

CENTRAL SWINDON NORTH PARISH COUNCIL

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 5th April 2023 7.00pm
at the READING ROOMS, Pinehurst.

Present Cllr J. Yeowell
Cllr D. Patey
Cllr M. Beale
Cllr. A Fernandes
Cllr. W Stone

Officers A Reeves
A Webb
G Barr (Virtually)
A Cripps

CD001 Public Questions

No public questions were received.

CD002 Apologies

Cllr P Exell

Standing orders were **SUSPENDED**.

CD003 Knife Crime

Cllr W Stone introduced Paul, a man who spent significant periods of his formative years in prison as a result of knife crime.

Paul now runs a range of social media accounts to prevent young people following the path he did; focussing on the negative aspects of long-term incarceration which many young people are unaware of.

Councillors **NOTED** and thanked Paul for his compelling & positive story of how lives affected by the blight of knife crime can be turned around. Councillors wished Paul the best of luck with his programme.

CD004 Drug & Alcohol Awareness

Cllr W Stone introduced Mike who runs a Forest Schools programme. Mike had a military background and had it not been for those around him providing direction, may have followed a similar pattern to that of Paul, the previous speaker.

Mike discussed the benefits of outdoor pursuits on physical and mental health of young people, particularly those who may be on the cusp of entering the criminal justice system.

Cllrs **NOTED** Mikes verbal update and **RESOLVED** to consider including a Forest Schools programme. The Community & Youth Officer to consider five days in the Summer 2023 programme, to report back to Committee members in June 2023.

Standing Orders were **REINSTATED**.

Standing Orders were **SUSPENDED** to allow a photo opportunity for Cllr W Stone.

Standing Orders were **REINSTATED**.

CD005

Community & Youth Officer Update

The Community & Youth Officer presented a written update shown as **APPENDIX A & Appendix B**.

Councillors thanked Cllr A Fernandes and Cllr W Stone for items relating to the food and free shop.

RESOLVED: Councillors **NOTED** the Community & Youth Officers report.

CD006

Parish Minibus Policy

The Clerk presented the Minibus Policy which was previously considered to be a procedure. The Clerk felt that due to some additional usage requests, it may be worth formalising a formal policy at Full Council.

The Clerk presented the draft Policy as shown in **Appendix C**.

Cllr D Patey feels the minibus is not used to its full potential; Cllr D Patey also expressed disappointment the vehicle can only be driven by Parish Council employees further restricting the vehicles potential for third party community benefit.

The Clerk responded that the lack of use could be improved by increasing the number of Parish Council uses rather than looking to third parties to fill the use justification.

Cllr M Beale & Cllr J Yeowell felt Parish Council staff/volunteers should only be used which could include an 'endorsed' driver.

The Clerk suggested consideration should still be given for the location whether a driver is provided or not. The reputational risk of a community minibus being used for an inappropriate event could be damaging. Further, if the vehicle is involved in an accident for such use, it could have severe consequences for the Council.

By ringfencing the minibus for Parish Council activities only, this prevents the potential for such issues.

The Clerk should have the final say in minibus use, but the policy guidance should provide the parameters in which the Clerk can approve its use.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the draft policy and **RECOMMEND** the approval to Full Council on 19th April 2023 with the following amendment:

"Requests for third party use which provide local Parish Residents with Social Benefit can be considered by the Clerk on a case-by-case assessment".

CD007

Big Help Out

Cllr J Yeowell provided an update on the Big Help Out. More details can be found at bighelpout.org.uk.

RESOLVED: The Assets Manager to update social media with the initiative and offer the use of JMH & Pinetree's Community Centre as a refreshment centre. The Community & Youth Officer to contact VAS with an offer of assistance to promote.

CD008

Walking For Health

The Community & Youth Officer provided an update on the location of waymarkers following comments received from the Seven Fields Conservation group of a lack of engagement to their location.

Cllr M Beale noted the posts do not have the plaques. The Community & Youth Officer advised they'll be installed over the next two weeks.

Cllr J Yeowell reminded all that we agreed for the Schools to paint the different posts for each route. Cllr Yeowell reminded all of the need for QR updated information available by scanning the codes.

Cllr M Beale doesn't think the walk takes in much of Penhill.

CD009

Assets Managers Update

The Assets Manager presented the monthly Assets report shown as Appendix D.

Councillors **NOTED** the report.

CD010

Grants Officers Update

The Grants Manager presented the monthly Assets report shown as Appendix E.

Cllr D Patey enquired on the Youth investment fund and whether the fund could be used in Penhill Splash Park/Bowls Club.

The Grants Manager advised the detail isn't available but when it is, Cllr D Patey will be informed.

RESOLVED: Councillors **NOTED** the report.



CD011 Libraries Managers Update

The Libraries Manager provided a written report shown as APPENDIX F.

RESOLVED: Councillors NOTED the report.

CD012 Events Working Group

Councillors NOTED the next meeting and agreed programme.

Cllr J Yeowell closed the meeting at 20.45

Signed 

Date 23/01/2024

Chair of the Community Development Committee

