



Parish Council

Central Swindon North Parish Council

Pinetrees Community Centre,

The Circle,

SWINDON SN2 1QR

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 3rd September 2025 19.00

Present:

Councillors:

Cllr James Yeowell (Chair)
Cllr Vanessa Bentley (Vice Chair)
Cllr John Ballman
Cllr Paul Exell
Cllr Ana Fernandes - virtually
Cllr Joy Grotzinger
Cllr Paul Park
Cllr Dave Patey

Clerk:

Mr Aaron Webb (Community Youth Manager)

Officers:

Mr Andy Reeves (Parish Clerk)
Mrs Louise Whatley (Assets Manager)

Member of the Public Present: Emily Webb (VAS, Community Connector Penhill)

Apologies

none

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		Action
CD228	Declarations of Interest None	
CD229	Public Questions & Public Correspondence None.	
CD230	VAS Update Ms E Webb presented an update on the work of VAS (Voluntary Action Swindon) within the Parish. She explained her work in Penhill working with young school refusals, young people identified by schools with issues. Ms E Webb explained about their project to support people by directing them to the help they needed before they hit crisis point. Pulling information together so they can direct people to the correct professionals. Ms H Spence, Community Connector Moredon, has been working at Moredon Library in the garden supporting men's mental health, as well as coordinating with The Men's Shed to help connect people. RESOLVED to NOTE Update.	
CD231	Harbour Project & Brazilian Evening Cllr V Bentley presented a verbal update on the Harbour Project & Brazilian Evening at Pinetrees Community Centre on the 26/09/2025. The event will be a fusion between English and Brazilian culture. A small buffet will be provided. Swindon Major, Cllr Fay Howard, has responded saying she will be attending the event, and several local businesses have offered their support. Mr A Webb noted the catering costs would be covered by the Events budget. RESOLVED to NOTE the update.	
CD232	Moredon Community Centre Mr A Reeves presented an update on Moredon Community Centre, which was approved at FGP 02/09/2025. He explained the need to look for ways to increase the use of the building with more activities relevant for the residents who live in the vicinity to improve people's lives now that it is available and not taken up by a business all day five days a week.	

	Mr A Webb noted the need to rejuvenate the site. A new identity, feeling and activities. Mrs L Whatley mentioned that there are already some bookings for the rooms which the Parish will honour. The building cannot be booked on Bookly yet, but can be booked over the phone, and this has started to happen. She noted that having an extra location to offer people is an asset and the bar opens up opportunities none of the other sites have. Mr A Webb pointed out that it might be possible to apply for Sport England funding as the building was located in the target area. Cllr P Park asked if it would be a good idea to focus on older people due to the types of properties located there. Cllr P Exell noted it would be a great location for meet ups. Cllr V Bentley believes it is a great location, and she has lots of possible plans, especially coffee mornings. Cllr P Exell feels this is a great opportunity to bring Moredon Community Centre back to the residents. RESOLVED to NOTE the update.	
CD233	Community Centre Manager Update Mrs L Whatley presented an update from a written report. See Appendix 1. RESOLVED to NOTE update.	
CD234	Marketing, Literacy and Digital Services Manager Update Mr A Reeves requested this agenda item be moved to the October committee meeting. RESOLVED to APPROVE moving the Marketing, Literacy and Digital Services Manager Update to the October committee meeting.	
CD235	Community Youth Manager and Events Update Mr A Webb presented an update from a written report. See Appendix 2.	

	Mr A Webb informed Councillors that the 3rd Pride of the Parish awards evening will be on Monday 16th February 2026 from 6pm-8pm, and he asked Councillors where they would like to hold it. Councillors discussed several locations. Cllr P Park expressed a desire to see more funding in the Parishes youth services. Mr A Webb agreed but noted that this would require more funding. Cllr D Patey asked if there had been any complaints around noise at Parkside Hub since it opened. Mr A Webb said that in the six months it had been open the Parish has only received one complaint, and the parties involved apologised for the noise nuisance. He mentioned the rubbish that gathers in the bushes around the site, but that this was already an issue prior to The Parkside Hub opening. Cllr P Park has spoken to local parishioners living near the Parkside Hub, and the Parish has a good relationship with the Hillary Close residents. Cllr D Patey asked about the new proposed legislation around the not selling of energy drinks to people aged under 16, and how this would effect our assets. Mr A Reeves replied that the Parish would adapt as the laws change. Cllr P Exell proposed that the Pride of the Parish should be held at Moredon Community Centre. Councillors agreed. Cllr J Yeowell proposed that the Pride of the Parish be held at Moredon Community Centre. RESOLVED to NOTE update and APPROVE the Pride of the Parish to be held at Moredon Community Centre.	
CD236	Budget Setting Mr A Reeves presented the budget report for 25/26 and Councillors discussed budgets for 26/27.	

Councillors agreed to increase 5405/500 – Community Events from £10,000.00 to £20,000.00 and remove 5415/500 – Community Enhancements.

Cllr P Park requested more youth activities and asked how much would be required.

Mr A Webb responded that to provide youth activities across the Parish assets would be around 50hrs per week across two extra members of staff, through agency to guarantee activities are always staffed.

Mr A Reeves explained this would cost around £75,000.00.

Councillors requested 4055/510 – Staff Costs-Agency be increased to £75,000.00.

Cllr P Park wondered if Ms G Barr would be able to acquire extra grant funding for these activities.

Mr A Webb mentioned that he is working with Ms G Barr at present to acquire additional funding for youth activities. He noted that most youth activities provided by the Parish are funded by grants.

Councillors requested 4730/510 Meeting Venue Hire be removed.

Councillors requested that 5405/510 Community Events be increased to £2,500.00.

Councillors discussed the Penhill Lunch Club and their loss in funding from SBC. They recommended that the Parish could provide the £1,000.00 per year funding for the project.

Councillors requested that 5425/510 Youth-Breakfast/Lunch Club be increased to £5,000.00 to include regular funding of the Penhill Lunch Club.

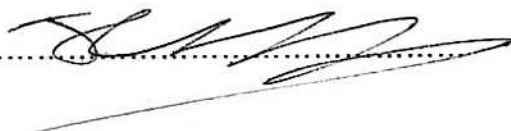
Cllr P Exell expressed his desire to see the Youth Council enlarged and be more inclusive. He would like to see all schools within the Parish providing representatives to work together to make decisions that affect them. He requested an increase in funding to facilitate this.

Councillors requested 5435/510 Youth Council be increased to £1,000.00.



	Cllr D Patey suggested the Parish support the Kelly Foundation as they are receiving more referrals from Swindon Borough Council. Cllr P Park asked for an update on which Parish Councils had agreed to help the Kelly Foundation with their expansion plans, presented at a previous Community Development Committee meeting, that the Parish had agreed to support. Mr A Reeves responded that he would contact the Kelly Foundation and ask for an update and will update the budget requests and bring them to a future meeting. RESOLVED to APPROVE the budget requests for 26/27 and review further at the October 2025 committee meeting.	
	Meeting Closed 20:32	

Signed.....



Date.....

24/09/2025

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