

Minutes of meeting

2nd October 2023

Present	Apologies
Kevin Fisher	Liz Elstone
Andrew Snowden	Suresh Gattapur
Claire Walker	Rose Llewellyn
Cathy Thompson	Junab Ali
Jeffery & Ritva Bamforth	
Keith Williams	
Brian Parker	
Roger Ogle	

Meeting held at Lower Shaw Farm @ 20:00

The Chair welcomed all present.

1. Previous Minutes

The Minutes were accepted as a fair record of the meeting

Proposed by Jeffery Bamforth, seconded by Andrew Snowden.

2. Litter Picking

Next litter pick: Saturday 14th October

It has been agreed among the present attendees that we will continue to hold our litter picks over the Autumn/Winter period.

It was asked if the meadow area on Shaw Ridge has a routine litter pick.

Apparently, The Meadows and Wildflower Group pick up litter there so maybe we ought to email them to coordinate our dates.

Keith will raise the coordination of litter picking events in West Swindon with the WSPC and discuss publishing lists of organised local litter picks.

3. Shaw Village Centre

We talked about the previous misconception that new circular bench that we have waited so long to be installed, will need heavy lifting gear to move it into its new position. We felt that while it may be an awkward shape, it surely should not present too many problems for contractors, so why is its installation taking so long to organise?

The repair of the uneven block paving has now been escalated. The replanting of the raised beds adjacent to the clocktower will contain similar plants as the raised bed next to the car park exit, as this raised bed requires very little maintenance.

Keith has said he will investigate whether the pub hedges can be lowered to manage a possible drug problem that may exist in the car park.

4. Land North of Purton Road re-determination 4th October

The one-day appeal will be held in Chippenham for the re-determination of the original outcome for planning application. The original decision was to reject.

5. Traffic Monitors around West Swindon

The monitoring strips are visible in a larger scale than just our locality. We do not know who has requested the data or whether it is for national vehicle records.

6. Wiltshire Local Plan

The new document has finally been published, land at Purton Road and Lydiard Millicent are not mentioned.

7. Mead Way traffic light junction

Keith explained that this complicated junction was to undergo a change of lane priorities from the Bridgemoor roundabout. The righthand lane would be turn right only, to stop cars swerving between lanes when they wished to continue straight ahead along Mead Way. Also traffic light sequencing would change to allow all vehicles wishing to turn to have a dedicated priority. It had also been noted that the average speed that a vehicle passes through the junction is 40mph causing further risk of accidents.

8. 20mph speed limits

The SBC website appears to acknowledge that the consultation for Old Shaw Lane to adopt a 20mph is a positive result and is likely to proceed with implementation.

9. Skoda and Nissan verge parking

Commercial vehicles have been noted again to be parked on the verge, Cathy now has a contact within SBC to report to, if this verge parking continues.

The problem was previously reported on 30th August and chased up more recently but no communication has been received on any action that has been taken.

10. Shaw Forest / River Ray Parkway / Thames Water

Thames Water have now completely closed the River Ray Parkway and its connecting paths. Thamesdown Drive from the Tawhill junction to the beginning of Purton Road has been reduced to one carriageway to allow service vehicles access to the construction site. Currently there is no official diversion for pedestrians noted.

Keith informed the group that the much discussed vehicular access, through Galton close linking into the Parkway has been completed and is now in operation.

11. Grass cutting and meadows

The litter bin (mentioned in previous Minutes), along Shaw Ridge has not yet been moved. Jeff mentioned that he had emailed the parish office to request that a line of trees along Shaw Ridge have their lower branches trimmed.

12. Finance and sponsors

2 sponsors are up for renewal before the end of the year, Kevin will chase.

13. West Swindon Parish Council updates

No updates received.

AOB

- **New membership - Cathy suggests citing a poster on Lower Shaw Farm noticeboard. Or possibly WSPC noticeboard if our poster is still there.**
- **Kevin highlighted our recent litter pick on Facebook locally but had no responses or comments.**
- **SRA Christmas meal - Where & when? Claire to send out email to members.**
- **West Swindon Post office - Opening date Friday 10th November.**
- **Link Centre - Is it known when it will reopen for business?**

- **SRA start time - Kevin to email members to determine whether a different start time would encourage better attendance.**
- **New recycling instructions - When are these to be rolled out throughout Swindon?**

Meeting closed 21:04

Next meeting: Monday 6th November 2023