



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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday 5th March 2025 19.00

Present:

Councillors:

Cllr James Yeowell (Chair)
Cllr Paul Exell
Cllr Paul Park
Cllr Raj Patel
Cllr Dave Patey

Clerk:

Mr Aaron Webb (Community Youth Manager)

Officers:

Mrs Louise Whatley (Community Centre Manager)
(virtually)
Mr Matt Gleed (Leisure Manager)

Member of the Public Present: None.

Apologies

Cllr Ana Fernandes
Cllr Vanessa Bentley
Cllr Joy Grotzinger

		Action
CD186	Declarations of Interest None	
CD187	Public Questions & Public Correspondence None.	
CD188	JMH Update Cllr P Park presented an update. On the 24th December 2024 Cllr P Parks attended a collaboration Christmas Food Donation at JMH with Swindon Street Reps, Night Shelter and local companies. The event provided food for around 150 families, about 500 people. Cllr P Park explained that Swindon Street Reps would like to put on another event this year and aim to feed 300 families, around 1000 people this time and have asked The Parish about logistics and how The Parish would be able to support the endeavour. Cllr P Exell asked if Swindon Street Reps wanted The Parish to contribute funds. Mr A Webb explained that local food companies donated the produce, and Swindon Street Reps are asking The Parish for use of premises to store and distribute the goods. A discussion was held on logistics. Cllr R Patel offered support to the venture. Cllr J Yeowell suggested they use various locations. Cllr P Park explained that the produce is delivered between 5pm and 9pm and until it arrives no-one knows exactly what will be available. Mr A Webb asked how needy families were identified. Cllr P Park said that food bank participants were given priority, but that there was a system in place. The biggest issue was people getting grumpy from waiting. Cllr D Patey suggested having people outside handing out mince pies and drinks to those waiting to ease tensions.	

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	Cllr P Exell suggested Officers investigate the logistics and return with a plan. Mr A Webb suggested providing timeslots, although this could mean food isn't available during their timeslot. He recommended looking at other food drops like this across the country to see how they managed the logistics of the provision. Cllr P Exell proposed Officers investigate the logistics and how The Parish can help support this event and return to a future meeting with a plan. Cllr J Yeowell seconded. RESOLVED Councillors APPROVED Officers investigating the logistics and how The Parish could help support this event and return to a future meeting with a plan. Councillors and Officers discussed options and possible solutions.	
CD189	Leisure Manager Update Mr M Gleed presented an update. There is a National Pet Day on the 11th April 2025 at Moredon Sporting Hub with events, vet checks and treats. There are now 23 fitness classes with a couple more starting in April. Cllr P Park asked if there were slots available for more classes. Mr M Gleed explained that the only issue slot was the time used for Parish Committee meetings. The afternoons are the quietest and some weekends, but weekends are when events usually happen so booking regular classes logistically is challenging on those days. Cllr P Park noted that as Councillors we should be pushing to have Moredon Sporting Hub always open to the public and move Parish meetings to alternative locations. Mr M Gleed described all the different events and activities that are planned from April that are not just cycling and football based.	

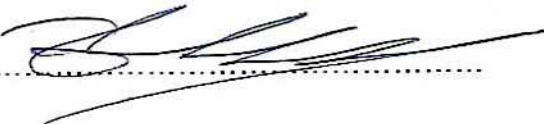
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	Councillors discussed different local groups that could and now do use Moredon Sporting Hub and how to publicise services Moredon Sporting Hub supply. Mr M Gleed described the history and process on increasing/decreasing cycle track prices to make them more competitive. There are more cycling events and people using the track now, but it is a gradual increase. He explained his plan to encourage more people to use the track. Cllr R Patel asked about costs and provision of bicycles for public use. Mr M Gleed explained that that The Parish only has 40 bicycles of various sizes and having too many people requiring The Parish to provide them limits how many can use the track. Having a full timetable with different types of groups provides a variety of sessions for all different types of needs. Cllr D Patey asked about the cycle repair and maintenance sessions. Mr M Gleed said that this was a volunteer called Steve, and that The Parish has gained funding to provide more provisions like this. There are changes with football pitch usage in the future and possible changes to pitch sizes going forward. Discussions are in progress at the moment, but no decisions have been made yet. The Parish has reduced duty managers by one and are no longer using Agency staff during 9am-5pm to reduce staffing costs. Councillors discussed the pros and cons on Agency staff. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	
CD190	Community Centre Manager Update Mrs L Whatley presented an update. See Appendix 1. Cllr J Yeowell asked about the Everley Centre people at JMH.	

	Mrs L Whatley explained that Andy and herself will be having a meeting with them soon to try and find a solution to the issue. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	
CD191	Events Update Mr A Webb amalgamated the Events update with the Community Youth Update. See CD192.	
CD192	Community Youth Manager Update Mr A Webb presented an update. See Appendix 2. Mr A Webb explained that a charity football match was being organised to raise money for the Drive Home Safe campaign in relation to Harry Parker. Mr A Webb talked about Criminal Child Exploitation and not seeing crime perpetrators of a young age as just criminals but as victims too. The importance as a Parish of supporting children and young people in our Parish. Cllr R Patel noted the importance of supporting and helping the young. Mr A Webb described Swindon's situation due to it's location and the importance of The Parish to get involved in helping support and protect our youth from being groomed by large criminal gangs from bigger cities. Cllr J Yeowell asked if Swindon had a dedicated Officer for this. Mr A Webb said no, Swindon doesn't. There is a charity to help victims, but no Council or Parish designated officers or departments. Cllr D Patey asked about the Anti-Social behaviour Officer. Mr A Webb explained that modern day slavery and grooming are a different subject and not covered by Anti-Social behaviour. He suggested Councillors watched some of the recent documentaries on iPlayer that cover these issues to help them get an idea of the situation and how it affects The Parish.	

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	Mr A Webb asked Councillors to discuss and decide how they would like to see Youth work evolve and change in the coming years. See Appendix 3 for Youth Session Timetable. Cllr P Exell suggested the mission document be checked to see if it was still relevant. Mr A Webb showed the Easter Youth Holiday events. See Appendix 4 Councillors asked if there was a confirmed date for the Parkside Hub Official opening. Mr A Webb confirmed it was Saturday 12th April 2025 from 10am to noon. POP have offered volunteers to help support the running of the café. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	
	Meeting Closed 20:20	

Signed.....

Date.....26/03/2025

