so.

NEW ACTION 25/117/1 – Cllr. Berry to draft a letter of support to the Village Hall's bid for funding.

The Village Hall would like to see a number of improvements to the car park. It would make sense for the Council to consider these projects while the car park is in our ownership.

NEW ACTION 25/117/2 – Clerk to look into repainting the lines in the Village Hall car park, installing EV charging points and improving signage.

Cllr. Hudson had reported our graffiti issues to Crimestoppers.

Cllr. Collicutt had attended a Tree Stakeholders' meeting.

The meeting closed at 10:00pm.

Signed:	Date:
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APPENDIX 1 – APPROVED PAYMENTS

Description	Amount
Clerk salary and expenses (ref 2526-023, 2526-026, 2526-027, 2526-028)	£601.81
Perpetua printing July Village News (ref 2526-029)	£271.90
Sharon Collicutt expenses associated with graffiti removal and providing refreshments at Annual Parish Meeting (ref 2526-024)	£271.90
Swindon Village Hall expenses incurred in running Village Fair (Parish Council agreed a budget of £1,100 maximum) (ref 2526-025)	£1,028.91

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

APPENDIX 2 – RECEIPTS

Description	Amount
Advertising in Village News	£18.00