



Parish Council

Central Swindon North Parish Council

Pinetrees Community Centre,

The Circle,

SWINDON SN2 1QR

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 3rd January 2024 19.00

Present:	
Councillors:	Cllr James Yeowell (Chair) Cllr Dave Patey
Clerk:	Mr Andy Reeves
Officers:	Mr Matt Gleed Ms Gladys Barr Mr Aaron Webb Ms Tikara Townsend
Member of the Public Present: James Reeves (Minister RC Baptist Church)	
Apologies	Cllr Paul Exell Cllr Ana Fernandes

		Action
CD070	Declarations of Interest None	
CD071	Public Questions & Public Correspondence James Reeves gave a verbal report on the use of the porta cabin since the 22 nd July 2024.	

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They have provided 205hrs of community activities at the Yac Shack, 2,502 people in attendance. 143.5hrs of youth work over 86 sessions, reaching 2333 children and young people. 450 volunteers have supported the outreach.

At the newly created Chat Shack a need for support for older people was discovered, leading to a project inviting them to come for coffee and a chat. 18 sessions were held reaching 54 people, these are on hold for now due to the cold weather.

The Yac Shack was used for Neighbourhood watch meetings.

Nine youths were taken on a residential trip in conjunction with Swindon Youth for Christ which was very successful.

In conjunction with Aaron Webb a group of children were taken on a day trip.

Achievements;

- Being able to support the community with emotional and wellbeing support.
- Champion safeguarding.
- Welfare support.
- A development in character and positive behaviour with the young people.
- A young man who used to be involved with local gangs, but isn't anymore, has retrained as a youth worker to deter local gangs from congregating in the area.

Challenges;

- Can be cold during the winter.
- There is a lighting issue as battery lights used.

Recommendations;

- Increasing usage.
- Are the Parish willing to extend planning permission and agree to a temporary electrical cable being used, which would be paid for by them, to use for lighting.
- To encourage The Parish to reconsider the redevelopment of the changing rooms to provide a more permanent structure, accessible to the local community. Financial support could be provided.

A discussion was held on the report.

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	James Reeves asked if the changing rooms could be redeveloped into a small community hub for them to transfer into and be available for other local community projects. A discussion of future plans for the changing rooms on the site was held. The Chair PROPOSED a formal recommendation to be taken to an Environment & Planning Committee meeting to extend the planning permission for the porta cabin, and permission be granted to put a temporary electric cable to the building. RESOLVED Councillors APPROVED a formal recommendation to be taken to an Environment & Planning Committee to extend the planning permission for the porta cabin, and permission be granted to put a temporary electric cable to the building.	
CD072	Appoint Vice Chair The Appointing of a Vice Chair will be deferred until the next meeting.	
CD073	Community & Youth Officer Update Mr A Webb gave a verbal update. Pride of the Parish nominations are now closed, and they will be finalised soon with Councillors. The relaunch of the inclusivity programme on Friday the 12th January at Pinetrees Community Centre. T Townsend will be setting up an LGBTQ group to run fortnightly from the last week in January. The Friday Cookery Programme, run in cohort with the police, continues every three weeks to help build relationships between young people and the police. The Food Poverty Programme was busy over the Xmas period. The Salvation Army and Night Shelter handed out food parcels to vulnerable residents. The Community Pop-up shop was extremely busy, and The Parish managed to give away all the stock purchased from Cllr W Stones Ward Allowance. Community Xmas meal was a huge success, with the families taking a selection of toy's home.	

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	The Chair asked if Ms T Townsend could update on the LGBTQ event. Ms T Townsend gave an update on the future event. A discussion was held on the Community Pop-up shop and Cllr D Patey and The Chair both expressed and interest in offering a portion of their Ward Allowances to support it's work. A Webb gave an update on the cycle repair kits and the Youth Council. Councillors NOTED the Community & Youth Officers update.	
CD074	Assets Manager Update A Webb gave an update on the Asset Manager position. A new Asset Manager has been appointed and will join us from the 1st February 2024. Councillors NOTED the update on the new Asset Manager.	
CD075	Grants Manager Update G Barr gave a verbal update. No new applications for December. G Barr gave an update on existing applications. Several have been unsuccessful but can be applied for again. G Barr explained the issues involved with applying for different grants, and the processes involved to create successful bids. The Chair asked about the disability friendly bikes. A Reeves explained the issues with storage for the disability friendly bikes and the work being done to organise shipping containers to be purchased, transported and positioned in a suitable place for ease of access for those using the bikes. A discussion was held on the process to transfer the disability bikes to the new location. Cllr D Patey queried the situation around a possible skatepark at Moredon.	

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	G Barr explained that there is a possibility of a brand new skatepark being built on site in the future if funding can be acquired. Councillors NOTED the Grants Manager Update.	
CD076	Libraries & IT Manager Update A Reeves gave an update on the Even Swindon Library move. Councillors NOTED the update.	
CD077	Events Working Group The next Events Working Group is on Thursday the 4th January 2024 online. Councillors NOTED the Events Working Group meeting on tomorrow Thursday the 4th January 2024.	
CD078	Pride of the Parish A Webb gave a verbal update. Nominations are now closed and being finalised. A meeting is being held soon with Councillors to decide of participant winners, and to connect with local businesses to negotiate prizes. Councillors NOTED the update from the Community & Youth Officer.	
CD079	Capital Budget Expenditure A Reeves gave an update on the Community Development 24/25 Budget recommendations. Councillors NOTED the Community Development 24/25 Budget recommendations.	
Meeting Closed 20:02		

Signed.....

Date.....31/01/2024

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