

WROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL



FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 16 December 2024 at 7.30pm
At the Ellendune Community Centre, Barrett Way, Wroughton. SN4 0RX

Councillors: Cllr L Campisano (Vice-Chair)
Cllr D Archer
Cllr G Cook
Cllr D Hooper
Cllr N Hooper
Cllr B Keetch
Cllr T Kewen
Cllr N McMahon
Cllr L Ramsay
Cllr E Shaw
Cllr B Streeton
Cllr H Woodward

Ward Cllr M Courtliff.

Clerk: Emma Freemantle

FC/124 **Apologies**

Apologies received from Cllr G Overbury and Cllr J Hewer.
No apologies from Ward Cllr A Poole.

FC/125 **Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**

There were no declarations or applications for dispensation by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 24 May 2024.

FC/126 **Co Option of Parish Councillor**

Members interviewed two applicants for the parish council's co-option vacancy, members **RESOLVED** to appoint Mr Will McGregor as the new co-opted parish Councillor.
The Clerk will continue to liaise with the other applicant regarding other volunteer opportunities with community and parish council.

FC/127 **Public Questions**

There were no members of the public present.

FC/128 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Members **RESOLVED** to confirm as a true record the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 18 November 2024. *Note that Cllr B Keetch was present at the last meeting in November.*

FC/129 **Chairs Report**

Members received a report of the Chair, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A in the Minute Book.
The Clerk confirmed that the suggested Chairman Charity options will be agreed at the January meeting.

Ward Councillor Update

Members received a verbal update from Swindon Borough Ward Councilors, Cllr M Courtliff and Cllr G Cook.

Cllr Cook advised that she has had confirmation from SBC officers that the planning permission for the 5G mast in Hall Close has been granted. There is nothing that can be done about the install and this is now complete.

Flooding – Ward Cllrs and MP Danny Krueger have met with SBCs Cllr Chris Watts to discuss the flooding of the culverts at the Pitches. Cllr Cook has been advised that this is a Stage 3 issue and currently unsure what stage 3 details, Cllr Cook to look into this further and come back to the parish council. Cllr B Keetch also raised the issue of blocked drains on Swindon Road and the flooding in that area, again Cllr Cook has already raised this via members hotline at SBC.

All NOTED that the next meeting with Perry Paine regarding road traffic safety issues is now the 10th January, a member of Danny Krueger's office will also be in attendance along with representation from Wroughton Parish Council.

Cllr M Courtliff raised the issue of the traffic lights are still on Marlborough Road/ Brimble Hill. All NOTED that there is no date for their removal as this is an insurance issue between the residents and a privately-owned wall causing the issue which requires the lights.

Cllr M Courtliff has requested that the gulley suckers can go out in Wroughton this month but no confirmed date as yet.

5g Mast – Whilst the new mast is providing a new alternative supply to residents there is still the unresolved issue of BD UK, there is still a delay and Cllr M Courtliff is investigating further.

Devolution of Services – all NOTED that SBC have now put forward a formal expression of interest of joining with other unitary authorities to help with the current pressures and debt they are dealing with. Cllr M Courtliff advised that the council are having talks with authorities on the M4 corridor as a preference over authorities in the South. There are opportunities to join forces with Berkshire, Oxfordshire or Dorset and Wiltshire.

The Clerk asked what timescales SBC are working too if this is only an expression of interest? Cllr M Courtliff will take the question away but believes this could likely be in 2026 when the elections are due. If SBC decide to work with Wiltshire County Council, their elections are set for 2025 and would require a change in year / election date to allow the two to merge.

Cllr H Woodward asked what is happening with the traffic lights on Wharf Road, Cllr M Courtliff advised that these are works in relation to the gas leak further up the road. He will put the question forward as to how long the disruption will go on for.

Wroughton Community Library

Members received and NOTED a report from the Library Supervisor regarding the Community Library provision, a copy can be found as Appendix B in the Minute Book.

Friendship Café

Members received an updated report from the Deputy Clerk regarding the proposal for the Friendship Café and a copy can be found as Appendix C in the Minute Book.

Members RESOLVED to AGREE the following:

- 1. Support and facilitate the starting up of a Friendship Group, to be run/ co-ordinated by volunteers, to be held in Wroughton Library every Monday afternoon 2pm-4pm, starting Monday 20th January.**
- 2. The Friendship Group should be aimed at older people, but open to anyone aged 18 or above who lives within the Parish. The promotional material would make this clear. People attending would not be able to bring children with them.**
- 3. There would be no cost for anyone to attend.**
- 4. There would be no need to become a formal member of the Friendship Group. People would be free to come in and leave whenever they wished between 2-4pm on a Monday.**
- 5. Allocate a budget of £250 to the Friendship Group for the 2025/26 financial year, with the intention that the budget would be used only if external funding could not be sourced; agreement to use the funding would need to be approved by the Clerk or Deputy Clerk in consultation with the Chair of the Parish Council, and any such expenditure would be formally reported in a timely manner to the next F&GP meeting.**

Cllr L Campisano provided an update following the previously held volunteer meet and greet session, members NOTED that whilst the Friendship café offering is predominantly for residents living within the parish boundary, it would be unfair to turn people away especially in the early stages and formation of the group. The parish council is to monitor the attendance as the group becomes established and work with the volunteers to help manage numbers.

Cllr N Hooper requested that any advertisements available are also put up on WPC owned bus shelters as many residents use the bus and this is another ideal location to share the news.

Members NOTED the supportive correspondence received from Swindon Borough Council, a copy can be found as Appendix D in the Minute Book.

FC/133

SMASH Youth Work

Members received an update from SMASH regarding the parish councils Youth Work, a copy of the update is attached as Appendix E in the Minute Book.

A copy of the new Winter youth schedule is attached as Appendix F, reminder to NOTE the new timings of split sessions for the two age groups.

FC/134

Parish Council Representatives' Report

To receive reports from Members of outside bodies:

- Transport Reps (Cllr G Overbury & Cllr N Hooper) **No update until the new year.**
- Carnival Committee (Cllr L Campisano & Cllr D Archer) **Reminder of the 2025 date for all to attend - 5th July 2025**
- Churchyard Representative Update (Cllr D Hooper) **No update**
- WALC – Wiltshire Association of Local Councils (Cllr L Campisano) – **Cllr L Campisano provided a verbal update following the WALC conference and the discussions which took place with representatives regarding flooding, neighborhood plans, play areas and emergency planning. All slides can be found as Appendix G in the Minute Book.**

The Chair suspended standing orders to allow Cllr M Courtliff to speak.

Cllr M Courtliff advised that both SBC and other parish councils have previously been in contact with a really helpful group called Mums on A Mission. The group of mums has formulated to champion Changing Places and accessible play in Swindon, they offer advice and suggestions to organisations who are creating new ideas and help with the public consultation input. They group have recently helped with the design of the Coat Water Play Area.

The Chair reinstated standing orders.

FC/135

Use of the Weir Field 2025

Members considered a formal request from the Carnival Committee to use the Weir Field for next year's event, a copy of the letter is attached as Appendix H in the Minute Book.

Members RESOLVED to agree that the dates required for the Carnival are Friday 04th July until Monday 07th July 2025, for use of the field and pavilion.

All NOTED as previously agreed at the last full council meeting that WPC agree to the fun fair carrying on until 10pm on the Saturday however note the Carnival finishes at 6pm.

FC/136

Ellendune Community Centre Managers Report

Members NOTED a report from the Centre Manager regarding activities and maintenance at the center, a copy of the report is attached as Appendix I in the Minute Book.

The Clerk advised that following the recent engineer call out for repair works to the stage doors, the doors have been "condemned" as not fit for use. There are health and safety risks now involved and must now remain open until either replaced or removed. The Centre Manager is now investigating quotes for the repair and or replacement of the stage doors however costs are iro of £25K plus. All NOTED that the previous supplier is no longer in existence and that new quotes will need to be brought back to the parish council for review in the new year.

FC/137

Wichelstowe Community Sports Hub / Joint Venture Team (JVT)

Members received a report from the Chair and Cllr B Keetch regarding the ongoing communication and consultation with SBC and the JVT, the update is in relation to the new proposals for the Community Sports Hub in the middle and west Wichelstowe area. A copy can be found as Appendix J in the minute book.

Cllr H Woodward advised that recently we have learnt of specific Sport England grant funding opportunities which may assist the build project however raised concerns over the fact that other parish councils such as Central Swindon North, may receive grant awards sooner.

The Clerk confirmed she would ask members of the Swindon Sports Forum if they are aware of grants, other opportunities or restrictions which would assist with the Wichelstowe Hub.

FC/138

Logo

Members RESOLVED to agree to formally change the parish councils existing name and logo to "Wroughton & Wichelstowe Parish Council".

All present AGREED that this will echo and standardise the formal name of the existing Wroughton & Wichelstowe Parliamentary Boundary Ward and align the parish title with the ward title. A copy of the new suggested logo is attached as Appendix K in the Minute Book.

In the absence of the Chair, the Clerk advised that the Chair had received some negative feedback regarding the proposal of name change as certain Wroughton central residents feel that Wichelstowe is a different geographic to central Wroughton and that the parish name should remain as it is.

All members present voted in favour of changing the parish council name to now include the Wichelstowe element as this provides a clear message that the parish council boundary is inclusive of all who contribute to the tax base figures and precept figure.

Members RESOLVED to agree to approach Swindon Borough Council with a formal request of name change and report back to Full Council.

Members retrospectively AGREED to approve the new logo design as previously agreed by members via email, for the purposes of the Wichelstowe Sports Hub consultation only at this stage.

Action: Clerk to investigate new logo options further and bring back to the next appropriate meeting. Logo to include canal, boat or other Wichelstowe representation.

FC/139

Swindon Local Councils Forum

Members NOTED the DRAFT mins from the Swindon Local Councils Forum meeting held on 21st November 2024, a copy can be found as Appendix L in the Minute Book.

Members NOTED the next SLCF meeting is scheduled for Thursday 20th March 2025. Currently Cllr J Hewer and Cllr D Archer are the parish councils listed representatives on this forum.

Meeting closed at 20.45.

Signed:
Chair of the Council

Date: