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Minutes of the Haydon Wick Parish Council **Full Council** meeting held on **Tuesday 21st July 2026** at 7.30pm held at Parish Council Offices, Thames Avenue, Swindon, SN25 1QQ.

ATTENDANCE MEMBERS: Councillors V MANRO (Chairman), R HAILSTONE, S HEYES (Vice Chairman), N BRADLEY, C CHIKEZIE-MORRIS, I EDWARDS, R HEATH, A HUGHES, J IRELAND, J JACKSON, A JIMMY, L JACKSON, A JOHN, B PATRICK-OKOH, A ROUPELIS, C SKINNER and L STEVENSON.

OFFICERS: Georgina Morgan-Denn, Chief Officer, Clerk & RFO
Laura Cutter, Deputy Clerk/RFO, HR & Services Manager
Julie McMorro, HR & Meetings Administrator
Liz Matthews, Marketing & Events Co-Ordinator

Also in attendance: Swindon Borough Council (SBC) Ward Councillors S Wilson and A Hedges

FC 040 APOLOGIES
Apologies were received from Councillor S Nukana (Personal Commitments).

FC 041 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
SBC Ward Councillors A Hughes, L Stevenson, V Manro will declare an interest in Agenda item 10 'Swindon Big Town Clean Up' and not take part in the discussion or vote. Councillor V Manro declared an interest in Agenda Item 18 Chapel Farm Solar Community Fund as he is a shareholder of the company.

FC 042 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.
There were two members of the public observing the meeting and two Ward Councillors from SBC.

FC 043 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS
There were none.

FC 044A MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
Members reviewed the minutes of Full Council held on Tuesday 26th May 2026 and agreed they were a true record.
Proposed: Councillor A John Seconded: Councillor N Bradley
Vote: Agreed Unanimously.
RESOLVED: Members confirmed as a true record the minutes of the meeting held on 26th May 2026. The Chairman signed the minutes.

FC 044B Members reviewed the minutes of Full Council held on Tuesday 23rd June 2026 and agreed they were a true record.
Proposed: Councillor L Jackson Seconded: Councillor B Patrick-Okoh
Vote: Agreed with two (2) Abstentions.
RESOLVED: Members confirmed as a true record the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd June 2026. The Chairman signed the minutes.

FC 045 SWINDON BOROUGH WARD COUNCILLOR REPORTS
Councillor S Wilson (Haydon Wick) – Reported back regarding the resident requirement for double yellow lines. Having corresponded with highways at SBC the response was 'to be looked at later in the year' which is disappointing

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but will keep pushing back regarding this issue. Seven Fields Conservation Group welcomed the re-opening of Kings Bridge after repairs. Councillor Wilson advised that she was in receipt of an invite to Pride in Places programme, and invited to meetings and will report further, there is hoped to be on the board of this, it's of interest to this Parish as this group also covers part of Seven Fields. Further information to follow.

Councillor A Hedges (Haydon Wick) – Advised on planning for a children's home in Lockspeed Close. Update on Thames Avenue speedhump, this was removed due to damage, highways will conduct a speed trial' which will take place after the school summer break and depending on results a decision will be made whether to replace it or not. It was requested by members if there was anything on the resurfacing update on Thames Avenue, Councillor S Wilson took this action and will take this away and come back to Full Council.

Councillor A Hughes (Priory Vale) – Committee Meetings and ongoing case work.

Councillor L Stevenson (Priory Vale) - Continues supporting residents with housing needs and defence needs along with Royal British Legion to establish links, armed forces champions, veterans and families. Case work on pathways, a high volume and issues with street lighting. Many roads and pathways have been improved.

FC 046

COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Councillor N Bradley – Reported cycle path between Pond Lane and Orchid Close to SBC the response was its not suitable to be repaired, will pass this to Councillor S Wilson. Attended re-opening of Kings Bridge at Seven Field. Attended a meeting with Deputy Clerk regarding the National Cycle Network.

Councillor C Chikezie-Morris – Attended the event at Shield and Dagger to support CALM.

Councillor R Hailstone – Attended Swindon Local Councils Forum, Personnel Sub Committee and litter pick at Green Meadow Shops.

Councillor R Heath – Planning to review all cycle paths and will feed back findings in due course.

Councillor S Heyes – Attended Personnel Sub Committee and Leisure Garden competition judging.

Councillor A Hughes – Case work with Thames Water. Conducted some weeding outside Oakhurst Primary School.

Councillor J Ireland – Helped with Leisure Garden judging and Green Meadow Primary school assembly regarding the bus shelter project and joined the Well Church lunch group. Attended Personal Sub Committee.

Councillor J Jackson – Nothing to report.

Councillor L Jackson – Attended Kings Bridge and continues with regular litter pick. Noticed a local pre-school had done a litter pick so took some certificates as a thank you from the Parish Council. Issues with Morrisons outdoor green space have finally been resolved by the Store.

Councillor I Edwards – Attended the Green Meadow litter pick.

Councillor A Jimmy – Nothing to report.

Councillor A John – Attended Chairs and Strategic Development Committee meeting and Sub Personnel Committee.

Councillor B Patrick-Okoh – Nothing to report.

Councillor A Roupelis – Nothing to report.

Councillor C Skinner – Nothing to report.

Councillor L Stevenson – Attended the Shield and Dagger fundraiser for CALM.

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FC 047

CHIEF OFFICER'S REPORT

Reported that Thames Water has introduced a hosepipe ban which takes place on Thursday 23rd July 2026. The Parks & Open Spaces Manager will adapt operations accordingly. Grounds Maintenance Facility opening will take place on 28th July at 2.30pm please come along. There have been resident enquiries about the lack of watering of a tree at the Skate Park and shrubs on Elstree Way, it was confirmed they are being watered regularly by the Parks and Open Spaces team. Chief Officer, Deputy Clerk and Marketing and Events Co-Ordinator attended the NALC 'Martyns Law' Seminar where a brief introduction into anti-terrorism acts to ensure public safety at events and venues. The Act received Royal Assent on 3rd April 2025 and is expected to come into force in April 2027. The law requires public venues and event spaces to prepare for and mitigate against the threat of terrorist attacks. Although the Parish Council does not meet the qualifying criteria, as its public events are unticketed and its premises have a capacity of fewer than 200 people, it already maintains robust risk assessment processes, supported by the Chief Officer's experience in large-scale event management and security sector.

FC 048

SWINDON BOROUGH COUNCILS (SBC) – THE BIG TOWN CENTRE CLEAN UP

Councillors L Stevenson and A Hughes as SBC did not take place in the discussion.

Councillors considered a request to supply resourcing to SBC as part of the 'Big Town Centre Clean Up' initiative taking place the last two weeks in August 2026. The work programme will include:

1. Refurbishing benches
2. Replacing damaged and worn paving
3. Cleaning bins and jet washing key areas of the town centre
4. Removing weeds and overgrown vegetation
5. Removing graffiti from council-owned buildings and property

Resources required would include, vehicles, machinery and a presence over the two weeks. Members felt that they would prefer to support a more local programme. SBC feel it should be provided by the whole of the borough and for all Parishes to upkeep. After discussion, it was considered that this would have an impact on Haydon Wick's resources. It was also reported that other Parishes in Swindon were not offering any resources to SBC. Some Councillors stated they would volunteer their personal time to the project but would not ask the Parish Council to provide resourcing. In conclusion the Council could not support SBC's request. *Action: Chief Officer to report the outcome to SBC.*

FC 049

MOULDON HILL COUNTRY PARK s106 FUNDING

This item was deferred to Parks & Open Spaces Committee due to the Chairman not being in attendance.

FC 050

COUNCIL'S CHOSEN CHARITY FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES

Members received an update on fundraising ideas and events to support the Council's Chosen Charity, Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM). Small amounts of funds have already started to be achieved. There will be a big push

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at the Summer Festival and another Bikeathon and Chocolate Bingo later this year. A suggestion for 'dressing your garden' was put forward - similar to open gardens they could be themed at different times of the year and visitors pay/donate an amount for entry. There have also been several prizes from a supermarket which is enough for the Summer Festival tombola and a potential company who will work with the Council to convert scrap metal value to donations to CALM. Other ideas mooted included a bike ride and all members were encouraged to submit and champion their ideas.

FC 051

NATIONAL CYCLE NETWORK GRANT APPLICATION

Members noted that an application has been submitted to Stage One of the National Cycle Network for funding for the Parish. This would reinvigorate our cycling network and promote active travel and routes to Tadpole Fields and encourage residents into HWPC open spaces. The Parish schools, Orbital, Haydon Centre and Care Homes would all benefit in offering an active route for people walking, cycling, and assisted walking. Demographics is a key factor; however, this would link our community in a positive way. Further information to follow, if grant is successful.

Councillor V Manro joined the meeting at 8.12pm

**FC 052
FC 052A**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MATTERS

Summer Event: Members received an update on the event due to take place on the 8th August at Trent Road Field 2pm – 7pm. Similar format to last year. Swindon 105.5 are offering a compere for the day and may broadcast the programmes during the day at the site. The live stage setting has been secured and the evening will finish with a medley of country songs. There will hopefully be a line dancing team and a recent grant recipient will do a martial art demonstration. Confirmed sponsorship from Cross Street Garage and Specsavers. There will be just over forty (40) trade stands of craft sales and food and drink. All Councillors were encouraged to attend – a resourcing table was circulated. Members enquired about the condition of the ground following the recent period of hot weather. It was noted that due to the prolonged dry conditions, some surface cracking will occur across grassed areas. Site inspections have taken place and reasonable steps followed to identify and address any significant defects where practicable. However, as with any outdoor open space, uneven ground and natural surface variations may remain. Attendees using the site on foot, mobility scooters, wheelchairs or other mobility aids will be advised to take appropriate care and always remain mindful of ground conditions.

Marketing & Events Co-Ordinator left the meeting at 8.31pm.

FC 052B

Members considered two deferred Grant Applications from the 7th July Committee Development meeting as they required further information. The meeting heard the remaining budget available for this round of grants is £2,070.00.

If the full grant amount of £500.00 is awarded to Open Door, the remaining budget will be £1,570.00 which subject to agreement for Torn Curtain, it may be possible to reduce the grant award accordingly. This would allow the room hire to be funded through the provision of Council Offices facilities, with a

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smaller grant contributing towards materials and staff time. There is clear evidence of a need for this project within the Parish, and it also presents opportunities to develop several partnership initiatives. As such, a combination of room hire support, and a reduced financial grant could represent an effective use of the remaining grant budget.

The approximate cost of the room hire will be £1,058.40 (on the basis it is £17.60ph x 3-hour sessions for x 12 weeks). There may be potential income for refreshments if this works better for the facilitators. This is a grant package so this would need to be accepted in full.

The grant award works the same way, but the grant funding will be journalled to the room hire income pot. The £511.60 could be used for materials and resources to facilitate the sessions.

Members were advised that Open Door had answered questions as requested 21st July 2026. Therefore, it was agreed in principle to give the Chief Officer delegated authority to proceed as recommended in the report.

Proposed: Councillor A Roupelis Seconded: Councillor L Jackson
Vote: Agreed Unanimously.

RESOLVED: To give the Chief Officer delegated authority to proceed as follows:

- **award £500.00 to Open Door.**
- **award a maximum £1,570.00 to Torn Curtain, subject to confirmation of answers to enquiries that are outstanding and using our offer of the parish council room hire.**

FC 053

CHAIRS AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT SUB COMMITTEE UPDATE

Members received an update and minutes from the recent the Chairs and Strategic Development Sub Committee which met on Tuesday 14th July 2026. The minutes are available to note. There is now an action tracker for the Community Led Action Plan (CLAP) and Committees will be required to champion their relevant actions and report updates at every Committee meeting. A discussion was had about the future of Planning & Highways Committee meeting and Councillor A Hughes declared an interest because she currently sits on the SBC planning committee. The Sub Committee agreed to trial going out to talk to residents about the CLAP and conduct surveys to enhance what is being delivered if what is being provided is what residents require. It was commented that the in-house training for new Councillors has been great and surpassed that of WALC's Councillor Fundamentals training. Other feedback asked for it to be made clearer who the Councillor buddies were and the Chief Officer believe that most Councillors had made their own introductions and remained in touch with each other.

FC 054

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS – STAR COUNCIL AWARDS 2026/7

This year's deadline is 25th September, it was asked that Councillors give this thought and it will go on the next Community Development Committee meeting on the 1st September 2026 for further discussion.

FC 055
FC 055A

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE MATTERS

Members noted and reviewed the revised Policy. It was agreed to adopt the Data Retention & Disposal Policy as presented.

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Proposed: Councillor J Jackson Seconded: Councillor N Bradley

Vote: Agreed Unanimously.

RESOLVED: To proceed to adopt the revised Data Retention & Disposal Policy.

FC 055B

Members received and retrospectively approve July 2026 Payroll under Cashbook reference 491 total payment of £80,616.85

Proposed: Councillor B Patrick-Okoh Seconded: Councillor R Hailstone

Vote: Agreed Unanimously.

RESOLVED: To proceed to retrospectively approve July 2026 Payroll under Cashbook reference 491 total payment of £80,616.85.

FC 055C

Members considered and noted Q1 Budget Review with no questions raised.

FC 056

APPLICATION TO THE CHAPEL FARM SOLAR COMMUNITY FUND

Cllr V Manro declared an interest as he is a shareholder in Chapel Farm and took no part in the discussion.

Members considered a report which outlined a potential submission to apply for £35,000 from the Chapel Farm Solar Community Fund. The report seeks approval to prepare and submit a funding application only. After discussion, Members agreed to the proposal.

Proposed: Councillor L Stevenson Seconded: Councillor N Bradley

Vote: Agreed with one (1) Abstention.

RESOLVED:

- To support the submission of an application for up to £35,000 during the current financial year from the Chapel Farm Solar Community Fund.
- To authorise Officers, in consultation with the Tadpole Working Party, to prepare and submit the funding application on behalf of Haydon Wick Parish Council.
- To ensure the funding application reflects the Council's Community Led Action Plan, the objectives of the Chapel Farm Solar Community Fund and the aspiration to bring Tadpole Field into renewed public use through biodiversity and community enhancement.
- To note that, should the funding application be successful, Officers will develop a detailed project proposal in consultation with the Tadpole Working Party for consideration by Full Council before any funding is accepted or works commence.

FC 057

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'. Reasons: Sensitive.

FC 058

PERSONNEL SUB COMMITTEE

Members received recommendations from the Personnel Sub Committee that met on Wednesday 15th July 2026. After discussion, Council agreed to recommendations presented.

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