

# St Andrews Parish Council

**ST ANDREWS' PARISH MEETING**  
**Held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 6:00pm**  
**at Redhouse Community Centre, Frankel Avenue, Swindon**

**Present:** Cllr Jean Blake, Cllr Sue Cole, Cllr Deborah Donohoe, Cllr Mary Friend, Cllr Tim Owen, Cllr Derek Ricketts, Emma Sylvester (Parish Clerk), Cllr Vera Tomlinson (Chairman), Cllr Melanie Woods, Cllr Kevin Woods and Cllr Vince Williams\*

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The Chairman, Cllr Vera Tomlinson, welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that this was a statutory meeting open to electors of the Parish at which only the electorate are permitted to speak.

**2. APOLOGIES**

None

**3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman read out her report as follows:

St Andrews Parish Council is now one year old. The Parish Election was held a year ago. It was decided by Swindon Borough Council that for the size of this parish there should be 11 Parish Councillors to represent the residents. There were 23 people seeking election, some represented Labour, Independents and Conservatives. I led the group of conservatives and we won all 11 seats by a huge majority.

We have worked hard in our first year and have set out our plans for the year we are now starting. We had the second lowest precept last year and this year we have the lowest – a reduction of over £7 from last year and yet we have not only maintained services to residents but have in fact increased them. Many residents have congratulated us as a Council for what we have achieved and are continuing to achieve.

We appointed Emma as our Clerk in December and we all agree she was a very wise choice and are benefitting from her knowledge. I would like to record our thanks to you Emma. A big thank you from us all.

Redhouse Community Centre continues to be a thorn in our side but we now have an official date when we take it over. That is 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018 and this is supported by Swindon Borough Council and also by the Leader of that same Council.

I, as Chairman, am very appreciative of all the help Councillors have given me over this last year. All Councillors have worked as a team with enthusiasm and dedication to make our Parish Council one that our residents are proud of. My thanks to you all, especially Cllr Vince Williams who has been a great support to me during our first year and I know we will as a Council achieve even greater things in this our second year of office. Thank you all.

**4. COUNCILLORS' FORUM**

There were no questions for Councillors.

Cllr Vince Williams reported that he is out walking his dogs every day and meets residents who express how happy they are with how things are being run in the parish.

The meeting closed at 6:15pm

**Chairman** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_