



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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday 2nd April 2025 19.00

Present:

Councillors:

Cllr James Yeowell (Chair)
Cllr Ana Fernandes (Vice 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 Aaron Cripps (Marketing, Literacy and Digital
Services Manager)

Member of the Public Present: None.

Apologies

none

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		Action
CD193	Declarations of Interest None	
CD194	Public Questions & Public Correspondence None.	
CD195	Diversity Update Cllr J Yeowell presented an update. Aaron Webb, Tikara Townsend and Cllr James Yeowell attended a meeting at Swindon North College as part of a Diversity Talent in relation to five young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. The Diversity organisation and the police have been working with the young people improving their business skills. Their final project was to design a Youth Facility for Swindon. Mr A Webb explained that Cllr J Yeowell and himself had discussed redeveloping the red brick building adjacent to Moredon Sporting Hub to support the creation of a Youth Zone and working with the young people from the Diversity Project. Cllr P Exell asked about the Parish aspirations to use the building for Council Chambers. Mr A Webb explained that Anna Somaiya and Jeremy Blain (CEO's of Diversity Talent) are planning to come to May Community Development meeting to update the committee on ideas. Mr A Webb explained about the facility called The Base, recently opened at Lyndhurst Crescent, Park North and that he would be organising a visit for councillors to see what has been achieved and see if it inspires councillors to see if the Parish could replicate here in some way. Mr A Reeves explained that the existing pavilion funding proposal is in the process for a Council Chambers, but creating possible alternative uses for the building would create viable income streams to fund the management of the building long term. Cllr D Patey asked if there were any other supporting organisations that could help the young people in their business ventures.	

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	Mr A Webb said yes, there are other organisations that can help in the future. Cllr D Patey asked if the Parish could fund apprenticeships. Mr A Reeves said no the Parish is not able to fund apprenticeship/training courses for residents. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	
CD196	Marketing, Literacy and Digital Services Manager Update Mr A Cripps presented an update. Funds have been approved to install the fibre broadband cable to the main Moredon Sporting Hub building and works will start soon. An IT audit and safety review starting with Parish staff and then councillors are underway. MFA will be incoming for everyone, and passwords will change regularly. All laptops will be updated to windows 11 and laptops can be recalled and updated if needed. Laptop stock varies in ages, with some over five years old. In 26/27 budget money will be put aside to update all outdated laptops. Laptops are available for Parkside Hub. The libraries are running smoothly. Parish newsletters have been delivered now and there are some spare copies available for Councillors living out of the Parish. Mr A Cripps explained that he would like to start creating more regular online newsletters or blogs to update the Parish on a more regular basis. Cllr P Exell explained that he has been talking to Hannah Spence around using the raised beds and gardens. Mr A Cripps mentioned that there are several community initiatives being looked at and he would communicate with Hannah around this. Cllr J Yeowell asked why his Office 365 is no longer working. Mr A Cripps explained that he is reviewing the packages the Parish is using at present and will update councillors about future decisions.	

	RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	
CD197	Community Centre Manager Update Mrs L Whatley presented an update. See Appendix 1. Cllr D Patey asked do people at different locations know about the activities taking place at each other's buildings. Mrs L Whatley explained that there are some Moredon leaflets at Pinetrees. Mr A Cripps mentioned that in the future having screens at each location listing the different activities taking place across the Parish would be a future investment. Cllr P Exell asked if an action could be created to have Louise send the Pinetrees and JMH activity information to Moredon and Matt send the Moredon information to Pinetrees and JMH. Cllr J Yeowell mentioned the All Yours Period boxes would be useful at other community centres. Mrs L Whatley said she would investigate this. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	Activities at various locations to be forwarded to alternative locations.
CD198	Events Update Mr A Webb amalgamated the Events update with the Community Youth Update. See CD199.	
CD199	Community Youth Manager Update Mr A Webb presented an update. See Appendix 2. Councillors discussed the options for a councillors/staff meet up that would be non-work related. Cllr J Yeowell talked about the possibility of taking a break between meetings when they are back-to-back. Mr A Webb mentioned the option to place time limits on presentations.	

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Cllr D Patey asked if a change in Standing Orders would be needed to implement time limits. Mr A Reeves said it is the Chairs duty to manage time. Mr A Webb noted he would be organising a councillor/staff meet-up potentially around the end of June. Mr A Webb presented an update on KPI's. See Appendix 3. Mr A Webb explained the importance of connecting and supporting local children and young people and asked councillors if there were any areas they would like to see covered. Cllr P Exell asked if there were any plans to create a more formal Youth Council. Mr A Webb explained the Youth Council meets every 6-7 weeks, but they tended to be quite informal. He will look to initiate a regular schedule and asked if councillors would participate as officers may not have time. Councillors agreed to support the Youth Council meetings with their time. Cllr D Patey asked if councillors might consider reducing their Ward Allowance slightly to provide the Youth Council with a budget to work with. Mr A Webb noted that there is already a Youth Council budget available. Cllr P Exell explained that each school would have two seats and would be treated as a Ward. The students would have to canvas the students in their school for ideas to bring to the meetings. Councillors discussed Youth Council options. Cllr J Yeowell asked about VE Day events. Mr A Webb explained that event plans and advertising are progressing and information would be presented at the next meeting. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	
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	Meeting Closed 20:12	
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Signed.....

Date.....28/05/2025

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