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Minutes of the Haydon Wick Parish Council **Full Council** meeting held on **Tuesday 24th March 2026** at 7.30pm held at Parish Council Offices, Thames Avenue, Swindon, SN25 1QQ.

ATTENDANCE MEMBERS: Councillors V Manro (Chairman), S Heyes (Vice Chairman), R Hailstone, J Ireland Jackson, L Jackson, A Jimmy, A John, P Park, R Ross, A Roupelis, L Stevenson, R Worman

OFFICERS: Georgina Morgan-Denn, Chief Officer, Clerk & RFO
Julie McMorrow, HR & Meetings Administrator

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Swindon Borough Council Ward Councillor Stanka Wilson

FC 201 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and noted from Councillors J Ireland, O Munagala, B Patrick-Okoh, A Roupelis (Personal Commitments). No apologies were received from Councillors J Ali and S Fateru.

FC 202 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

FC 203 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Two members of the public who are residents at Cloverlands attended Full Council. Their attendance was to further discuss problems in Cloverlands regarding the goal posts left in the open space, which has prompted older children to linger and cause antisocial behaviour. They are asking for the Council's assistance to remove them when they are not in use. The residents stressed the issue is not around young children playing football, they are simply requesting they are taken away when they are finished playing with. This is the second visit to a Council Meeting regarding this issue. The residents feel they have approached this correctly in a democratic way. Please can this be resolved. Council thanked the residents for attending and confirmed the item was on the agenda this evening and would be discussed shortly.

FC 204 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman confirmed the Council is now in the Pre-Election Sensitivity Period.

FC 205 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Members confirmed as a true record the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 24th February 2026.

Proposed: Councillor L Stevenson Seconded: Councillor A John

Vote: Agreed Unanimously.

RESOLVED: Members confirmed as a true record the minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 24th February 2026. The Chairman signed the minutes.

FC 206 SWINDON BOROUGH WARD (SBC) COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor S Wilson gave thanks the Parish Team for their support over the past few years and wished all the best to the Councillors that are standing for re-election. She also confirmed she is in receipt of her nomination papers and will be standing again. Cllr Wilson confirmed she would ensure there is a thorough handover, if she is not re-elected.

FC 207

COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Councillor V Manro – Attended the Annual Parish Meeting.

Councillor S Heyes – Attended the Annual Parish Meeting.

Councillor R Hailstone – Attended the Annual Parish Meeting.

Councillor J Jackson – Attended the Annual Parish Meeting.

Councillor L Jackson – Attended Annual Parish Meeting and gave a presentation to a school talking to children about the future of the Parish.

Councillor A John – Attended the Annual Parish Meeting.

Councillor P Park – Attended the Annual Parish Meeting, Charity Curry night and gave a presentation to a school talking to children about the future of the Parish.

Councillor R Ross – Attended the Annual Parish Meeting, organised and attended the Charity Curry Event and attended the Haven Café.

Councillor L Stevenson – Attended the Annual Parish Meeting and Charity Curry Event.

Councillor R Worman – Attended the Networking Event during the day which was part of the Annual Parish Meeting.

Councillor A Jimmy – Nothing to report.

FC 208

CHIEF OFFICER'S REPORT

As Council is aware the Council is currently reconsulting on its Community Led Action Plan, which will form the Parish's strategic vision for 2026–2029. As part of this process, we have undertaken several school visits, delivered presentations and engaged with pupils aged from 7-17 years. This process has been a success, and generated future connections and opportunities, but more importantly valuable feedback from a younger demographic that the Council did not effectively reach during the development of the 2022-2025 plan.

It was noted that overall engagement in this strategic consultation has been lower than before. This may, in part, reflect changes in the approach—while a dedicated leaflet was distributed in 2022, this time the consultation has been promoted through the parish magazine, which may have reduced visibility and response rates.

Analysis of the survey is now underway, with the intention of presenting a draft 2026–2029 strategic plan to Full Council in April.

Resolved to bring forward Agenda Item 14.

FC 209

Cloverlands

An update was received regarding the siting of goal posts at Cloverlands. Members noted the report and the actions taken to date, including correspondence issued to residents advising that unattended goal posts may be removed by the Parish Council and treated as fly tipping. It was reported that three letters have now been sent to residents, with generally positive responses supporting children playing football in the open space. Some concerns were raised regarding overgrown shrubbery and anti-social behaviour in the underpass; Members noted that anti-social behaviour is a matter for the Police.

Members considered the suggestion of installing signage to encourage residents to remove goal posts after use, acknowledging that this would not be legally

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enforceable. It was agreed that signage will be trialled in the open space, alongside a further update letter to residents outlining the decisions of the March Full Council.

The Council agreed to continue monitoring the situation and to maintain cutting around the goal posts. However, should complaints persist regarding the condition of the grass in the goal mouth areas, a reminder will be issued that the Parks and Open Spaces Team may temporarily suspend this additional maintenance. *Action: Letter #4 to be sent to residents.*

Proposed: Councillor J Jackson

Seconded: Councillor L Stevenson

Vote: Agreed Unanimously.

RESOLVED: To send a fourth letter to residents advising the Parish Council will continue to monitor this concern. The letter will politely remind residents to remove the goalposts and other items when not in use, then if equipment is left outside, it will impact operations and grass cutting may be suspended. It was agreed to install signage in the area and residents must continue to report any instances of anti-social behaviour to the relevant authorities.

Residents and the Ward Councillor left at 8.06pm

FC 210

ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

An update will be brought to April Full Council on all outstanding matters.

FC 211

FINANCIAL REPORTS

FC 211A

Members received and approved expenditure under purchase daybook references 4960 – 4980. The total payment is £7,907.87 for March 2026.

Proposed: Councillor R Worman

Seconded: Councillor S Heyes

Vote: Agreed Unanimously.

RESOLVED: To approve expenditure under purchase daybook references 4960-4980. The total payment is £7907.87 for March 2026.

FC 211B

Members noted the notification of a Direct Debit set up to cover Vehicle Tax for KV23 UJY.

FC 212

FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

FC 212A

Members noted and approved the Fire, Health & Safety policy and did not raise any questions.

FC 212B

Members noted and approved the Thermal Imaging Camera Report and Policy. They will be trialled by Councillors and then available to the residents to hire.

Proposed: Councillor P Park

Seconded: Councillor J Jackson

Vote: Agreed Unanimously.

RESOLVED:

A) To adopt the revised Fire, Health and Safety Policy.

B) To adopt the Thermal Imaging Camera Policy.

FC 213

GROUND MAINTENANCE FACILITY (GMF)

The Facility has now been fully signed off by the Building Control Officer. With the installation of the fireproof glass, all vehicles and machinery can now be stored safely within the Workshop. Members expressed the urgency for the Contractor to complete the outstanding snagging items, particularly the connection of the water supply to the Leisure Gardens. It is intended that the harvested water system be linked to the troughs within the Leisure Gardens and the now growing season has commenced. The Chief Officer confirmed that, once these works are complete, a

housekeeping handover with Affleck will take place to address any remaining issues, and the Working Party will be kept informed of progress. It was also confirmed that the official grand opening will take place in June, following the Elections. Any Councillors not re-elected will be invited to attend.

FC 214

FRANCOMES PLAY AREA

Members received an update on Francomes Play Area following a recent site visit. The primary issue is determining who holds ultimate responsibility for the park's upkeep; until confirmation is received from SBC, no further progress can be made. Members also noted concerns regarding the storm drain, which will require further investigation. It was agreed that the play area must remain closed pending a detailed response from SBC. Members concluded that there is no benefit for the Parish Council to assume responsibility for the project until substantive information is provided, including clarification of land ownership.

Proposed: Councillor R Worman

Seconded: Councillor R Hailstone

Vote: Agreed Unanimously.

RESOLVED: To the following:

- 1. The park should remain closed until SBC can confirm ultimate ownership and responsibility.**
- 2. No press release to be issued at this stage.**
- 3. Not progress with £1 land transfer.**
- 4. Not to progress a business case.**

FC 215

CAPESTHORNE PLAY AREA

Members received a report recommending the removal of two Hawthorne Trees at this play area. There are spikes on the trees and the berries are all over the play area ground which a child could swallow or sustain an injury on. Members agreed to proceed to remove and replace with smaller trees further away from the fence. Members also asked for the Parks & Projects Officers to check if there are any other sites with similar plants near the play areas. *Action: P&P to check other sites for Hawthorne Trees or similar near to play areas.*

Proposed: Councillor L Stevenson

Seconded: Councillor L Jackson

Vote: Agreed Unanimously.

RESOLVED: To proceed with recommendation to remove two Hawthorne Trees and replace with smaller trees further away from the fence.

FC 216

SWINDON LOCAL COUNCILS FORUM – PROTOCOL

Members noted the joint Parishes and Swindon Borough Council (SBC) Protocol and appendices. The Protocol will go to formal Cabinet in June 2026. The minutes of the recent Forum meeting will be available at April's Full Council.

FC 217

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Members noted the report and acknowledged the success of the event, great location and the space lent itself well to showcase the Parish Council. Thanks were expressed to the Meetings Administrator for designing the event so well and being part of the team who delivered such an excellent event. Members were encouraged to feedback more suggestions for the 2027 meeting.

FC 218

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC & PRESS

RESOLVED: 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'. Reasons: *Contractual and Sensitive*.

FC 219

COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE

Members received an update from the Chief Officer regarding the ongoing absence of Councillor B Patrick-Okoh, who has been unable to attend meetings due to a family bereavement. It was noted that, having last attended a meeting four months ago, Councillor Patrick-Okoh is not at risk of disqualification. The Councillor wished to inform Members of the reasons for her extended absence. Members expressed their sincere condolences and were understanding of her circumstances and unanimously agreed to accept the explanation provided.

Proposed: Councillor P Park

Seconded: Councillor R Ross

Vote: Agreed Unanimously.

RESOLVED: To accept the ongoing absence of Councillor B Patrick-Okoh.

FC 220

INSURANCE MATTERS

Councillors heard there was an accident at Queen Elizabeth Park Play Area and a confidential note is held on file.

The meeting closed at: 8.50pm

Chairman _____

Initials _____