

# Swanley Town Council

Civic Centre, St Marys Road, Swanley, Kent, BR8 7BU

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[www.swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk)

## ESTATES AND FACILITIES

### MINUTES

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021

#### Present:

Members	Present	Apologies	Absent
Chair: Cllr S Andrews	✓		
Deputy Chair: Cllr A Skipper	✓		
Cllr C Barnes	✓		
Cllr J Domigan	✓		
Cllr L Ball	✓		
Cllr J Griffiths	✓		
Cllr T Searles	✓		
Cllr J Tuckfield		✓	

**Also Present:** Cllr J Barnes, Cllr G Darrington, Cllr C Lee, Cllr V Letchford

**Officers:** CEO & Town Clerk – Ryan Hayman  
Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) - Steve Innes  
Venues Manager – Kerina Keir  
Sales, Marketing and Democratic Manager – Suzie Barnbrook  
Cllr Perry Cole – Kent County Councillor

#### 11296 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr J Tuckfield

#### 11297 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

11298 Cllr S Andrews welcomed Cllr L Ball to the Committee.

#### 11299 PARKS AND OPEN SPACES MANAGER REPORT

To comment on the report and ask questions of the Manager.

**Noted**

In the absence of the Parks and Open Spaces Manager, the CEO gave update on:

The Tennis Academy now has 126 players signed up and 10 weeks' worth of school bookings from St Mary's School.

Cllr S Andrews is delighted that the pathways at Swanley Park area are taking shape.

Cllr S Andrews asked why the Secret Garden Dance event was not advertised. CEO clarified this was advertised but sold out in one day. Suzie Barnbrook confirmed it was listed in the Winter edition of the Town Crier.

Cllr S Andrews is pleased the 1812 event will be going ahead this year.

Cllr S Andrews asked when will we receive the South East In Bloom results this year. CEO confirmed September.

Cllr S Andrews wanted to note the 35 years of the New Barn Railway, what a fantastic achievement which has given a lot of joy to a lot of children.

Cllr S Andrews was pleased to announce the 25th Birthday of the SWAN Group and thanked them for their work in the park. Cllr S Andrews thanked Cllr A Skipper for attending the SWAN Group meeting on her behalf. Cllr A Skipper gave an update of the meeting:

- Cllr A Skipper is very proud of the work that has been achieved.
- Amazed by the amount of wildlife they have there.
- Unfortunately received some vandalism, which they are trying to rectify.
- Installed a new water pond, which is very well maintained.
- They are looking for more volunteers to help.

CEO gave update on the trial sessions at the Splash Park, the booking system will stay in place from 9am – 11am to give an opportunity to enjoy the facility for children with special requirements or anyone who prefers a quieter session. Sessions are for up to 60 people at £1.50 per person. This will still be free for Swanley residents upon a proof of address. The Splash Pool will then be free and open daily for all from 11am.

Cllr A Skipper agrees this is a great option as it pleases everyone.

#### **11300 THE OLYMPIC AND THE ALEXANDRA SUITE VENUES MANAGER REPORT**

To comment on the report and ask questions of the Manager.

##### **Noted**

Kerina Keir, Venues Manager gave an update on the venue. Kerina was pleased to confirm we are back up and running at The Alexandra Suite and held our first wedding on Saturday which was a great success. In addition, The Olympic has been very busy. The European Championship has helped boost bar income over the past four weeks.

Cllr S Andrews thanked Kerina and her staff for the hard work.

Cllr S Andrews would like an update going forward on the number of bookings taken.

Cllr S Andrews wanted an update on the snooker tables, namely as to why we need two re-clothed, Venues Manager explained we had three re-clothed and need the last two done.

Kerina Keir explained we are struggling to fit in the vaccinations, as our regular hirers are wanting to come back.

Cllr T Searles thinks we should look at finding the vaccinations an alternative venue. The Venues Manager has offered them an alternative option to transfer to The Olympic. CEO has proposed alternative options, The Cedars Surgery and Swanley Youth Club.

**11301 SWANLEY SKATEPARK**

To receive verbal update from the CEO

**Noted**

CEO gave update and confirmed the fund raising is going really well and they have raised £52,550 which includes £19,944 from Kent County Council. Swanley Town Council has previously agreed to add £30,000 worth of Town Council CIL funds at the end of the project, which is included in the £52,550 total.

There was an arranged World Record event organised, however CEO contacted JD today to not run the event this year due to the negative public response.

Cllr L Ball informed the CEO we can apply for CIL funds from Sevenoaks District Council and they will match the funds. CEO confirmed he is going to reapply this year.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

**MEETING CLOSED AT 21:13**

DRAFT