



Parish Council

Central Swindon North Parish Council

Pinetrees Community Centre,

The Circle,

SWINDON SN2 1QR

LEISURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 5th June 2025 19.15

Present:

Councillors:

Cllr John Ballman (Chair)
Cllr Mick Lucas
Cllr Paul Park (virtually)
Cllr James Yeowell

Clerk:

Mr Andrew Briggs (Head of Operations)

Officers:

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

Member of the Public Present: None

Apologies

Cllr Paul Exell

		Action
LR444	Declarations Of Interest Cllr John Ballman declared a non-pecuniary interest in The Leisure & Library Trust, HBuF and RSPB RESOLVED: Item NOTED.	

LR445	Public Questions & Public Correspondence None	
LR446	L&R Committee 25/26 Budgets To RECEIVE the available budgets for the 25/26 Financial Year. Mr A Briggs provided a list of the L&R budgets available for 25/26. • Sports Maintenance Budget £25,000 • Play Area Budget, General Maintenance £10,000 • Allotments Budget £25,000. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	
LR447	Play Areas And Grounds A. To RECEIVE an updated quotation to repair the damaged Cableway (zip wire) at Inglesham Road. Mr A Briggs provided a quotation for the repair to the damaged Cableway (zip wire). Original quote was £15,975.70. The subsequent quotation is £17,514.00. This includes the matting and removal of rubbish. Cllr J Ballman asked if the Parish had replaced it before. Mr A Briggs explained the Parish has only replaced the wire before. Mr A Briggs recommended he sourced a third quotation and brought it back to a future committee for final approval. Councillors agreed to the recommendation. RESOLVED Councillors AGREED to Mr A Briggs returning to a future L&R committee meeting with a third quotation. B. To RECEIVE the Youth Investment Funding monitoring end of project report. Mr A Briggs presented an update on the YIF grant funding report. Cllr J Yeowell asked about the discussions had around moving the Harcourt Road play area in the future and would this be funded from the PWLB Loan.	

	Mr A Briggs explained this would be a decision for Councillors to make. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	
LR448	Parks And Open Spaces A. To RECEIVE an update following the Green Flag assessment of St Marks and Penhill Parks. Mr A Briggs presented an update on the Green Flag assessments. The weather was lovely both days and both parks looked amazing. The Parish is awaiting their response. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update. B. To APPROVE the quotation for line marking at the St Marks & Penhill MUGA's. Mr A Briggs presented an update on the need to re-mark the courts at St Marks & Penhill. He had sourced a quote which was for £1,875.00 +VAT. There is EMR339 money available for this if approved. Cllr J Yeowell asked about the quality of the surface area and nettings. Mr A Briggs responded that the surface area was ok right now, but the netting does need replacing. Cllr J Ballman proposed that Councillors APPROVE spending £1,875.00 +VAT from EMR339 to re-mark St Marks and Penhill MUGA's. RESOLVED Councillors APPROVED spending £1,875.00+VAT from EMR 339 to re-mark St Marks and Penhill MUGA's. C. To RECEIVE an update on the arrival of the floral planters. Mr A Briggs presented an update on the arrival and installation of the floral planters. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update. D. To RECEIVE the definitive footpath information from SBC for Southbrook Rec / HBuF.	

	Mr A Briggs presented an update re a new designated footpath through Hreod Burna Urban Forest. See Appendix 1. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	
LR449	Allotments A. To RECEIVE a verbal update from the Allotment Officer. Mr N Jackson presented an update. Occupancy is at 97%, 599 tenants. 19 new tenants in the last month, the Parish are informing all new tenants about SALGA and their numbers have increased by 75 over the last year. Non-cultivation letters have started; the Parish has completed them at three sites so far. A master key for all allotments have been given to the police for any incidents. A new fence has gone up at Kiln Lane around the car park the Parish is renting out. Feedback has been very positive. Mr A Briggs explained there have been some minor issues at Pickards Field still, but the Parish is managing this as it occurs. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED update. B. To RECEIVE an update following the preliminary judging assessment of Akers Way. Mr A Briggs presented an update. The judging panel spent two hours exploring the sites at Akers Way and have completed the preliminary score. The Judges will return in August to score them again. Cllr M Lucas noted that some plots are using astro turf and he felt this should be something the Parish should not allow as the allotments are a natural environment. Mr A Briggs recommended sending a letter to all tenants asking them not to use astro turf, and to add a stipulation in future tenant's contracts. Cllr J Yeowell recommended adding this as an item for discussion at the next Allotment Working Group.	

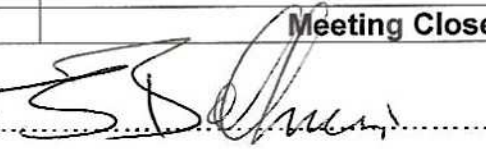
	RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update. C. To RECEIVE the identified Allotment projects for 25/26. Mr A Briggs presented an update on future plans. • More pathway repairs • Water troughs • Additional parking Cllr J Ballman recommended completing a survey of each site to ascertain what is needed doing over all sites and then making a long term plan. Mr A Briggs explained that there is a long term plan the Parish is working from at present. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED update. D. To RECEIVE the status of the Redlynch Close land transfer request. Mr A Briggs presented an update explaining that Swindon Borough Council are still working through the process to approve the transfer. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update. Mr Neil Jackson left the meeting.	
LR450	Sports Pitches A. To NOTE an end of football season update. Mr A Briggs presented an update. This season has gone well with limited loss from water logging. The season ended on schedule. The scarification has been completed thanks to grant funding. Cricket pitches are being marked, and bookings are arriving. Goal mouth renovations and aeration will progress over the summer. There was an issue with a group using the pitches for training without paying for a booking, they have been communicated with and there are possible solutions, but this could be a costly item. Cllr M Lucas asked about any further progression towards grant funding to replace drainage across the Parishes pitches.	

	Mr A Briggs explained that there are several pieces of paperwork required from outside sources before an application can be made, and he is still collating it all. Councillors discussed the water logging issues and what can be done. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update. B. To NOTE the start of the cricket season & usage. Mr A Briggs presented an update. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	
LR451	Trees For Climate/Oaks At 80 A. To CONSIDER the identified locations for tree planting through Trees for Climate. Mr A Briggs explained what had been offered and possible locations. He will create a map for a future meeting with locations for Councillors to choose. Councillors discussed some different locations. Cllr J Yeowell asked about Compton Green as a possible location. Mr A briggs said he would investigate. Mr A Briggs proposed creating maps, completing consultations with residents and making decisions at a future meeting. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update. B. To RECEIVE further information regarding the Oaks at 80 offer. Mr A Briggs explained that a tree is available for each Ward. Councillors discussed possible locations. Cllr J Ballman asked for a map to be drawn up with the locations.	



	Mr A Briggs explained that there is some guidance which he recently received, he will forward this to Councillors to peruse and see what is feasible and what is not, and Councillors can discuss at a future meeting. RESOLVED Councillors NOTED the update.	
	Meeting Closed 20:48	

Signed.....



Date.....

1-8-2025