

Minutes of Swindon Parish Council Meeting held at 7:15pm on 10th September 2026 at Swindon Community Centre

Present: Cllrs Mr S Massey (Chairman), Mrs L Page (Vice Chairman), Mr S Hewitt, Dr R Painter, Mrs S Woods, Mr G Fanthom.

Also, present Clerk Mrs J Cree and County Cllr Mrs V Wilson.

112/26. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mr A Osbourne was not in attendance, Cllr Mrs D Chandler sent her apologies which were accepted.

113/26. To fill Casual Vacancy by co-option

There has been one candidate that has requested information and this has been sent to them.

114/26. To report on Police matters.

The Chairman has emailed the Police and asked them to call to discuss concerns of the Parish, the Inspector emailed back the next day re electric bikes, but this was not the issue, the main issue is cars leaving Copart in Wombourne which are unroadworthy, untaxed, no MOT or Insurance. He will try to contact her again.

On one of the smart alerts there has been an incident with a bike being taken at force by the canal, this is under investigation.

115/26. Declarations of Councillors' Interest.

Cllrs Mr G Fanthom, Mrs L Page and Mr S Massey re affirmed that having previously declared an interest as they are serving members of Swindon Community Centre.

116/26. To receive for confirmation and adoption, the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th July 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on the 9th July 2026 were agreed with the following amendment:-

“102/26. To discuss Development Applications received and any licensing matters

There was 1 new application - 26/00499/FUL Proposal: Replacement building for use as a dwelling (retrospective)
Location: Smestow Grange Farm, Smestow Road, Swindon.

It was proposed by Cllr Dr R Painter to oppose the application **as it is an unauthorised development in the Greenbelt** and support the comments made by the Ramblers Association, this was seconded by Cllr Mr G Fanthom, on a vote this failed, so it was agreed to leave the decision to the Officers as it is a retrospective application and there is not enough information to make a comment.”

They were proposed by Cllr Mr S Massey and seconded by Cllr Mr S Hewitt.

117/26. County Councillor to address the Council on any matters relevant to the Parish

County Cllr Mrs V Wilson reported that: -

- The next Parish Assembly is at Victory Hall , Lower Penn 29th October 2026.
- Flooding in late August - there was water entering the public house, the water cleared once the debris was cleared from the top of the drain. The Chairman went and had a look at Hinksford Park, at the bottom of the site, and the area did not flood into properties.
- The area after the flooding was requested to be cleared of the debris, but due to the level of soil etc, it may have to be manually removed.
- LGR – this has been paused SCC will continue as it is, and the next County election will be in 2028, if LGR does go ahead then this will change in line with the new Unitary Authority.
- A public meeting took place with the SSDC Councillor, PCSO and Victoria as the County Cllr. One of the suggestions from a resident was to hold a monthly repair café, and the resident may be able to help on this project. From the event another resident came and has joined Speed watch.

- There is a sign by the community centre, that says skid hazard, and it was requested for it to be removed if it is not required.

118/26. To discuss Development Applications received and any licensing matters

New applications

26/00658/EIASCO Proposal: Request for an EIA Scoping Opinion in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 regarding a proposed solar farm and ancillary infrastructure
Location: Land West Of Greensforge, Greensforge

Some level of concerns were potential visual interference with planes landing at Wolverhampton Airport, Flooding, the visibility of the area from various locations would be affected, loss of greenbelt arable land / grazing, archaeological issues.

It was proposed by Cllr Dr R Painter and seconded by Cllr Mr S Hewitt to support the need for an EIA Scoping Opinion in accordance with the Town and Country Planning. The applicant had agreed to notify from 1km of the site, this has been requested to be increased to inform more people.

26/00283/OUTM Outline Planning Application, with all matters reserved except access, for up to 115 residential dwellings, public open space, landscaping, sustainable drainage and all associated works Land North of B4176 Bridgnorth Road Himley - comments sent previously, as this is an amended plan.

It was proposed to send a comment stating that our original comments still stand as it is a minor alteration.

26/00674/FULHH Proposal: Two storey side extension and garage conversion into habitable space Location: 3 Albert Drive Swindon – noted.

26/00744/FUL Proposal - Erection of an agricultural barn Location: Whitehouse Farm Whitehouse Lane Swindon It was noted that this is a resubmission of an approved application for 2022 – noted.

Decisions

26/00499/FUL - Replacement building for use as a dwelling (retrospective) Smestow Grange Farm Smestow Road Swindon – Refused and now appealed 26/00042/REF

119/26. To receive an update and discuss any maintenance and repairs required within the Parish

The Chairman reported on the following items: -

Playground springer repaired at a cost of £1175 + vat (Invoice 7901), the contractor also repaired the section under the swings at no additional cost, and replaced stoppers on the equipment that were missing.

Water leak Church Rd (Old School), this has now been resolved with the assistance of the landlord and Severn Trent Water, and it was a leaky stop tap.

A member of the cricket club has spoken to a councilor to help revive the cricket club, with some financial support. It was noted that the club have been looking at redeveloping the building, and this is ongoing, but funds have not been sourced.

120/26. To receive any updates / discuss improvements to the community centre

The Chairman reported that the SMART meter was fitted on the 13th July 2026, he applied for the Smart Export Guarantee (SEG) on the 15th July 2026 and this was approved by EDF Energy on the 12th August 2026 – First bill/update should reflect solar generation

Electric cost comparison

2025	2026
June £132.91	June £20.53
July £92.23	July £23.44
Aug £132.08	Aug £23.44 (Estimated)
Average £119.07	Average £22.47

The Solar is saving in the region of £100.00 per month, first month with the Solar being operational was March 2026, there has been a £600.00 saving March to August. £600.00 is now due to be paid by the Community centre to Swindon Parish Council. The costs and income from SEG to be monitored over the next six months. The evidence of the savings will be supplied to the Council when available.

121/26. To receive an update and discuss the CCTV costs for the High Street

The Chairman gave an update to the current position with the CCTV system as detailed below: -

- Admiral Taverns agreed with CCTV equipment being installed on the building a wayleave agreement is awaited.
- The insurance payment has been received from Hastings, the sum of £3616.42 has been received.
- Three quotes will be required, the first Quote received CSS, which will need updating.

122/26. To note the SID Data

The speed statistics for the past month are detailed below:

Wombourne Rd July 2026

V85: 32mph (V85 = Average speed of 15th fastest vehicle in every 100)
Vd: 26mph (Vd = Average speed recorded during evaluation period)
Vmax: 68mph (Vmax = Highest speed recorded during evaluation period)
Speed violations: 21.9%

High Street July 2026

V85: 29mph (V85 = Average speed of 15th fastest vehicle in every 100)
Vd: 24mph (Vd = Average speed recorded during evaluation period)
Vmax: 69mph (Vmax = Highest speed recorded during evaluation period)
Speed violations: 8.7%

Wombourne Rd Aug 2026

V85: 31mph (V85 = Average speed of 15th fastest vehicle in every 100)
Vd: 26mph (Vd = Average speed recorded during evaluation period)
Vmax: 90mph (Vmax = Highest speed recorded during evaluation period)
Speed violations: 17.9%

High Street Aug 2026

V85: 29mph (V85 = Average speed of 15th fastest vehicle in every 100)
Vd: 24mph (Vd = Average speed recorded during evaluation period)
Vmax: 65mph (Vmax = Highest speed recorded during evaluation period)
Speed violations: 7.8%

It was noted the absence of the sign in the centre of the village appears to see an increase in the village. The SID needs to be relocated back in that location.

Speed watch is organising the training from the Community Centre, ideally 1 day for all the trainees.

123/26. Funding from SSDC for local projects

As previously mentioned the Government has paused the Local Government Review, so funding has been suspended until more information is known from the Government.

The business and Community fund have been suspended until further notice.

124/26. To receive the report of the Clerk

The following items were noted: -

Asset Transfer Briefing for Local Councils 7th September

ACP-2024-037 – Forthcoming stakeholder engagement

Local Government Reorganisation Decision and also this has been paused

Poppy Appeal Wreaths for Remembrance tide in November and Lamp Post Poppies

Help Shape the Future of Housing in South Staffordshire

125/26. To agree accounts for payment, inc. and the external audit completion

The accounts for payment are listed below: -

11/08/2026	Sutcliffe	35		1,410.00
11/08/2026	ICO	36		47.00
25/08/2026	Insurance payment refund	37	147.66	
03/08/2026	CCTV Insurance payment	38	3,616.42	
14/09/2026	Talk Talk	39		32.34
24/09/2026	HMRC	40		253.05
24/09/2026	Wages	41		343.74
24/09/2026	Phone / Microsoft	42		20.49

It was proposed by Cllr Dr R Painter and seconded by Cllr Mr S Massey to accept the payment of the accounts above.

The external audit was noted as being completed.

126/26. Items for future agendas (to be submitted to Chairman and Clerk for consideration by the 1st October).

127/26. Date of next meeting – Thursday 8th October 2026

Meeting closed at 8.35 pm.