



## Parish Council

Central Swindon North Parish Council

Pinetrees Community Centre,

The Circle,

SWINDON SN2 1QR

### ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 03rd January 2024 18.00hrs

|                              |                                                                      |
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| <b>Present:</b>              |                                                                      |
| <b>Councillors:</b>          | Cllr J Yeowell (Acting Chair)<br>Cllr D Patey                        |
| <b>Clerk:</b>                | Mr A Reeves (Parish Clerk)                                           |
| <b>Officers:</b>             | Mrs J A Williams (Administration)                                    |
| <b>Members of the Public</b> | Neil Pullen } Wiltshire Wildlife Trust.<br>Roz Tomkins (virtually) } |
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| Min Ref | Minutes                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Action |
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| EP851   | AG1 – Apologies & Declarations of Interests.<br>Cllr P Exell (Apologies)<br>Cllr A Fernandes (Apologies)                                                                                                       |        |
| EP852   | AG2 – Public Question Time & Correspondence.<br>None                                                                                                                                                           |        |
|         | It was agreed to change the order in which items were considered.<br>Item AG6 was taken as the next item so as not to keep the members of the public waiting.<br>The minutes reflect the order of the meeting. |        |

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| EP853 | <p data-bbox="515 264 735 293"><b>AG6 – Meadows</b></p> <ul data-bbox="571 331 1011 360" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Update on Moredon Meadows.</li></ul> <p data-bbox="515 398 1153 459">Councillor Yeowell welcomed Neil Pullen and Roz Tomkins.</p> <p data-bbox="515 497 1193 656">Neil explained that the reason for addressing the committee was that he had met with Andy Reeves and Andrew Briggs on site at Moredon Meadows just before Christmas and has put forward a proposal for Trees for Climate.</p> <p data-bbox="515 694 783 723"><b>Moredon Meadows.</b></p> <ul data-bbox="571 761 1198 1989" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Three meadows containing areas of rough grassland and Shrub. Left alone and fallow for 10 years or more and have started to produce this amazing ecotone.</li><li>• For the last two years a rare species of Butterfly (Brown Hairstreak) along with its eggs. It seems to be moving further and further into North Swindon and now being found as far as Seven Fields.</li><li>• The proposal is to round out the meadows making it easier for bailing this would mean a loss of about 20% of the Rough Grassland and Shrub. In its place plant trees roughly three hectares, which can essentially be left as actual re-generation.</li><li>• CSNPC would need to put in a grant application through Trees for Climate for 15 years' worth of funding for delivering the works on the ground and maintenance.</li><li>• The caveat is that Trees for Climate is around canopy trees so in year 5 some of the management money may be needed to actually come in and supplement some of the natural regeneration, with species such as Oak or Field Maple if they are not coming through in the natural regeneration links.</li><li>• Neil Pullen would like to get the proposal ratified as soon as possible, so has brought it to The Environment and Planning Committee to endorse and take to a Full Council meeting so that it can go forward as a plan in this year.</li></ul> |  |

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|  | <p>Councillor Yeowell asked whether habitats would be lost by using the areas of scrub,</p> <p>Neil Pullen responded by stating that the Brown Hairstreak Butterfly is a species that likes scrubby grassland and that is what is being created it would be part of the management going forward looking at Biodiversity Net Gain is how to continue rotational management.</p> <p>Cllr Patey questioned the location of planting and regeneration being close to the existing walkways.</p> <p>Neil Pullen responded that he would recommend that if we could look further and get Bio Diversity net gain, that instead of these paths, essentially desire lines (single pathways made by dog walkers that he would actually start to cut or try to cut them to a 3 metre width so people are confident using them knowing it is a particular route that is going somewhere and not coming to a dead end.</p> <p>Cllr Yeowell questioned the area near the electricity pylons.</p> <p>Neil Pullen Stated that the area of very rough grassland under the pylons has not been included in the proposal, neither the three areas of wet grassland that previously may have been ponds. The proposal would not take away existing habitats.</p> <p>Cllr Patey asked if any of the paths were official rights of way.</p> <p>Neil Pullen stated that he thought that Central Swindon North Parish 21 and 20 go through the area.</p> <p>Cllr Patey asked about the border between The Parish and Haydon Wick PC.</p> <p>The Clerk responded that the Boundary is on the opposite side of Akers Way so the entire area in question is completely within the parish of Central Swindon North.</p> <p>The Clerk raised the issue of access, mentioning previous problems experienced by Chris whilst bailing the meadows. He thinks we have an easement that will allow us to do the works that</p> | <p>The Clerk will explore what the legal options are for us with SBC.</p> |
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|       | <p>we need to do.</p> <p>Cllr Yeowell asked whether the Tree for Climate proposal would increase or decrease the bailing aspect side of things.</p> <p>Neil responded that he has spoken to Chris around this, and Chris agrees that by bringing in the edges and getting rid of the corners it will be a lot easier for him to get the bailer in and bale the meadows..</p> <p>Both councillors endorsed the proposal</p> <p><b>RESOLVED This item will be brought to full Council on the 31<sup>st</sup> of January</b></p> <p><b>Raybrook Meadow Update.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The notice and interpretation boards have been installed.</li> <li>• Trees previously approved have been planted, although the canopy trees have not as were not approved.</li> <li>• In the future it will be looking at the best way to get the meadow cut and what is done with it. There is a difficulty in getting the baler into the heart of Swindon due to its' size. There needs to be a way of having some machinery which is small enough to be able to cut a small meadow like Raybrook. The cost varies between £18,000.00 - £50,000.00 and possibly need to look at grant funding or something like that.</li> </ul> |  |
|       | <b>AG3 Applications to be examined.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |
| EP854 | <p>AG3.1<br/><b>S/23/0205</b> - Erection of 2 No dwellings.</p> <p>Land Adjacent To 5 Barnfield Close,<br/>Rodbourne<br/>Swindon<br/>SN2 2DP</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> The meeting was not quorate, however Cllrs present expressed that they would have reiterated their previous decisions of it being:-</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |

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| EP855 | <p><b>AG4 - Update on applications previously examined.</b><br/>The committee discussed previous applications and noted The Borough's decisions.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> Noted</p>                                                                                                                                                             |  |
| EP856 | <p><b>AG5 - Parking Related Issues.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on Westmead (Standing Item)</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> No further updates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on Ashworth Road (Standing Item)</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> No further updates.</p>                          |  |
| EP857 | <p><b>AG7 – Grass Verges</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> No Updates.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
| EP858 | <p><b>S106 &amp; CIL</b></p> <p>Cllr Patey asked when the next meeting of the CIL106 working group would be.</p> <p>The clerk responded that when we receive agreement for how much the next round is, as we need to speak to someone about the new development so nothing to discuss at the moment.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> Update noted.</p> |  |
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|       | <b>Meeting Closed 18.36</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |

Signed.....

Chair of E &amp; P

Date.....