

Minutes of Swindon Annual Parish Meeting held at 6.30pm on Thursday 14th March 2024 at Swindon Community Centre

Present: Cllrs Mr S Massey (Chairman), Dr R Painter, Mrs L Page, Mr G Fanthom, Mrs D Chandler, Mr A Osbourne and County Councillor Mrs V Wilson also present Mrs J Cree – Clerk, Member of the Public Nigel Wasdell

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies of absence were received from Cllrs Mrs V Boote (Vice Chair), Mr S Hewitt and Mrs P Halford.

2. Minutes of the previous meetings held on the 9th March 2023

The minutes of the previous year's meeting were approved as an accurate record of that meeting Cllr S Massey proposed that they be accepted.

3. To discuss any matters arising from the previous Annual Parish Meeting of the 9th March 2023

The Chairman reported that there are not any matters arising from the 9th March 2023 meeting which have not been addressed during the past 12 months.

4. Report of the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed those present to the Annual Parish Meeting, this is not a Parish Council meeting but an opportunity for residents to raise concerns / make comments.

The Parish Council has had a busy and successful 12 months and thanks goes to all that have contributed, there's been some unnecessary hurdles to scale along the way but there is light at the end of the tunnel!

The Parish Council continue to receive financial assistance from the Community Centre management committee for improvements to the community centre and are grateful and on behalf of the Parish Council and Swindon residents thank the Community Centre management committee for their work, it helps lessen the financial burden on the Parish Council.

The Parish continues to make improvements around the village with new planters due to arrive shortly to replace the existing wooden planters which required replacement and plans are in place to improve the area in the lower High Street / Old bus terminus area, Parish Council continue to work with District Council and welcome the return of SID / CCTV. It is hoped that once funding has been secured Swindon Parish Council will be purchasing its own SID to enhance the safety in the village by reducing speeding vehicles.

The Parish Council will seek further opportunities to cut costs where possible and the Parish Council remains in a strong financial position and spends money wisely.

5. Parish Reports

No reports received from Cricket, Bowls, Allotments, or the Churches.

Community Centre – The Community centre reports that it is now in a strong financial position, there is a good mixture of regular groups / hirers providing an income so that the Community Centre is self-sufficient. Recent repairs have been undertaken to water heater in gent's toilets, hot water boiler in kitchen, new wiring in disabled toilet for new hand dryer, new hand dryers in toilets, main door required repairs to hinges and hydraulic closer and has been given a new lease of life by being painted. The foyer is due to be repainted in the coming weeks, a village resident has kindly arranged for a scissor lift to be supplied at no charge to reach the high areas.

6. Matters raised by the public present

Cllr Dr R Painter asked for an updated position of the accounts at the current time, the Clerk will forward this information to him following the meeting.

7. Date of next APM meeting – 13th March 2025

Meeting was closed at 6.45pm