



Parish Council

Central Swindon North Parish Council

Pinetrees Community Centre,

The Circle,

SWINDON SN2 1QR

LEISURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 4th January 2024 19.00

Present:

Councillors:

Cllr John Ballman (chair)
Cllr M Lucas
Cllr I Edwards
Cllr James Yeowell

Clerk:

Mr Andrew Briggs (Head of Operations)

Officers:

Mr Neil Jackson (Allotment Officer)(virtually)
Mr Andy Reeves (Clerk)(virtually)

Member of the Public Present: C Hunt
J Lewis

Apologies

None

		Action
LR308	Declarations of Interest Cllr John 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.	

	Cllr Mick Lucas declared an interest as an allotment tenant at Churchward Avenue area. RESOLVED: Item NOTED.	
LR309	Public Questions & Public Correspondence J Lewis asked about maintenance on Cricklade Road recreation ground and other spaces. She is concerned about needles being dropped and hidden in the grass. The Chair asked The Clerk if he was able to respond in writing to the question. The Clerk explained a response had been sent already, but he was happy to resend it. J Lewis asked about the potential of placing a children's park at the triangle of Edwards Yard and May Close. The Chair explained that it is not on our agenda in the Play Areas Group at the moment. We do work with several groups about the provision of Play Areas and are working towards making more play areas inclusive. The Clerk updated on the future provision for creating inclusive play areas across Swindon. Councillors RESPONDED and NOTED the member of the public's question.	
LR310	Allotments A Briggs asked Councillors to CONSIDER the 2 x Trees for Climate Change planting schemes, drafted by Neil Pullen of the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and gave a verbal report. C Hunt from Swindon Borough Council is here today to look at locations to work with the Borough to facilitate those. The Allington Road one will be looked at more next year and is just to be NOTED today. The Churchward Avenue one is for considering for this year's planting. A Briggs displayed a planned location designed by Neil Pullen and explained the provisional plans on types of trees to be planted. A Briggs asked Councillors if they are happy to consider the proposed plans.	

	The Chair PROPOSED that Councillors AGREE to go ahead with the proposal as is, in consultation with the allotment holders. RESOLVED; Councillors AGREED to go ahead with the proposal as is, in consultation with the allotment holders. N Jackson gave an update on allotments. Defence Academy have offered compost from their food waste. It is being offered free of charge, it is just the logistics of transporting and storing. The Parish has received extra hops since Christmas for allotment tenants. CCTV is being put in at Kiln Lane/Cheney Manor to deter anti-social behaviour that has been occurring there. Allotment tenancies are high and turn over low. The waiting list is quite long. A Briggs discussed about looking at allotment rental increases which will be discussed at the Allotment Working Group in February. An increase in line with RPI is expected. Councillors NOTED the update.	
LR311	Parks A. To NOTE an update on tree planting at St Marks Park. B. To NOTE an update on floral bedding at Penhill Park. C. To NOTE an update on removal of dead trees at St Marks & Penhill Park. D. To NOTE an update regarding receipt of the A-frame litter pick board. E. To NOTE an update on floral planters. F. To NOTE an update on gully clearance works. Cllr J Ballman asked if the removed trees would be replaced. A Briggs confirmed that The Parish would be replacing them in the future. Cllr J Yeowell asked about the location of planters in Penhill.	

	A Briggs explained the possible locations and the administration involved to place them. Councillors NOTED updates A-F.	
LR312	Play Areas A Briggs presented a verbal update on play area winter maintenance works. The Grounds, Landscape & Maintenance Officer, and the Allotment Manager have been diligently clearing the play areas, creating a clean, tidy appearance that has been well received by local residents. Councillors NOTED the update.	
LR313	Community Ownership Fund Update A Briggs presented a verbal update on the Community Ownership Fund application. The Parish was unsuccessful in its application, but the Community Grants Manager believes that this was due to a technical issue, and The Parish will be applying again. Cllr I Edwards asked if there is any way to get something started in that area as he feels it had been disadvantaged in recent years. A discussion was held on the subject. Councillors NOTED the update.	
LR314	Sports Pitches A Briggs presented a verbal report on sports pitches usage & maintenance. Due to excessive rainfall the football pitches are very sodden at the present moment. Some matches have had to be re-arranged which has affected the league. If these weather conditions continue, The Parish will need to look into investing in more all-weather pitches. Councillors asked about drainage. A Briggs said he would look into the cost of drainage. Councillors NOTED the update.	
	Meeting Closed 20:03	

Signed SB Khan

Date 04.09.2004