



St Andrews Parish Council

Redhouse Community Centre, Frankel Avenue, Swindon SN25 2NJ
Telephone: 07900 631 733 Email: clerk@standrews-pc.gov.uk

To Councillors:

Jake Chandler (chairman), Daniel Adams, Kola Beyioku, Emma Faramarzi, Steve Heyes, Sue MacDonald, Paul Morris, Paul West.

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the **St Andrews Parish Council** at **Redhouse Community Centre, Frankel Avenue** on **Wednesday 22nd January 2025** at **7.45pm** when the business set out in the following agenda will be transacted.

Deborah Bourne

**Deborah Bourne
Locum Parish Clerk
15th January 2025**

Members of Public and Press are welcome.

Public Question Time

Members of the Public are invited to make representations before St Andrews Parish Council on any matters *relating to this agenda*.

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

The Council is asked to note any apologies, and to accept reasons they consider to be appropriate.

2. Declaration of Interests

To receive Declarations of Interest in accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by St Andrews Parish Council and the Localism Act 2011.

Members are reminded that it is their personal responsibility to make sure the Register of Interests contains up to date information.

3. Co-Option of Casual Vacancy

Members will be aware that St Andrews Parish Council now has three casual vacancies. Two of these vacancies have only been returned to the Council in the last week as no election had been requested by the electorate of the parish. Details of how these two seats will be filled are to be advertised in the usual way via the Parish Noticeboards and the Parish website.

There is another casual vacancy which has been waiting to be filled by co-option since early summer 2024. One resident had approached the Council at the beginning of December to apply for the above vacancy.

The Council is now asked if they wish to co-opt Mr Vince Williams on to the Council at this meeting.

If Mr Williams is co-opted, he will not be able to take any active role as a Councillor until he signs his Acceptance of Office statement and receives a copy of the councils Code of Conduct. Members can request a short recess at this time in the meeting or that the required Acceptance of Office declaration be signed at a later date.

The Councils instructions are sought.

4. Annual Estimates of Income and Expenditure

Appendix A

Councillors are advised that the effect of section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 is that if, when considering budgetary items, any Councillor is in arrears for more than two months with his/her Council Tax, he/she must declare that section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies and neither speak nor vote on the matter before Council. Failure to observe this renders the Councillor liable for prosecution by the Director of Public Prosecutions.

It is the responsibility of the Parish Council to levy a precept on Swindon Borough Council to cover its costs for the following financial year; this levy can only be demanded once in any year. Swindon Borough Council is the charging authority and will collect this on behalf of the Parish Council. Swindon Borough Council have requested the precept levy for

2025/6 be set by end January for inclusion within their budget cycles. In order for a precept to be levied the Council must first set a budget; The Council will be asked to approve its budgetary requirements for 2025/6 and then decide on the precept it wishes to levy. It should also be noted that there will not be a cap on Parish Council taxes for the 2025/6 year; the Government understands that Local Councils will need extra money during devolution processes.

Members will receive an updated summary of the proposed budget, showing changes made following discussions at the Council meeting held on Monday 13th January 2025.

5. Setting of Precept demand

The Council will be asked to confirm its requirements for 2025/26 and to authorise a precept demand be sent to Swindon Borough Council.

6. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next full council meeting will be Monday 10th February 2025 at 7.30pm; in the Redhouse Community Centre, Frankel Avenue