

Meeting	Full Council Meeting
Date	Tuesday 26 th April 2022
Report Title	Magazine – Removal of MP & SBC Councillor Reports (Original)
Agenda Reference	14
Author	Councillor Sarah McDermott

Background

For several years, the Parish Council magazine has carried contributions from the local MP and the six SBC ward Councillors. These have been carried free of charge.

Proposal

That hence forth we do not include pieces by the MP and Borough Councillors. There are several reasons for this proposal: -

1. The Parish Council is looking to save money, reducing the number of the pages in the magazine can reduce printing costs.
2. Even if we don't reduce the number of pages overall, this proposal will provide extra space for the Parish Council to promote our activities or activities of other local; non-political; groups.
3. Why should the Parish precept be used to promote the activities of the local MP & SBC Councillors when they have other avenues open to them?
4. Research shows that we are the only Swindon parish council to give MP & Ward Councils a platform
5. By repeatedly giving the MP & Ward Councillors a platform, we show preference to elected officials, a platform not available to those seeking election.
6. When the reports from MP & Ward Councillors are not included due to purdah, there are no complaints.
7. This is a return to this proposal, simply so this position can be reviewed occasionally.