

CENTRAL SWINDON NORTH
PARISH COUNCIL

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8th August 2022 6.30pm via Zoom Link.

Present

Cllr Patey

Cllr P. Exell – virtually

Cllr J. Ballman

Cllr J. Yeowell

Cllr M. Lucas

Cllr K. Small

Cllr M Beale

Apologies

Cllr R. Ballman

Dispensation (Section 85, Local Government Act 1972).

Cllr S Exell

Officers

A Reeves (Parish Clerk)

E Till (Head of Finance and Governance)

FGP028 Public Questions

None Received

FGP029 Apologies

Apologies received from Cllr R. Ballman

FGP030 Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

Cllr J Ballman declared an interest in being a member of HBUF and the RSPB.

FGP031 Wiltshire & Swindon Solar Together

The FGP Committee was presented with a report proposing funding options for installing an additional set of Solar Panels at Pinetrees, for savings purposes which would benefit the Parish Council.

Cllr K Small summarised the **recommendations** as follows:

1. Agree to accept the offer for Solar Panels at Pinetrees and the £150 deposit be paid.
2. That the £8,200 for the Panels be paid from the Capital Reserves.
3. That if the Grant application for the battery (£5,800) is not

- successful then a further £5,800 be taken from Capital Reserves.
4. That if possible, the existing panels at Pinetrees be retained; if not possible, then £5,000 be allocated to the project for the panels to be taken away, this to be also taken from the Capital Reserves.
 5. The £23,247.48 identified in 2.0 of the report be allocated to the Capital Reserves.
 6. That the revenue from the solar panels be paid into the General Fund with the repayment to the Capital Reserves paid back over a 3 year period.
 7. Any increase in the cost of the project be reported to Full Council for consideration and approval.

Members held discussion on the matter.

Cllrs D Patey and P Exell expressed concerns around the governance on the decision-making process, the lack of funds within the capital budget, project proposal being raised exclusively for Pinetrees Community Centre and not at Parish level.

Cllr J Ballman reiterated that the project even though based at Pinetrees, it will generate income for the entire parish on the long term, after the 2.3 years repayment period.

Cllr M Beale raised as a point of note that the Pinetrees Community Centre is being wrongly referred to by the residents as the Pinetrees Parish and the Council staff should try to clarify this within the Community.

Parish Clerk referred the Committee Members to the Standing Orders as the mandate the Parish Officers are working in terms of decision-making process and to the Council's Environment policy in support of the solar panels' grant application.

Cllr K Small proposed the solar panels installation at Pinetrees Community Centre as outlined in the above recommendations, to benefit the Parish Council.

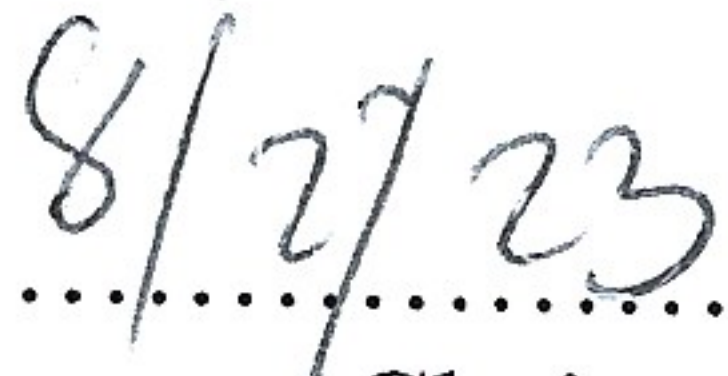
Cllr J Ballman seconded.

Four members voted in favour and one member against.

RESOLVED: The Finance & General Purposes Committee NOTED the recommendations and APPROVED the solar panels installation at Pinetrees Community Centre.

Meeting Closed: 19.00

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Council