

WROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL



PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15 January 2018 at 7.30pm
in The Ellendune Community Centre.

Present
Cllr P Bhardwaj
Cllr L Campisano
Cllr H Dosanjh
Cllr S Harcourt (Chair)
Cllr J Hewer
Cllr G Jones
Cllr T Kimberley-Fairbourn
Cllr B Kingstree
Cllr S Pagett
Cllr A Richards
Cllr A Woodhead
Cllr H Woodward

Clerk Jodie Smart

Officers Present

Deputy Clerk

FC/155 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr C Clark and Cllr A Spry. No apologies were received from Cllr D Wells.

FC/156 **Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**

There were declarations of interest from Cllr T Kimberley-Fairbourn, Cllr S Harcourt, Cllr A Richards, Cllr A Woodhead and Cllr H Woodward, all of whom are Trustees of the Wroughton Community Asset Trust and hold valid dispensations.

FC/157 **Public Questions**

There were 7 members of the public present.

A resident stated that he applauded the Parish Council on the decision to move the library to the Ellendune Community Centre, but item 13 of the agenda states that the only option is the stage. The stage is the second largest in the area and is an asset to the Village. The resident continued that whilst it was in need of refurbishment and permanent dressing rooms it could be a real asset. The resident suggested that the dynamics of library use had changed dramatically, the Alexandra Room could be knocked through to the Main Hall or the Christine Spooncer suite could be used, alternatively a porta cabin is also an option. The resident implored each Councillor to consider all options, not just the stage. The resident asked that the library building be given back to Swindon Borough Council.

Cllr S Harcourt responded that the agenda item set out the request from the Wroughton Community Asset Trust, however, the recommendation from the recent Ellendune

Community Centre Committee meeting did incorporate the Community Centre as a whole rather than just the stage area.

A representative of WADAMS read a list of their requirements, a copy of which appears as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

A representative of the Ellendune Entertainers asked for confirmation that the show currently booked for May 2018 could still go ahead. The representative added that the stage conversion into a library did not go down well at their recent AGM. The resident suggested that the library could be housed in a porta cabin on the patio area.

A representative of the Wroughton Gardener's Society asked how the figures had been calculated for the stage income and whether they accounted for simultaneous hiring of the main hall and stage. Cllr S Harcourt responded that the figures were an estimate rather than an exact figure.

The Wroughton Gardener's Society representative added that they had booked the stage area into 2020 and that tables currently stored under the stage for their use were built by the Gardener's Society and gifted to the Ellendune Community Centre. The resident stated that he was personally in favour of the library coming to the Community Centre and suggested that a revamp on the use of space would be more suitable.

A further representative of WADAMS offered assistance with any technical questions as to the requirements of the drama groups. Cllr S Harcourt responded that whatever the outcome of tonight's meeting, he was sure that the Parish Council or Trust would want to work with all users to reach a compromise suitable for as many as possible.

A resident commented that she could not think of a solution, that she had fought for the library to stay and welcomed it coming to the Ellendune Community Centre. However, she felt that the stage could be aesthetically improved and could be involved in the Swindon Fringe Festival which was growing in popularity.

FC/158 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19 December 2017.

FC/159 **Finance & General Purposes Committee**

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19 December 2017.

FC/160 **Ellendune Community Centre Committee**

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2018 with the revision of removing the honorific from Talis Kimberley-Fairbourn's name within public questions.

FC/161 **Leisure & Amenities Committee**

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2018.

The Chair moved agenda item 12 forward.

FC/162**Ellendune Community Centre**

Members considered the report of the Clerk regarding the progress of the assets and staff from the Ellendune Hall Trust to the Wroughton Parish Council, which incorporated the recommendation from the Ellendune Community Centre Committee, a copy of which appears as Appendix B in the Minute Book.

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendation of the Ellendune Community Centre Committee:

The Ellendune Community Centre Committee recommend that the Ellendune Hall Trust is kept in operation. This would involve the Parish Council (as Custodian Trustee) calling an open meeting to appoint new Trustees. Parish Councillors could then apply to become Trustees at least in the interim. It is advised that Independent Trustees be appointed within a set time frame. This option negates the need for any transfer of assets. It is also advised that the constitution be amended to a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation), which offers the charity a corporate model with less personal liability to individual Trustees.

Members **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should prepare an options appraisal for the transfer of staff, to be considered at the next Ellendune Community Centre Committee meeting on 12 February 2018, for a recommendation to be put to the Full Council meeting on 19 February 2018.

FC/163**Wroughton Library**

Members considered the report of the Clerk regarding the request from Wroughton Community Asset Trust to use the backstage area within the Community Centre as a permanent home for the library, which incorporated the recommendation from the Ellendune Community Centre Committee, a copy of which appears as Appendix C in the Minute Book.

Swindon Borough Councillor, Brian Ford commented that he was not in favour of converting the stage into a library as he felt that the drama groups were a dynamic and vibrant part of the Village. Cllr Ford suggested that the Christine Spooncer Suite or Alexandra Room could be adjusted to fit the library and pleaded with members to explore all of the options available.

Swindon Borough Councillor, Wayne Crabbe suggested that the Parish Council look at the outside spaces available at the Community Centre and see if they can accommodate a simple structure to house the library.

Swindon Borough Councillor, Cathy Martyn stated that the minutes of the Wroughton Community Asset Trust do not marry up with the information provided. Cllr Martyn declared that she was a Trustee of Wroughton Community Asset Trust, that she had no strong feeling as to where the library should be housed and remained open minded. However, she did not agree that this should be at the expense of two long standing community groups. Cllr Martyn added that she was happy that everyone wanted to look at a compromise.

During this item the Chair suspended standing orders to take comments from members of the public.

A resident asked that the Parish Council did not dismiss any option within the vibrant community space.

The representative from the Wroughton Gardener's Society asked whether the balances of the Ellendune Hall Trust could be used to make improvements to the Community Centre. Cllr Jones responded that in investigating options for the library there was potential to review all necessary improvements.

A representative of WADAMS invited members to attend a small production on 23 March 2018 and witness how the stage is used.

The Chair reinstated standing orders at 8:10pm.

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendation of the Ellendune Community Centre that a permanent space for the Wroughton Library be offered to Wroughton Community Asset Trust within the Ellendune Community Centre.

Members **RESOLVED** that the Ellendune Community Centre Committee should make further investigations into the conversion of the Stage, Christine Spooncer Suite or any other space not restricted to the original footprint of the building, into the Wroughton Library. This will be in consultation with Wroughton Community Asset Trust, the Drama Groups and other interested Centre Users to find the best compromise. The Ellendune Community Centre Committee will then make further recommendations to a future Full Council meeting.

Members **RESOLVED** to appoint Patrick Wilson Architects to complete an assessment of the building layout and make recommendations into the best use of space to incorporate the Wroughton Library.

Approved Spend £892.50 (ex VAT) to be paid from general balances.

In accordance with Standing Order 3(p) Cllr T Kimberley-Fairbourn requested a recorded vote.

For: Cllr L Campisano, Cllr H Dosanjh, Cllr S Harcourt, Cllr J Hewer, Cllr G Jones, Cllr T Kimberley-Fairbourn, Cllr S Pagett, Cllr A Richards, Cllr A Woodhead, Cllr H Woodward.

Against: Cllr B Kingstree.

FC/164

Information from Borough Councillors

Cllr Brian Ford commented that the Great Western Hospital had contingency plans in place to continue with services normally operated by Carillion.

Cllr Ford also stated that Swindon Borough Council are well within budget setting and that his own department – Adult Health and Social Care was well within budget for the current year.

Cllr Cathy Martyn informed members that Swindon Borough Council had recently opened a temporary shelter for the homeless in the Carfax Street building and that a number of volunteers, some from Wroughton, had been helping out there.

Cllr T Kimberley-Fairbourn asked if the Borough Councillors could assist with the placement of a mirror on the footpath leading from the Ellendune Shopping Centre to Coronation Road which had previously been declined by Swindon Borough Council

Officers. Cllr B Ford requested that Cllr Kimberley-Fairbourn email him the details so that he could try to assist with this request.

Cllr H Woodward asked how Swindon Borough Council felt that the Great Western Hospital was performing in respect of the latest performance results being only 85% successful in meeting the 4hr A&E target. Cllr B Ford responded that this was a nationwide issue and that Swindon Borough Council were working on ways in which they could prevent the need for patients to visit the A&E.

Cllr H Dosanjh asked if Borough Councillors could assist the Ridgeway School in getting the surrounding road gritted and the speed limit reduced to 20mph.

Cllr C Martyn responded that Swindon Borough Council had already reinstated the gritting of Inverary Road and that she believed 'rumble strips' were due to be installed near the school, but would look into this and inform the Head at Ridgeway School.

FC/165 **Youth Advisors**

There were no Youth Advisors present.

FC/166 **Parish Council Representatives' Report**

Members **NOTED** the verbal report of Cllr T Kimberley-Fairbourn as Chair of Wroughton Community Asset Trust. Cllr Kimberley-Fairbourn informed members that the library move into the Alexandra Room had begun that day and was progressing well. Cllr Kimberley-Fairbourn commended library staff member, Annabelle and Swindon Borough Council Officers whom have been very accommodating. Cllr Kimberley-Fairbourn stated that they were on target to open the interim library on Monday 22 January 2018, which would be fully operational. Cllr Kimberley-Fairbourn added that during the last open day of the existing library building, Trustees had assisted with a book-giveaway, collected details of potential volunteers and informed many people of the interim move to the Alexandra Room within the Ellendune Community Centre. Cllr Kimberley Fairbourn commented that she felt having the library within a smaller space in the interim would help with prioritising the requirements of the library in the future.

Cllr A Richards informed members that she was unable to attend a recent Churchyard meeting and would report to the next Full Council following receipt of the minutes of this meeting.

FC/167 **Chair's Report**

The Chair gave a verbal report and informed members that he felt it had been a very busy start to the New Year with important decisions on the Library and Community Centre being made. The Chair stated that he felt it would be useful to have a discussion around strategy and implored all members to attend the informal meeting on Wednesday 17 January 2018.

FC/168 **Appointment to Committees**

Members **RESOLVED** to elect members onto the committees as follows:

Leisure and Amenities Committee:

Cllr P Bhardwaj

Planning Committee:

Cllr S Pagett

Cllr A Spry

FC/169

Standing Orders

Members **RESOLVED** not to make any amendments to Standing Order 3s.

FC/170

Extraordinary Meeting

Members **NOTED** that an extraordinary meeting had been scheduled for Monday 22 January 2018 at 7.30pm in the Main Hall of the Ellendune Community Centre, at which the budget and precept setting would take place.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman of the Council