

HAYDON WICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Haydon Wick Parish Council held on Tuesday 23rd August 2022 at 7.30pm held at Parish Council Offices, Thames Avenue, Swindon, SN25 1QQ.

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS: Councillors E Baker Lee (Chairman), S Heyes, J Jackson, A John, Manro, S McDermott, L Rhys-Jones, B Patrick-Okoh, R Ross, L Brown, J Fuller, S Fateru, R Hailstone and R Venkatesh.

OFFICERS: Chief Officer & RFO, Georgina Morgan-Denn
Deputy Clerk & Services Manager, Laura Cutter
Head of Parks & Open Spaces, David Hunt

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Two PCSOs
Ward Councillor R Heath

FC 067 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and noted from Councillors D Rodgers (Personal Commitments), A Roupelis and K T Naik (Work Commitments). No apologies were received from Councillor S Callen.

FC 068 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors V Manro, S Heyes & J Jackson declared an interest in Agenda 19 due to their capacity of SBC Ward Councillors. Councillor S Heyes declared his interest Agenda 21 due to being a Parish Councillor for St Andrews Parish Council.

FC 069 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were one (1) member of the public in attendance who made no representation.

FC 070 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor E Baker Lee confirmed that she would be chairing the meeting instead of Councillor V Manro today as he was not expected to join due to personal commitments and she had more time to prepare.

FC 071 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Members confirmed as a true record the minutes of meeting held on 26th July 2022 and the Chairman signed.

Proposed: Councillor A John **Seconded: Councillor J Jackson**

Vote: Agreed with one (1) abstention.

RESOLVED: Members confirmed as a true record the minutes of meetings held on Tuesday 26th July 2022 and the Chairman signed the minutes.

The Chairman welcomed two PSCOs to address the meeting.

FC 072 NORTH SWINDON AREA COMMUNITY POLICING

Noted a presentation submitted in advance regarding recent Police Crime statistics for the Haydon Wick area. Other crime types 36% are categories that are under 9% such as violence without injury, stalking and harassment, a further breakdown could be requested. Key issues included Orbital Shopping Park car meets which cause antisocial behaviour such as noise, traffic offences like

spinning in the car park and when approached the drivers are receptive to keeping their behaviour in check, however, as soon as the PCSO has left the issues start again. Various measures of controls are in place and patrols regularly when possible as the North Swindon Police Hub is situated at the Orbital. If drivers are moved on from the Orbital, then Traffic Police will also be involved. When drivers are moved on, they head to Mouldon Hill. The PCSOs also advised of an increase in cannabis smoking in the area, this is particularly amongst youths during the summer holidays. The local PCSOs are patrolling parks and park benches. Councillors queried what is being done with regards to illegal electric scooters, they confirmed they chase when appropriate and have seized a few. To stop or confiscate the electric scooter there are certain statutory powers that Police Constables have but PCSOs do not. This is also a difficult situation as most retailers sell electric scooters and users are not understanding the fine print that these are for use only on private land. Councillor R Hailstone advised that a main route for electric scooters is via Old Blunsdon Road and Pond Street to the Manor Farm which are spinal routes through the parish.

Members agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow the Member of Public to speak.

The Member of Public requested that in their next presentation they should include the reasons why Wiltshire Police is underfunded. This was noted and will be fed back to author of the presentation.

FC 073

SWINDON BOROUGH WARD COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor R Heath (Priory Vale): New to SBC Ward Councillor role so currently getting up to speed on local issues and still learning who does what between Parish Council versus Swindon Borough Council (SBC) responsibilities. Some issues raised with regards to land transfer issues between SBC and Housing Developers. Mouldon Hill sewage issue currently being fixed via a collar and pressure testing, made good but by an unknown state of repair. Pipes should be analysed. Estimated timescales are currently not available, but all SBC Ward Councillors will continue to pursue and keep residents up to date. Similar occurrence in 2003 so more delving into information is needed. Thames Water need to be accountable for the thousands of dead fish and how this could have been resolved quicker, to see if the operational plan could have mitigated against this. Councillor R Hailstone raised concerns over the capacity of the pipe due to the housing developments in Priory Vale being pumped all the way to Rodbourne, if the pipe capacity is not resolved, then this may reoccur.

Councillor J Jackson (Haydon Wick): Seven Fields meadow is being cut today. He will visit the site with Ward Councillor D Renard visit tomorrow to check works.

Councillor S Heyes (St Andrews): No 6 Bus service will cease, and No 4 will be rerouted to go through Abbey Meads and the Village Centre. This could potentially be a better service than before. Funding for a Sunday service is still being investigated by SBC.

Councillor V Manro (Priory Vale): Concerns over bus routes to Taw Hill Village Centre, nearest stop is Queen Elizabeth Drive, but the bus company is investigating whether it could extend the route. This bus route is popular for college and school students, midday is quiet. Mazurek Way will not be used by Thamesdown Drive. To echo comments regarding Mouldon Hill, previous information has been shared and analysed by Thames Water so the information should also be available on this occurrence.

FC 074 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Councillor E Baker Lee:

Nothing to report

Councillor L Brown:

Mentioned a recent press release regarding the Councillor allowances and attendances.

20.06 Councillor S Fateru joined the meeting.

Councillor R Hailstone:

A meeting of the Swindon Local Council Forum (SLCF) and Councillor D Heenan (Cabinet Member for Organisational Excellence/Parishes Liaison) & S Mowbray Chief Operating Officer from SBC took place on Friday 19th August 2022 to discuss the Draft Protocol/Charter which is being drawn up between SBC and all Swindon Parishes/Town councils. SBC has come up with an alternative proposal. A new draft is with the SLCF to review, send back to SBC and have a draft available for the SLCF on Thursday 22nd September 2022 with a view to bringing to our Full Council in October and finalising the Protocol/Charter by the end of 2022. It was acknowledged that this process had been going on for 18 months. Also attended the walk around Mouldon Hill, interesting to see what has been achieved and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust is keen to implement a 'Friends of Mouldon Hill Group'. Councillor R Hailstone also made a comment to BBC Points West re Thames Water sewerage matter – his comments were as a private resident and not as a representative of the Parish Council.

Councillor S Heyes:

Attended walk at Mouldon Hill and was surprised how much extra land the Country Park had to offer.

Councillor J Jackson:

Nothing to report.

Councillor A John:

Raised concerns of the issues at Mouldon Hill and the dead fish, there is also traffic issues with all the tanks parked down Thamesdown Drive causing disruption to residents.

Councillor S McDermott

Nothing to report.

Councillor L Rhys Jones:

Noted and thankful for the installation of the recent air conditioning units.

Councillor B Patrick-Okoh:

Nothing to report.

Councillor S Fateru:

Nothing to report.

Councillor R Venkatesh:

Nothing to report.

Councillor J Fuller:

Was recently named in a Swindon Advertiser article as the second worst attending Councillor. Quoted his attendance in 2021-22 was 84% and many other Councillors that year had worse attendance than he did. He wanted to know who gave this information to the press and would like the Council to contact the Swindon Advertiser to see if this misinformation would be amended with a written apology. *The Chief Officer advised that the statistics are public on the website and updated following every meeting and commented that the article quoted statistics for the current municipal year 2022-23.* Also asked if there is any progress on the 'The Brow & Avonmead enforcement'. *Deputy Clerk advised that*

during a meeting on Friday 19th August 2022 the Chief Operating Officer for SBC was given the information and escalating it with the officers.

Councillor R Ross:

Attended the recent guided walk at Mouldon Hill which she found very useful. Also a small update on Clifford's Meadow the Land Agent has received a quote to cut the meadow and the feedback received is that the Land Agent would like a regular contractor that can guarantee future annual work.

FC 075

CHIEF OFFICER'S REPORT

Vehicle Branding - is booked for this Thursday. Registration plates fitted. The two hire vehicles were 'off hired' at the end of last week.

Draft Swindon Local Councils Forum Protocol – A Working Party which comprises Councillors C McEwen (South Marston), R Hailstone (Chair of SLCF/ Haydon Wick) and C Watts (South Swindon) - met with Councillor Dale Heenan and SBC's Chief Operating Officer to discuss a new draft of the Protocol/Charter. The hope is that an agreed working draft between SBC and SCLF should be available to view for the meeting on 22nd September 2022 and circulated to all of the local councils (irrespective of member status) accordingly to receive feedback ahead of working towards a final, jointly agreed copy, to be presented back to SBC Cabinet in December 2022.

Public Open Spaces Revised Lease & Covenants – our lawyers continue to work on this for us. They are requesting and reviewing the land titles and want to have them all as there is some interaction between them especially in relation to the deeds of covenants. This will ensure we know what we are taking on. They are liaising with SBC to get copies of the S106 agreements and are checking whether the statutory notices have been served respect of the disposal of public land by a principal council - as per s123 of the Local Government Act 1972. Once they have all titles/obligations they will report back to us with any concerns arising from the title/leases. For example, the issue of management of mature trees which is a clause included in the revised lease. This is a substantial task which is likely to take several weeks to complete.

Changes to Stagecoach Bus Service – Received notification from Stagecoach with the following information: The Service 9 will be split into two routes. The 9 will continue to run from Swindon Town Centre to Wroughton, Monday to Saturday, every 30 minutes. Unfortunately, due to low passenger numbers, we'll no longer be running on Sundays. However, Service 49 will continue to run every 2 hours as an alternative. A new Service 4 will replace our previous Service 9 and provide a service to most residents on Swindon Bus Company's Service 16 which will stop running on the same date. The 4 will run from Swindon Town Centre via Great Western Outlet, Cheney Manor, Woodhall, Haydon Wick, Orbital, Abbey Meads, St Andrews Ridge, and Tadpole Garden Village. Will run every 20 minutes on Mondays to Saturdays.

No longer run via Gorse Hill or Cricklade Road but alternative services are still available. Service 10 will continue to Serve Gorse Hill and Service 10 and 51 for Cricklade Road.

FC 076

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE 2nd AUGUST 2022
RECOMMENDATION**

FC 076A

Connie the Covid Snake – Approved the location at Haydonleigh Skate Park. Costs to be met from the Youth Engagement Ear Marked Reserve (EMR) (339)

Proposed: Councillor R Hailstone Seconded: Councillor R Ross
Vote: Agreed Unanimously.
RESOLVED: To approve the location at Haydonleigh Skate Park. Costs to be met from the Youth Engagement Ear Marked Reserve (EMR) (339).

FC 077 FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE 16th AUGUST 22: RECOMMENDATIONS
FC 077A Internal Auditor Appointment – Members received the report and approved the appointment of Supplier B – Darkin Miller Limited as the Internal Auditor for 2022/2023.
Proposed: Councillor S Heyes Seconded: Councillor B Patrick-Okoh
Vote: Agreed Unanimously.
RESOLVED: To appoint Supplier B – Darkin Miller Ltd as the Internal Auditor for 2022/2023.

FC 077B To adopt the revised policies: Members reviewed and approved to adopt the policies, as presented. Members agreed the Bin Policy needs further review by the Parks & Open Spaces Committee.
Proposed: Councillor R Venkatesh Seconded: Councillor J Jackson
Vote: Agreed Unanimously.
RESOLVED: To adopt the following policies:
 a. **Flag Hoisting Policy**
 b. **Complaints Procedure**
 c. **Finance & Policy Committee Terms of Reference**

FC 078 HAYDON WICK LIVING MAGAZINE
Members received a verbal update from Councillor S McDermott to confirm that future Committee meetings will have an agenda item for articles for the Winter 2022 edition of Haydon Wick “Living” Magazine. This process is easier to track and assign an article to a Councillor, Officer, or relevant Committee.

FC 079 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA
Members were asked to send any items for the Full Council meeting on the 27th September 2022 to the Chief Officer as soon as possible.

FC 080 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC & PRESS
To resolve in accordance with Standing Order 3 (d) that ‘in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted and in the public interest, that the press and public be temporarily excluded, and they be instructed to withdraw’.
Reason: Confidential & Contractual.

20.16 Member of the public left the meeting.

FC 081 OPERATION LONDON BRIDGE
Members received a report on the protocol for marking the death of a senior figure. The Council has assigned some responsibilities to the Officers and a brief training session will be provided to ensure everyone knows their role in the event of enacting the protocol. The protocol will be amended slightly to state the Council will publish a proclamation on social media rather than in person at the offices.
Proposed: Councillor A John Seconded: Councillor R Ross
Vote: Agreed unanimously.
RESOLVED: To adopt the Council’s Plan for Operation London Bridge, subject to amending the Proclamation will be published on social media rather than in person at the Offices.

FC 082 PARKS & OPEN SPACES GROUNDS MAINTENANCE FACILITY (GMF)
Members noted a verbal update from the Chief Officer regarding the land status of Goodearl Leisure Garden Site. There needs to be additional involvement from SBC's Property Team who need to grant a supplementary lease for the additional land and publish public open space disposal notices in the local newspaper, which will cost circa £400.00. The notices need to be displayed as soon as possible in case of any objections or comments. Instruction to proceed with the notices was given on 12th August 2022 and this is now with SBC to process. Awaiting costs to for SBC Legal Team's time to oversee this project. Members cited their concerns over delays in project timescales, however, it was confirmed this is running concurrently with the current timescales as there are approximately another 10 weeks left to run of the design stage, at which point, Council needs to ask bidders to retender for the contract based on the final design specification – taking approximately another 8 – 10 weeks.

Preplanning application for the temporary site at Ventnor Allotments was sent to SBC, but with an unfortunate payment delay the deadline for pre planning comments is expected on Monday 27th August 2022.

FC 083 ITT GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT
Members received the report, discussed and the scrutiny process by the Grounds Maintenance Contract working party which comprised of Councillors V Manro, E Baker Lee, R Hailstone, and S Heyes. Difference in prices noted, satisfied by references, and provided good documents. The proposal is to award the contract to Company C at a cost of £27,000.00 excluding VAT to be met from 4522/307. The Council also acknowledged that with the cost savings in the temporary contract, members of the Parks & Open Spaces Team could be upskilled in their areas.
Proposed: Councillor R Hailstone Seconded: Councillor S Heyes
Vote: All agreed unanimously.
RESOLVED: To appoint the contract at a cost of £27,000.00 excluding VAT to Company C – Teigntrees & Landscapes to be met from 4522/307.
Proposed: Councillor V Manro Seconded: Councillor R Ross
Vote: Agreed with one (1) abstention.
RESOLVED: To agree to upskill the current Parks & Open Spaces Team to the value of £5,000.00 to be met from 4522/307.

FC 084 STREET SWEEPER CONTRACT
Members received a report from the Head of Parks & Open Spaces regarding the current street sweeping contract. Short term leases of 12 months are not available from April 2023, so a longer term contract needs to be considered. Various options were presented including different lease times and an option for an electric model. The item will be deferred to Parks & Open Spaces and brought back to September's Full Council.

FC 085 SBC COMPLAINT
Received correspondence from a neighbouring parish council regarding several complaints to raise with Swindon Borough Council. The Chief Officer and other Parish Clerks confirmed this is an item that Swindon Local Councils Forum is dealing with. Some of these issues were raised at a previous Clerks & Chairs meeting, several items already received. Next Forum meeting is on 22nd

September 2022 and the neighbouring Parish Council has agreed to be more involved with future meetings.

FC 086 CORIANDER WAY COMPLAINT

The complaint was going between Swindon Borough Council (SBC) and Haydon Wick Parish Council which left the resident feeling frustrated being passed about with no resolution. It is now resolved. It was noted however that there are many more unresolved resident issues that are the responsibility of SBC.

21.03 Councillor S Heyes left the meeting.

FC 087 TADPOLE FIELD

Members received a verbal update from Councillor R Hailstone and the Head of Parks & Open Spaces, who recently met with a Land Surveyor to discuss the proposed site to be leased to a neighbouring parish council. The meeting acknowledged the legal advice previously received states any income needs to be beneficial to the community. Agreed to defer the decision until the valuation has been received.

The meeting closed at 21.14.

Chairman _____

Initials _____