



Parish Council
Central Swindon North Parish Council
Pinetrees Community Centre,
The Circle,
SWINDON SN2 1QR

FULL COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday 29th November 2023 19.00

Present:	
Councillors:	
Cllr Kevin Small (Chair) Cllr Mick Lucas (Vice Chair) Cllr John Ballman Cllr Marilyn Beale (virtually) Cllr Ian Edwards Cllr Ana Fernandes Cllr Dave Patey Cllr James Yeowell	
Clerk:	
Mr Andrew Briggs Mr Aaron Cripps	
Member of the Public Present: none	
Apologies	Cllr Ray Ballman Cllr Paul Exell Cllr Tom Smith

		Action
FC322	Declarations of Interest Cllr J Ballman declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Hreod Burna Urban Forest (HBuF), the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and The Leisure & Library Trust.	

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FC323	Public Questions & Public Correspondence None	
FC324	Minutes of the Previous Meeting The Chair presented the minutes of the meeting held on the 26 th October 2023 to be approved as a true and accurate record. RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 26 th October 2023 as a true and accurate record.	
FC325	Environment & Planning Committee The Committee Vice Chair presented the minutes of the Environment & Planning Committee meeting held on the 1 st November 2023 to be approved as a true and accurate record. RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Environment & Planning Committee meeting held on the 1 st November 2023 as a true and accurate record.	
FC326	Finance & General Purposes Committee The Committee Chair presented the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on the 7 th November 2023 to be approved as a true and accurate record. RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on the 7 th November 2023 as a true and accurate record. The Chair reminded councillors that we only have four FGP meetings remaining for them to put forward their Ward Allowance recommendations.	
FC327	Community Development Committee The Committee Chair presented the minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting held on the 1 st November 2023 to be approved as a true and accurate record. RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting held on the 1 st November 2023 as a true and accurate record.	
FC328	Leisure & Recreation Committee The Committee Chair presented the minutes of the Leisure & Recreation Committee meeting held on the 2 nd November 2023 to be approved as a true and accurate record. RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Leisure & Recreation Committee meeting held on the 2 nd November 2023 as a true and accurate record. The Chair asked about the play area refurbishment.	

	The Head of Operations gave a verbal update on the painting refurbishment work done over the summer months. The Chair asked about the Play area budget spent so far this year. The Head of Operations confirmed that about £24,000 had been spent so far and the remaining £17,000 would be spent by the end of the year. The Chair asked if there was any flooding issues with the allotments. The Head of Operations gave a verbal update about the few flooding issues across some of the sites. Cllr Dave Patey queried if there were any other areas that could be used for the creation of more allotment space. Cllr John Ballman explained that land has specific uses, and that we would have to make sure it was suitable and allowed. The Head of Operations explained that the creation of more allotments was on the allotments long term plan. Cllr Mick Lucas asked about the skatepark funding update. The Head of Operations confirmed our successful £165,000 grant fund application from the YIF (Youth Investment Fund) towards the skatepark and Bowls Club project. A fully report will be presented to the Leisure & Recreation, and then Full Council for approval. The Chair congratulated all those involved in the acquisition of the funding for this project.	
FC329	Property & Asset Management Committee The Chair presented the minutes of the Property & Asset Management Committee meeting held on the 13th November 2023 to be approved as a true and accurate record. RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Property & Asset Management Committee meeting held on the 13th November 2023 as a true and accurate record.	
FC330	Updated Policy Approval Councillors to REVIEW and APPROVE the updated Children & Young People Safeguarding Policy and the Grants Policy. RESOLVED to APPROVE the updated Children & Young People Safeguarding Policy and the Grants Policy.	

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FC331	Review Election Cycle Proposal from Swindon Borough Council The Chair gave a verbal update on the possible changes to the election cycle. He asked the councillors to discuss 'should we agree to extend until 2026 with the situation that several councillors may resign and co-ops will need to be recruited for the posts which will have issues with democracy or go ahead with elections in 2024 as planned to refresh and invigorate the councillors.' Cllr John Ballman commented that The Parish cannot continue to have co-opted councillors but that the 2026 would be the most cost-effective option. Cllr Ian Edwards explained that at the last election it was a struggle to find people to stand, and he is concerned that trying to find people in 2024 could be an issue also. Cllr James Yeowell mentioned that if people stand down before May 2024 The Parish may not get co-options, and that would trigger a by-election. The Chair further elaborated on Cllr James Yeowell' point and explained that if the Parish keep the 2024 election date vacancies cannot be filled. However, Councillors choose to move it to 2026, vacancies will need to be filled. Cllr Dave Patey expressed disappointment that a vote wouldn't take place in 2024 and commented that SBC had only an 11% turnout at the last election. Cllr John Ballman had spoken to several local people who may be interested in becoming Parish Councillors. A Cripps asked to speak. The Chair allowed Mr A Cripps to speak as a MoP. Cllr Mick Lucas commented that if the election period was extended to 2026. The Parish could co-opt interested councillors to the roles who could learn about how the Council works ready for the 2026 election. Cllr Dave Patey asked how many co-opted The Parish are allowed. The Chair explained that the number of co-opted must not outnumber the number of elected councillors. Cllr John Ballman PROPOSED we extend the Parish Election term until 2026 to align with Swindon Borough Council. That CSNPC then continue on a four-year cycle from 2026 onwards. Cllr James Yeowell seconded.	Once the Borough has approved the changes, the Clerk to write to all councillors to inform them of the changes.
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	RESOLVED to APPROVE extending the councillors terms until 2026 to align with Swindon Borough Council, then to continue on a four-year cycle from 2026.	
FC332	APPROVE Integrated Leisure Management System build & implementation for all services/MSH The Head of Operations gave a verbal report from the written report prepared by The Clerk on the replacing of the existing booking system. Cllr John Ballman queried the 'includes some hardware' from Contractor one and asked would there be some outlay for these items from the other Contractors. Mr Aaron Cripps explained the items would be a point-of-sale handset, cash register and point of sale for café. He went on to explain what systems would be available to us and the customer. Cllr James Yeowell queried the ongoing costs for the other Contractors. Councillors discussed the costings on the spreadsheet for each Contractor. The Head of Operations explained why Officers considered Contractor three the best option and value for money. Cllr John Ballman asked if any research has been done in talking to other organisations that have used the systems and hardware. The Head of Operations explained that all four Contractors are National Companies and very well known, the Clerk had experience with Contractor one and if it wasn't so expensive would be our first choice. It was also commented that Wiltshire Council use Contractor three and highly recommend it. The Chair moved this subject to the next Full Council meeting and recommended it be done in private and confidential so the Contractors details can be used, and a decision be made. More details on the decision to use Contractor three and a more detailed explanation on all four can be discussed.	
Meeting Closed 19:41		

Signed.....

Date.....

