

HAYDON WICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Haydon Wick Parish Council Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 24th September 2024 at 19.30 held at Parish Council Offices, Thames Avenue, Swindon, SN25 1QQ.

ATTENDANCE MEMBERS: Councillors V Manro (Chairman), S Heyes (Vice Chair), E Baker-Walker, J Fuller, R Hailstone, J Jackson, A John, O Munagala, P Park, B Patrick-Okoh, R Ross, L Stevenson, and R Worman.

OFFICERS: Deputy Clerk and Services Manager, Laura Cutter
Meetings Administrator, Julie McMorrow

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Ward Councillor S Adamcova and Ward Councillor R Heath

FC 077 APOLOGIES
Apologies were received and noted from Councillors A Jimmy and G Choudhury (work commitments). No apologies were received from Councillors J Ali and Fateru.

FC 078 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
J Fuller and R Hailstone declared an interest in Agenda Item 15 as they are working members of Swindon & Cricklade Railway.

FC 079 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
One member of the public attended regarding the hedgerow maintenance on Abbey Meads. Councillor R Hailstone advised that this will be discussed at the next POS meeting in more depth and explained the extension of the tractor and the flail hire for a further three months, giving coverage all throughout the year. The resident raised concerns over Shepperton Way and talked through his photos of the verges that have been grubbed out and asked what was going to be done with it, as felt that the verges had been left in an unsightly manner. The Chairman assured the resident the Council will be reinstating the verges, it will be a grassed area with an edging of hedge row. This will make maintenance easier and has a more pleasing appearance. The team is working to get all areas down to a manageable level ahead of next spring. The Chairman advised it's been a tough year but improvements continue to being made to the Parks & Open Spaces division and resident feedback is welcome.

FC 080 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Chairman gave tribute to our valued volunteer, John Bowron, who sadly passed away at the beginning of September. John has left a wonderful legacy, in such a short time of volunteering for us, but his wonderful work with the stained glass windows, event props and the many other projects he became involved in will remain a memorial in the Council Offices.

FC 081 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MINUTES
Members confirmed as a true record the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 27th August 2024.
Proposed: Councillor J Jackson **Seconded: Councillor P Park**
Vote: Agreed three (3) Abstentions
RESOLVED: Members confirmed as a true record the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 27th August 2024 with two small amendments Primrose Close not Way and Cold Harbour Junction descriptions.

FC 082 SWINDON BOROUGH WARD COUNCILLOR REPORTS
Cllr R Heath – Advised on the current issues with the heavy rain causing floods and waste water to several resident properties. Members were advised that the best way to report these issues is online. The street side gullies are the responsibility of SBC

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(Swindon Borough Council) whereas any sewage issues need to be reported to Thames Water. Members queried the feedback from the scrutiny meeting that was held at the end of last year with Thames Water and SBC about improving communications. Intel was submitted to the Flooding Team on several occasions. It is understood a draft report is in progress, once this has been completed it will be circulated.

Cllr S Adamcova - Gully teams were working 24.09.24 from 5am (due to the bad weather and flooded areas) and worked very hard to clear all areas of concern. Policy and Priority' team at SBC will soon be starting with a focus group which HWPC can comment on and will cover issues such as flooding and emergencies. Car Wash on Thames Avenue – it has been confirmed this business has not put in or has any approved planning to operate the car wash, the Enforcement Officer has advised them to put in planning by end of October and to operate the car wash on reduced hours. 20mph – petition in by 31st October 2024.

FC 083

COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr Park – Has been keeping watch on the levels on tadpole stream and will continue during the heavy rainfall. The hedges on Voyager Drive have been trimmed and would like it reported that it is looking good.

Councillor L Stevenson – Attended the Ukrainian sports day, unfortunately not overly well attended, however, that aside HWPC made sure those who attended were made very welcome. Cllr Stevenson would be like the first point of contact in the future for any further events for the Ukrainian community due to her connections in other volunteering work. Also attended Memory Café which was wonderful – it is always pitched very well and the experience was very humbling. Uplands school donated items which will be re-purposed as sensory toys at the Memory Café and at the Sensory Garden.

On the 25th Sep 2024 will be attending a scouts litter pick.

Councillor R Worman – The grass at the top of Thames Avenue joining Whitworth Road still not cut. *Action JM to pass to POST.*

Penhill Park trees plan of action on the maintenance of these trees. This has been investigated and sits with Central Swindon North Parish Council to maintain.

Councillor R Hailstone – attended the SLCF forum, Ian Nockols from WALC was in attendance and advised that there would be more working together in the future. At the AGM Councillor R Hailstone explained he had stood down as Chairman and Councillor V Manro has taken up this position.

Councillor E Baker-Walker – Attended Haven. Need to talk to Environment Agency and Thames Water due to flooding issues. KGV Play area gates were not locked the previous week. *Deputy Clerk confirmed the gates were locked but some local children know the code, so the codes have been changed.*

Councillor R Ross – Attended Haven which went well and gave a reminder of MacMillan Coffee Morning which is taking place on Friday 27th September 2024.

Councillor A John – Also attended the SLCF forum and concurred good WALC presence.

Councillor S Heyes – Park was littered with branches in the Abbey Meads area which were reported tidied and cleared. This is the responsibility of SBC however on this occasion HWPC tidied the area.

Councillor V Manro – Reported that there had been a fair amount of flooding in the parish, Parsley Close very close to homes and other areas of sewage water leaking into streets. Thyme Close was knee deep in water and a tree came down, branches left but SBC did clear. The WALC AGM is on 25.9.24 and will report back.

Attended Fish and Chip Friday – which was an excellent event.

No Representation at Parish Activities, Meetings or Events This Month

Councillor J Fuller

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Councillor B Patrick-Okoh
Councillor O Munagala
Councillor A Roupelis
Councillor J Jackson

FC 084

CHIEF OFFICER'S REPORT

The Tree Officer from SBC attended site at Tadpole Mews, some large trees could impact properties so SBC will be removing them.

As part of the Grounds Maintenance Facility build, the boundary fencing is being repositioned on the open space at Chatsworth Road and a section of hedgerow needs to be removed in line with the planning application. Residents will be receiving a letter confirming works due to take place 1st October 2024. The hedges will be replanted once the build phase is complete.

Gave an update on a recent tree issue on Thames Avenue, this will be discussed further at Parks & Open Spaces Committee.

FC 085

ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Full Council noted the spreadsheet.

FC 086

PLANNING & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

20 mph Initiative – suggested area is Bryony Way however HWPC need to establish when traffic surveys are going to be done.

Action AJ to liaise with SBC.

FC 087

GROUND'S MAINTENANCE FACILITY UPDATE (GMF)

Full Council were advised that the Solar panels count will be thirty-two (32) and two (2) batteries which is a higher cost, but should further panels be put in at a later date it would incur added cost. Councillor R Worman advised Full Council that this was not a unanimous decision it was a majority. Councillor R Hailstone raised concerns about doubling the panels as it uses a chunk of the contingency fund. Money has been saved on kitchen revisions and the council tax support grant which has added additional funding leaving just short of £70k contingency. The recent visit was useful to get a feel for the use of the building and the newly appointed Tools, Machinery & Site Manager is identifying good plans of how the building will be utilised to capacity. A question was asked concerning the intruder alarms and what they process is should they be activated. The alarm would activate and call a dedicated list of number/staff who would manage the issue. No further update at this stage.

FC 088

POLICIES FOR ADOPTION

FC 088A

Revised Social Media Policy

FC 088B

Revised Freedom of Information/Publication Scheme Policy

FC 088C

New Play Area Inspection Policy

Proposed: Councillor E Baker-Walker Seconded: Councillor R Hailstone

Vote: Agreed Unanimously

RESOLVED: To agree all policies together.

FC 089

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC & PRESS

There were none.

FC 090

SWINDON LOCAL COUNCILS FORUM (SLCF) & TRANSFER OF SERVICES/PROTOCOL

Councillor R Hailstone led the discussion, explaining that information from SBC is still not forth coming or presented in a format that is sufficient, for example no time builds or projections on how staff and times could be forecast to take over these

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services. SBC has previously said it will cease services in either October 2024 or March 2025. At the Swindon Local Council's Forum meeting, Members agreed to cease discussions due to the lack of information. Individual parishes may still have the negotiations.

The Borough & Swindon Local Council's Protocol was agreed in principle back in March 2024 but still need to work out the protocols that go with it such as planning etc. The Chairman attended a 'peer review' meeting regarding communications and establishing stronger partnerships and joint working to deliver local projects.

FC 091

TADPOLE FIELD LEGAL MATTERS

It was agreed at the last Full Council to engage a solicitor, awaiting to hear back. This will be updated accordingly.

The meeting closed at 8.44pm

Chairman _____

Initials _____