



Parish Council

Central Swindon North Parish Council

Pinetrees Community Centre,

The Circle,

SWINDON SN2 1QR

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 6th November 2024 19.00

Present:

Councillors:

Cllr James Yeowell (Chair)
Cllr Ana Fernandes (Vice Chair)
Cllr Paul Exell
Cllr Joy Grotzinger
Cllr Muhammad Khan (virtually)
Cllr Paul Park
Cllr Dave Patey

Clerk:

Mr Aaron Webb (Community Youth Manager)

Officers:

Mr Andy Reeves (Parish Clerk)
Mr Aaron Cripps (Marketing, Literacy & Digital
Services Manager)
Mr Matt Gleed (Leisure Manager)
Mrs Louise Whatley (Assets Officer)(virtually)

Member of the Public Present: Briony Waycott (SBC)

Amy Cox (SMASH)

Carol Willis (Voluntary Action Swindon)

Apologies

none

54

		Action
CD149	Declarations of Interest Cllr Paul Park declared a non-precursory interest in the Library & Leisure Trust. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the declaration.	
CD150	Public Questions & Public Correspondence Amy Cox from SMASH explained that with the opening of the refurbished Penhill Bowls club SMASH can offer one afternoon and one evening to work with the young people. Councillors thanked SMASH for their offer and support. Cllr J Yeowell asked when the refurbishment should be completed. Mr A Webb explained it should be open from January 2025. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	
CD151	Air Quality in Swindon Miss B Waycott asked if there were any meetings she could attend to raise awareness of using active travel to local residents. Cllr D Patey asked about the possible use of a HGV ban. Miss B Waycott explained they do have the funding to produce a vehicle regulation order to reduce heavy vehicles on Kings Hill Road. Mr A Cripps asked if they have any posters or social media material the Parish can exhibit on/at our sites and premises. Miss B Waycott said yes, and she would forward them to Mr A Cripps. Cllr D Patey asked if there would be an idling ban too. Miss B Waycott explained that it is not right now, but they are encouraging people to switch off their engines when still. Cllr J Yeowell explained his Parish area suffers a lot from idling issues.	Miss B Waycott to forward posters, social media advertising and presentation information to A Cripps and A Reeves.

	Cllr P Exell have a lot of old layout roads which cause a lot of congestion, which creates the idling issue. Cllr J Yeowell asked what other toxins in our air and what SBC were doing about those issues. Miss B Waycott explained that 20% of particulates in the air come from wood burning stoves. Mr A Reeves asked about what work was being done at schools to promote alternative greener travel to and from schools. Miss B Waycott is trying to get this started. Mr A Reeves mentioned the Parish has good school connections and working with Miss B Waycott to connect with the schools. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the presentation.	
CD152	VAS Swindon Mrs C Willis presented an update. Voluntary Action Swindon has been established since 1932 and have various connections. Through National Lottery funding they offer funding and governance support to anyone wanting to set up a charity or established charities that want to improve their governance. They also have a database to connect people or businesses wanting to fund charities with the charities themselves. VAS have received several different funding options to support local residents in creating charities and community development officers to reach out to local people to find out what their needs are. Cllr A Fernandes asked about how the Parish could gain access to the information. Mrs C Willis explained it could be emailed to the Parish and Parish Councillors or paper leaflets can be provided. Mr A Webb asked about renting mobility scooters as many local residents struggle around the Parish.	

54

	Mrs C Willis explained it was about a £1, but she would send to information to him. Cllr P Exell asked about making provision relevant as he found that when he needed the support during his wife's illness, he did not receive it. Since she has passed away he is now receiving the information, but it is no longer relevant. A discussion about the challenges around funding and maintaining the services. Cllr D Patey asked if Gladys would be able to support in any way. Mr A Reeves explained that Gladys is just for the Parish and when she can she supports VAS. Mr A Cripps asked do VAS have a system that makes them aware of grant opportunities that may be relevant to the Libraries trust. Mrs C Willis said yes and she will connect with them. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	
CD153	Leisure Manager Update Mr A Webb presented a verbal update from a written report. See Appendix 1. Cllr D Patey asked if the fitness classes were being advertised on our website. Mr A Webb said this would be done. Cllr J Yeowell asked about the Chair Aerobics and more of this at Moredon. Mr A Webb explained he spoke to the Dementia café recently about this. A discussion was held on different sports and organisations that could be supported here to increase footfall. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	

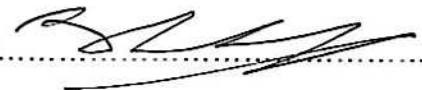
54

CD154	Community Centre Manager Update Mrs L Whatley presented a verbal update from a written report. See Appendix 2. Cllr J Yeowell asked if other premises were promoted when Pinetrees is unavailable. Mrs L Whatley said they were. Mr A Reeves recommended that for future metrics could include year to date figures as well as month by month totals. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	Mrs L Whatley to provide year to date figures as a comparison going forward.
CD155	Marketing, Literacy & Digital Services Manager Mr A Cripps gave a verbal update. The Parish newsletter will be started a little earlier than usual, and emails will be arriving for any contributions Councillors would like included. The Libraries are running along smoothly. One change is the Pinetrees Library Assistant has resigned and is moving on to pastures new. The Parish will be advertising for a new permanent Library Assistant in due course. The Pride of the Parish work has started, and voting will be starting soon. Various digital systems are progressing nicely including a hard wiring of internet to Moredon. A review of staff laptops etc will be happening soon. Cllr J Yeowell asked about Civica. Mr A Reeves explained that Councillors had decided it was too expensive. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the verbal update.	
CD156	Community Youth Manager and Events Update Mr A Webb presented a verbal update from a written report. See Appendix 3.	

54

	Cllr J Yeowell asked as we have a limited number of disability bicycles, do we need more. Mr A Webb said he would investigate this. The Winter Wonderland event is looking extremely popular, and over 2,800 have shown an interest so far. We need to be prepared for such a huge response. There will be three shows, and the times will be recommended across social media to different age ranges. Cllr J Yeowell asked about lighting for the mobile farm. Mr A Webb explained that lighting would be provided. A discussion was held on parking for the event and other events we could put on in the future. Cllr D Patey asked about half term holiday club and whether we will be running a Christmas holiday club. Mr A Webb explained there are 3 dates the Parish could run over the Christmas Holiday. Cllr J Yeowell asked about Youth Council. Mr A Webb explained they are discussing the bike pumps, the bike shelters and activities for the coming year. Councillors NOTED the update.	
CD157	Emergency Contact Hub Cllr J Yeowell presented an update. A video presentation was shown to Councillors. Mr A Reeves explained the need to have a connected and organised plan in case of an emergency. Moredon has been set as the main hub now and Mr M Gleed has received the training for the processes. Cllr D Patey asked if we have solar panels at Moredon. Mr A Reeves replied no, but it is something we will investigate for the future. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	

CD158	Community Development Budget Mr A Reeves presented an update. Events already booked in are the Winter Wonderland which takes place this December, and possibly next year also. Cllr J Grotzinger African Festival in July 2025, Pride of the Parish in February 2025, Silver Saturday in October 2025 and Cllr A Fernandes St Marks Community Funday in August 2025. The budget for 24/25 was set for £10,000.00 to cover the events. The events are cost neutral. Mr A Webb mentioned the meals on wheels food provision and the funding to initiate this. Councillors discussed the different options and funding needs. Especially the need to cover the whole Parish. Cllr D Patey asked if the Community Development Committee could support The Kelly Foundation in any way to help with the charity's costs. Mr A Reeves explained that all charities renting space from us have to cover those expenses, the Parish has to be seen as treating all charities fairly. Cllr P Exell explained that this is the purposes of grant requests on a need-by-need basis. Cllr J Yeowell recommended funding for all the events discussed in the 25/26 RESOLVED Councillors AGREED to funding all the events discussed with the 25/26 budget for Community Development.	
	Meeting Closed 21:10	

Signed.....

Date.....04/03/2025

54