

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

8TH JUNE 2010

SWINDON VILLAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHURCH ROAD

Present:

Councillors:

David Iliffe (Chairman)

Peter Allen (Vice-Chairman)

Frances Hunter
Joanna McVeagh

Glenn Simpson

Also Present:

Stephen Holley (Clerk of the Council)
One member of the public

Apologies:

Adam Slaughter

PUBLIC SESSION

A. Boy Racers/Cruisers

Mrs. Michelle Roberts, a resident of Winchcombe, was present and explained that there had been another accident in the Kingsditch estate; in this instance, the 'boy racer' responsible had been unable to stop after having worn out his brakes.

Mrs. Roberts reported that PC Pilsworth had confirmed that the Police would be attending the next meeting of the Borough Council's 'Boy Racer Working Group'. Also, Gloucestershire Highways had taken offence to negative comments on its absence in the minutes of the previous meeting.

Mrs. Roberts suggested that the number of accidents around Huntscote Road and Malmesbury Road would justify the site being identified as an accident blackspot. The Chairman stated that the Council would consider this suggestion later in the Meeting (Traffic and Highways – Accident Blackspot, Minute 10/077.1, below)

Mrs. Roberts also informed the Council of a meeting to be held in Bishops Cleeve on the proposal to build a Police Station to the rear of GE Engineering in Hyde Lane.

10/068

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

10/069 **MINUTES**

Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting, held on 11th May 2010, was DEFERRED.

10/070 **APPOINTMENT OF A VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Peter Allen was re-appointed as Vice-Chairman without opposition.

10/071 **MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES AND REPRESENTATION ON EXTERNAL BODIES**

The Council was requested to appoint Members' responsibilities and their representation of the Council on external bodies.

RESOLVED that Members be appointed the duties listed in the attached table.

10/072 **BOY RACERS/CRUISERS**

It was AGREED to invite the new Chief Constable to an evening meeting in order to discuss local concerns and to explain the difference in the approach adopted by the Gloucestershire Constabulary and that seen in Bristol and Leicester. In addition, the differences within Gloucestershire that resulted in an apparently 'softly softly' approach in the Kingsditch area against firm treatment in Eastern Avenue, Gloucester.

10/073 **ADMINISTRATION****1. Correspondence**

The Council noted a list of correspondence received, and AGREED that no administrative action was required in respect thereof.

2. Annual Parish Assembly

(i) The Council was requested to consider any actions arising from the Annual Parish Assembly. It was recalled that Borough Councillor Paul Massey had previously stated that he would submit a written report, compiled jointly with fellow Borough Councillor Bernie Fisher and County Councillor Suzanne Williams, but this report had not been received by the time of the meeting. The Clerk would ask if this report was now available.

(ii) The Council considered how the Assembly could be improved in future years to engage residents' interest. In response it was noted that a parish in the Cotswolds arranged for performances by local children at its Parish Meeting. It was AGREED that suggestions from residents would be welcomed, including suggestions for speakers; and a suitable article should be written for 'Village News'. Also, in addition to the review of the previous year, the Annual Report should include a 'Look Forward' section

3. Queen's Diamond Jubilee

It was AGREED that the Council should establish local interest in arranging some form of celebration – possibly street parties like those which had been held for the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977. The Clerk would write to parish organisations and put an article in 'Village News' with a view to forming a Committee.

4. Other Administrative Matters

There were no other administrative matters.

10/074 QUALITY PARISH STATUS - PROGRESS REPORT

The Clerk confirmed that very little work was required for the Council to become eligible to apply for Quality Status. It was AGREED that the Council needed to be reasonably certain of success before applying, in order to avoid wasting the application fee (£58.75).

10/075 DONATION TO THE VILLAGE HALL

The request that the Council consider making a donation to the Village Hall Committee was again DEFERRED until such time as the Committee was able to submit further information.

10/076 REPORTS

Councillors Hunter and Simpson reported that the rubbish in the undergrowth at the edge of the park alongside Wymans Lane was still there.

10/077 PLANNING AND LICENSING

1. Planning Applications referred to the Council for observations

(i) To note comments on an application delegated to the Clerk for observations (subsequent to consultation with Members of the Council):

10/00699/FUL (IRC) - Unit C and D, Gallagher Retail Park Cheltenham - Proposed installation of glazed shopfronts to the main façade, and brickwork infill panels to an existing roller shutter door opening at the rear. NO OBJECTION.

(ii) To consider responses to any other applications referred to the Council

10/0042/CHREG3 – Portal Products, Kingsditch Lane, Cheltenham – Alterations and temporary change of use to Fire Station until 31st December 2012. NO OBJECTION in principle, but the Council is concerned about traffic movements and the possibility of noise from sirens at unsociable times. The Council therefore recommends that the proposed arrangement to allow control of the existing traffic lights on Tewkesbury Road be supplemented by an additional (temporary) set of lights to allow appliances to gain access to Kingsditch Lane without the use of sirens. The Council is aware that the proposal is intended to provide a substitute for

the Keynsham Road station which is located in a residential area and would like reassurance that noise will be kept to a minimum at the temporary site.

RESOLVED that the above comments be relayed to the Borough Council.

2. Decisions on Planning Applications

The Council noted the following decisions on Planning Applications notified by the Borough Council.

10/00485/FUL - 'Swiss Cottage' 29 Quat Goose Lane - Erection of single storey garage/utility extension to the side – Permitted.

10/00542/FUL - Unit 1 Kingsditch Retail Park - Installation of mezzanine floor. Permitted.

10/00288/FUL - Unit 60, The Runnings - Fitting of new windows and fire doors. . Permitted.

10/078 TRAFFIC AND HIGHWAYS

1. Accident Blackspot

The Council AGREED to pursue the suggestion (raised during the Public Session, above) that the junction of Huntscote Road and Malmesbury Road be formally identified as an accident blackspot.

2. Members' Reports

(i) The Chairman reported that a resident had sent him complaint illustrated by photographs showing parking on the verge and pavement at the junction of Village Road and Hayden Lane. The Clerk had forwarded them to Gloucestershire Highways.

(ii) Signs reading 'No Road Markings' had been left after the recent resurfacing work. However, the road markings had been replaced and the signs should now be removed.

(iii) The wooden backing to the Rivelands Road name sign was falling apart and needed replacement.

(iv) A large sign advertising a car boot sale at the Racecourse was often put on the lamppost at the junction of Drayton Close and Wymans Lane.

(v) The Arriva Renault garage had resumed parking as many cars as possible on the grass verge. It was thought they were able to gain access by removing one or more of the hoops or bollards. Vehicles were parked in close proximity to the junction and could create a hazard.

(vi) A number of cars for sale were regularly parked on the grass verge to the left of the car wash in Kingsditch Lane. It was thought they were from the French Car Centre – it was not known whether planning permission for Change of Use had been granted.

(vii) The speed-reactive sign in Hyde Lane may have stopped working; possibly the photovoltaic panel was being obstructed by overgrowth.

10/079 **ALLOTMENTS**

The Chairman reported having been told by an allotment tenant that the allotments were in very good condition; the tenant could not recall them being like it before. The Clerk would relay this to the Allotments Manager, Mr. Mike Hopkins.

10/080 **FINANCE**

1. **Accounts to be Approved for Payment**

	£	£
Clerk's Salary, (May)	354.87	
Expenses	<u>32.00</u>	
		386.87
Cotswold District Council – printing charges, Village News December 2009 to May 2010		934.27
Mr. Iain Selkirk – Internal Audit fee for 2009/10		125.00
Moore Stephens – External Audit fee for 2009/10 (inc VAT)		188.00

Note: It was noted that the invoice from Cotswold District Council included for the printing of Village News in January 2010; a month when the newsletter was not produced. However, it was agreed to pay the full invoice and query this element.

2. **Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2010**

This item was DEFERRED, as the External Auditor's report had not yet been received.

10/081 **MATTERS IDENTIFIED FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION**

Members were invited to suggest items for possible inclusion on future Agendas. The list now comprised:

- Publication of the final South West Regional Spatial Strategy
- Extension of the footpath from the Amenity Area to Swindon Playing Fields
- Donation/Grant to the Village Hall Committee
- Updating the Council's Standing Orders, in the light of the new NALC model

10/082 **OTHER BUSINESS ALLOWED BY THE CHAIRMAN AS URGENT**

There was no urgent business.

The Meeting closed at 9.25.p.m.

Chairman