



Parish Council

Central Swindon North Parish Council

Pinetrees Community Centre,

The Circle,

SWINDON SN2 1QR

FULL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 31st January 2024 19.00

Present:

Councillors:

Cllr Kevin Small (Chair)
Cllr Mick Lucas (Vice Chair)
Cllr John Ballman
Cllr Ian Edwards
Cllr Raj Patel
Cllr Dave Patey
Cllr Tom Smith
Cllr Will Stone
Cllr James Yeowell

Clerk:

Mr Andy Reeves

Officers:

Mr Andrew Briggs
Mr Aaron Webb
Mr Aaron Cripps (virtually)

Member of the Public Present: None

Apologies

Cllr Javes Rodrigues,
Cllr Ray Ballman,
Cllr Paul Exell

		Action
FC346	Section 85 Dispensation An application for dispensation has been submitted on behalf of Cllr P Exell to care for his wife who is seriously ill. RESOLVED: Councillors APPROVED the Application of Dispensation. Councillors said their thoughts were with both Cllr Paul Exell and his wife during this trying time.	
FC347	Declarations of Interest Cllr J Ballman declared interests as a member of the RSPB, HBUF and the Community Library and Leisure Trust. RESOLVED: Councillors declarations NOTED for the minutes.	
FC348	Public Questions & Public Correspondence None.	
FC349	Minutes of the Previous Meeting The Chair presented the minutes of the meeting held on the 20th December 2023 to be approved as a true and accurate record. RESOLVED to APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on the 20th December 2023 as a true and accurate record.	
FC350	Environment & Planning Committee The Chair proposed the election of a new Committee Chair due to Cllr P Exell's dispensation be moved to the Full Council meeting in February 2024. The Committee Vice Chair presented the minutes of the Environment & Planning Committee meetings held on the 20th December 2023, 3rd of January 2024 and the 17th January 2024 to be approved as a true and accurate record. RESOLVED to APPROVE the minutes of the Environment & Planning Committee meetings held on the 20th of December 2023, 3rd of January 2024 and the 17th of January 2024 as true and accurate records.	
FC351	Finance & General Purposes Committee The Chair presented the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on the 2nd of January 2024 and the Extraordinary Finance & General	

	Purposes Committee meeting held on the 23rd of January 2024 to be approved as a true and accurate record. RESOLVED to APPROVE the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on the 2nd of January 2024 and the Extraordinary Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on the 23rd of January 2024 as true and accurate records.	
FC352	Community Development Committee The Chair presented the minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting held on the 3rd of January 2024 to be approved as a true and accurate record. RESOLVED to APPROVE the minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting held on the 3rd of January 2024 as a true and accurate record.	
FC353	Leisure & Recreation Committee The Chair presented the minutes of the Leisure & Recreation Committee meeting held on the 4th of January 2024 to be approved as a true and accurate record. RESOLVED to APPROVE the minutes of the Leisure & Recreation Committee meeting held on the 4th of January 2024 as a true and accurate record.	
FC354	Property & Asset Management Committee The Chair presented the minutes of the Property & Asset Management Committee meetings held on the 11th of December 2023 and the 8th of January 2024 to be approved as a true and accurate record. RESOLVED to APPROVE the minutes of the Property & Asset Management Committee meetings held on the 11th of December 2023 and the 8th of January 2024 as true and accurate records.	
FC355	Updated Policy Approval Councillors to REVIEW and APPROVE the updated Financial Regulations. The Clerk gave an update to the amendments in the Financial Regulations and explained the purpose for them. Cllr M Lucas queried the £5,000 purchase limit as possibly too high.	

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	Cllr D Patey explained that all purchases are checked at the Finance & General Purposes Committee meetings for monitoring purposes, the increased limit was just to streamline the process and remove the extra work from Councillors. The Chair said he agreed with the £5,000 limit, but that the £5,000 limit be reviewed in six months time at the Financial & General Purposes Committee meeting. The Chair proposed to APPROVE the amendments in 6.12 and 6.15 of the Financial Regulations and the £5,000 limit to be reviewed in six months' time at the Financial & General Purposes Committee meeting. RESOLVED to APPROVE the amendments to the Financial Regulations and the £5,000 limit be reviewed in six months time at the Financial & General Purposes Committee meeting. Councillors to REVIEW and APPROVE the updated Vendor Policy. RESOLVED to APPROVE the updated Vendor Policy.	
FC356	Community Green Card The Clerk gave a verbal update on the proposed Community Green Card. Cllr J Yeowell asked about legacy benefits being included. The Clerk explained that all legacy benefits would be honoured. Cllr J Ballman asked about the type of proof needed to prove the discount. The Clerk explained we would not be keeping any records of proof and that only one would be needed. Cllr J Ballman said we should take this opportunity to become an all-inclusive Council. Cllr W Stone asked if people outside of Swindon would be allowed access to the services and discounts being provided. Cllr D Patey questioned how the discount should really be for Parish residents as they are paying for the facilities.	

20/12

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	The Chair proposed that in a years' time we look at opening the discount scheme to other Councils to participate in. The Chair proposed that a 20% discount be included for all staff members and Councillors of the Parish Council. Cllr R Patel noted that members of staff must return their discount card when leaving their position. The Chair proposed that the Community Green Card should be APPROVED, and the discount card be extended to include Parish Council staff members and Councillors. RESOLVED Councillors APPROVED the Community Green Card and the discount card be extended to include Parish Council staff members and Councillors.	
FC357	24/25 Budget Proposal The Councillors to REVIEW the 24/25 Budget proposed at the Extraordinary Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting on the 23rd of January 2024 and APPROVE the FGP Committee recommendation. The Chair presented the 24/25 Budget proposal. Cllr J Ballman asked about the placement location of the funds and the procedure for applying. The Clerk explained that the funds would be stored in our savings account until used and explained the application process. Cllr J Ballman asked for confirmation that the £250,000 will be ring-fenced for Play Areas. Cllr K Small confirmed the £250,000 would be ring-fenced to be used only towards Play Areas. Cllr J Ballman asked about the moving of staff and Councillors to Moredon Sporting Hub. The Chair explained that it is more cost effective to rent out the offices at Pinetrees and move the Parish staff and Councillors to the new Moredon Sporting Hub. All services will be connected between Pinetrees and Moredon for ease of use for local residents.	

KDP

	Cllr R Patel asked if the interest rate was fixed for the entirety of the loan. The Clerk confirmed it was. The FGP recommendation, FGP205, proposed to APPROVE the 24/25 Budget in the enclosed report which will result in a Parish Council Precept of £1,833,120.00, equating to a Band D Council Tax of £183.88, and an 11% increase. RESOLVED Councillors APPROVED the proposed 24/25 Budget proposal which will result in a Parish Council Precept of £1,833,120.00, equating to a Band D Council Tax of £183.88, and an 11% increase. The Council is asked to consider whether, under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, it considers that the public and press should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that there would be a likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972. RESOLVED Councillors APPROVED that agenda item 12 be taken in to Private & Confidential session under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.	
FC358	Penhill Bowls Club Project Mr A Briggs provided Members with the results of localised consultation work completed in relation to the Penhill Bowls Club Project. Members were informed that door to door knocking took place on two separate occasions. The first on 10th January and the second on the 18th of January 2024. It was noted that 24 properties across Hillary Close, Inglesham Rd, and Crossways Ave were approached and that there were 15 responses provided. The responses were record as: 1. 10 – in support (6 Inglesham, 2 Hillary & 1 Crossways) 2. 3 – Abstained (1 Inglesham, 1 Hillary & 1 Crossways) 3. 2 – against (1 Hillary & 1 Crossways)	

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	It was noted that Mr A Briggs asked for contact details of those 'Against' , to engage in further conversation about the proposed plans. Cllr D Patey commented that a wider area of Penhill should have been included. Cllr D Patey raised concern over the noise level and asked for reassurance that excessive noise levels would not impact local residents. The Clerk recommended a visit to Badbury Park, Swindon. Where a recent sound attenuation bund had been installed. The Chair proposed that Member; A) NOTED the report. B) APPROVE the Penhill Bowls Club Project as outlined, with the inclusion of the Oasis Skatepark. C) APPROVE officers to commence project procurement. That redacted results of the consultation are included within the minutes. Cllr J Ballman Seconded. Cllr T Smith commented that the ASB mitigation factors such as increased on site staff presence and community engagement programmes is also minuted. 7 Votes For 2 Votes Against RESOLVED Councillors APPROVED the Penhill Bowls Club Project with the inclusion of the Oasis Skatepark. RESOLVED Councillors APPROVED officers to commence project procurement. RESOLVED Councillors APPROVED that the redacted results of the consultation and mitigation measures are noted within the minutes.	
	Meeting Closed 19:55	

Signed.....*Ker-John*.....

Date.....*28/2/24*.....

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