

**Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17th September 2024 at 7:30pm at
South Marston Village Hall.**

Council Members present	
C McEwen (CM) (Chair)	M Povey (MP)
S Brown (SB) (Vice Chair)	N Hole (NH)
B Thunder (BT)	T Leathart (TL)
Clerk & Responsible Officer:	K Morgan
Borough Councillors present:	M Vallender
Others present:	Mrs Featherstone

Acronyms used in these minutes:

SBC – Swindon Borough Council, PC – Parish Council, NP – Neighbourhood Plan, NPC – Neighbourhood Planning Committee, SMRA – South Marston Recreation Association, OSWG – Open Spaces Working Group, CWG – Communications Working Group, SM website – www.SouthMarston.org.uk, ML – Mandy Larcombe (bookkeeper)

Agenda item & minute number	Summary	Action
Open 10 Minutes 71/24-25	Cllr Vallender gave an update: - The application for conversion to flats on the main SM Park Industrial estate was refused and unlikely to be revisited given noise concerns. - The Quest application went to Planning Committee and was refused on technical grounds and non-coalescence zones. - Traveller site off Nightingale lane – should hear within next few weeks. - Issues with SBC taking responsibility for flood lagoons – still seeking further answers. - No further update on the Amazon turbine yet. Mrs Featherstone asked a question about the possibility of a gesture to acknowledge a previous long-standing volunteer's work on the Recreation Ground	

	- SB said she would raise it with SMRA	
1. Apologies 72/24-25	Cllr Carter sent his apologies as he was on holiday.	None
2. Declarations of interest 73/24-25	SB repeated her ongoing general interest due to the proximity of her property to the new development site. Also SB reported her direct involvement in encouraging developer contact with directly affected properties. Noted by council.	None
3. To approve and sign the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 20 th August 2024 74/24-25	The minutes were approved. Proposed: NH Seconded: MP Approved: All	None
4. Review of actions 75/24-25	Review of actions currently outstanding. Clerk to update the following: Aug 24 61/24-25 HHT Parcels 6 & 7, 8 & 9 – SPWG to submit responses following the meeting.	SPWG
5. Review of Council Calendar 76/24-25	The PC reviewed the calendar. - It was discussed and agreed that the council will consider including additional funds within the budgeting process to cover the uncertainty over services purportedly carried out by SBC.	None
6. Clerk's Report 77/24-25	Report was reviewed. - It was noted that the newly received s106 funds needed to be kept in an interest bearing account. Clerk to review of bank account situation and report back to council at next meeting.	Clerk
7. Planning applications 78/24-25	The following applications were discussed and a summary of draft comments offered: S/24/0981 Change of use from Agricultural Land to Residential curtilage. Creation of new vehicular access to Priory Lodge, closure of	

	existing vehicular access, erection of new boundary treatment and gates, associated ancillary works. At: Priory Lodge, Thornhill Road South Marston Swindon Deadline: 23rd September 2024 - To be responded to by SPWG/SB S/RES/24/1020 Reserved Matters application (following planning application S/OUT/13/1555) for Land North of A420, Eastern Villages. Details of the layout, scale, appearance, access and landscaping in relation to the Primary Street connecting Old Vicarage Lane to Thornhill Road. At: Land North Of A420, Eastern Villages Swindon Deadline: 10th October 2024 - To be responded to by SPWG/SB	SPWG/SB SPWG/SB
8. Asset Register 79/24-25	It was noted that one chainsaw needed to be added to the register. Council resolved to approve the asset register with the addition of this item. Proposed: SB Seconded: BT Approved: All	Clerk
9. Grant request for Christmas Event 80/24-25	Council discussed the application and resolved to approve a grant of £200 for the event. Proposed: SB Seconded: BT Approved: All Clerk to inform applicant and arrange funds transfer when required.	Clerk
10. Reports from Working Groups 81/24-25	Communications Working Group: Report reviewed. Open Spaces Working Group: Report reviewed: - It was noted that the Community Payback situation may be changing and payment may be required for the service. The council discussed and agreed that it in principal this would be acceptable but this would depend on the terms and charges. BT to seek further information in time for the	

	next meeting/Finance Working Group meeting in late October. - A course in safe use of pesticides was proposed for the lengthsman to attend. Council resolved to fund the course up to a cost of £250. Proposed: SB Seconded: NH Approved: All - BT noted that the additional works done by Allbuild on Nightingale Lane and Highworth Road had not actually been completed to the required standard. This was chased by BT and has now been completed satisfactorily. It was agreed that in future any request for work from Allbuild needed to be put in writing and better communication was to be expected from Allbuild in regards to holiday and deputisation. The possibility of seeking a second contractor as a backup provider for similar work in the village was mentioned - to be further investigated by BT. - A grant to the model flying club of £40 as a thank you for repairing some equipment was discussed and agreed. Proposed: BT Seconded: SB Approved: All Clerk to arrange payment and to confirm that this is acceptable as means of paying for future occasional repairs. Allotments Working Group: Report was noted. - Council agreed with the proposed solution to repurpose the wooden sleepers and soil from the heritage garden to various allotments. BT to progress. Rights of Way Working Party: Report was noted.	BT BT Clerk BT
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	- It was agreed to follow the proposed solution requiring the developers to do the early spring cuts with SBC using Allbuild to do a late summer cut as well. Working Party to follow up with SBC and developers.	Rights of Way WP
11. Reports relating to expansion 82/24-25	Strategic Planning Working Group Report was reviewed: - SB reviewed the many ongoing items related to development. - Due to the amount of work required and relatively short timescales, Council agreed that responses to outstanding applications could be submitted by the SPWG without further consultation with other councillors.	SPWG
12. Other reports 83/24-25	SMRA and Play Working Group report: Report was reviewed: - The plan for further planting of trees and bushes on the recreation ground was discussed at some length. Council resolved to approve the application to the Trees for Climate Change fund. Proposed: SB Seconded: NH Approved: MP, BT Against: CM Abstained: TL Parish/borough Liaison: Report was reviewed. - It was noted that the borough reported that it is in the process of streamlining services and hoping to deliver more efficiency.. No progress on the Partnership Protocol - The transfer of services discussions have been stopped given lack of sufficient information from the borough. A draft response expected to be agreed at the Local Councils Forum later in the week.	None
13. Finance 84/24-25	To review and approve finance statement, bank statements and payments:	

	- Council resolved to approve payments totalling £7,434.08 Proposed: BT Seconded: NH Approved: All Spending approved at this meeting: - £200 grant for Twelve days of Christmas Event - £250 for Safe Use of Pesticides Course - £40 grant to the model flying club	None
14. Matters brought forward 85/24-25	BT noted that the village defibrillators now under our ownership and that battery replacements will be needed later this year. TL mentioned that a schedule for defibrillator maintenance is in place.	None

The meeting closed at 9:35pm

Signed by Chairperson:

Date: