



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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday 1st October 2025 19.00

Present:

Councillors:

Cllr James Yeowell (Chair)
Cllr Vanessa Bentley (Vice Chair) - virtually
Cllr Paul Exell
Cllr Paul Park
Cllr Dave Patey

Clerk:

Mr Aaron Webb (Community Youth Manager)

Officers:

Miss Rachel Westcott
Mr Aaron Cripps - virtually

Member of the Public Present: none

Apologies

Cllr Joy Grotzinger

		Action
CD237	Declarations of Interest None	
CD238	Public Questions & Public Correspondence None.	
CD239	Kells Kitchen Update Mr A Webb presented an update from a written report. See Appendix 1. Cllr J Yeowell asked about the issues they had in the past. Mr A Webb explained that those have been dealt with and it has been a learning curve for the charity. Cllr J Yeowell noted how inclusive the staff are. Mr A Webb noted that the Kelly Foundation are looking to extend opening hours to cover the 3.30-6pm section. Most evenings already have pre-booked activities. Cllr J Yeowell asked about the male toilets at Pinetrees. He has noticed they are looking a bit tired and smelly. Mr A Webb responded that they are maintained daily by cleaning staff, but unfortunately the toilets are a bit tired and could do with a refurbishment when funds are available, especially the flooring. Cllr D Patey voiced how impressed he was with the café and the provision which makes good use of the space. Cllr D Patey asked about the lunch club at Moredon Community Centre (MCC) and asked about the lunch club at Moredon Sporting Hub (MSH). Mr A Webb noted MCC and MSH are quite far apart and hard to reach for the residents around MCC. Cllr P Exell asked about the process of supplying the food and to make sure that any provision is not taking away from food provision MSH could provide.. Mr A Webb explained that the Kelly Foundation would produce the food at Pinetrees and then transport it to MCC as the kitchen at MCC is not sufficient to produce food.	

	Cllr D Patey mentioned that the service they provide is extremely important and it would be good to see if the Parish could help support them more in the future. Cllr J Yeowell asked about the contract. Mr A Webb noted it is a yearly rolling contract. RESOLVED to NOTE Update. Cllr P Park left the meeting.	
CD240	Minibus VAS Mr A Webb presented an update from a written report. See Appendix 2. Mr A Webb asked Councillors if they were happy to allow VAS to use the minibus to transport people to MSH for the cycling activities. Cllr D Patey asked if this was covered by the Minibus Policy and would they be bringing their own bikes. Mr A Webb explained that the Minibus Policy would be followed, and the participants would be using bicycles provided at MSH. Cllr P Exell mentioned that transporting bicycles can cause damage to the minibus. Cllr J Yeowell asked about whether they would be using the minibus outside the Parish. Mr A Webb responded yes, but most of the participant's would be from within the Parish. All costs would be covered by VAS. Cllr P Exell suggested contacting any Parish Councils that participant's may be collected from as a courtesy, and it allows the other Parishes to contribute towards the activities if they choose. Cllr J Yeowell asked about how much time VAS were planning on using the minibus for. Mr A Webb explained that as they are receiving the minibus for free that any activities the Parish want to use it for, or residents wanting to hire the minibus would be given priority.	

	Cllr D Patey suggested the Parish try and work around VAS if they do regular days. Cllr D Patey asked about insurance. Mr A Webb explained that VAS would cover all costs and insurance. RESOLVED to APPROVE the application by VAS to use the minibus to transport residents to and from MSH for cycling activities. Mr A Cripps explained that he could create the minibus as a bookable option so the Parish can see when it is being used and when it is available.	
CD241	Vanessa Bentley Cllr J Yeowell wanted to thank Cllr V Bentley for the great event she put on Saturday. Cllr V Bentley presented an update on the Brazilian Event that took place on Saturday the 27th September 2025 at Pinetrees Community Centre (PTCC). Over 120 people attended the event and learnt about registering births and deaths, becoming a British Citizen, charity work and how to become a part of the community. Cllr V Bentley explained about all the charities and organisations interested in being involved in events like this to help connect all Swindon residents, especially those from other areas, to help show the rich history of Swindon and how great Swindon is as a town to live in. Councillors discussed the different events and shows in Swindon at the moment. Cllr V Bentley explained how excited residents are with the fireworks being put on by the Parish on Wednesday the 5th November 2025. Cllr J Yeowell asked if any media outlets reported the event. Cllr V Bentley responded yes. Cllr J Yeowell noted the importance of events getting decent media coverage.	Mr A Reeves communicate with SBC and other Parish Councils re providing information on events in a timely fashion and in a usable format.

	Cllr V Bentley informed Councillors that the NHS were approached about providing leaflets in Portuguese. They have now supplied some which has been spread out to the Parishes Community Centres. Mr A Cripps noted that Swindon Borough Council (SBC) have struggled to provide information in a timely fashion or in formats that are easy to use. He recommended that Councillors communicate this to their peers on SBC. Cllr V Bentley agreed with Mr A Cripps comment and responded that she will forward any emails she receives from SBC to Mr A Cripps. Cllr P Exell proposed creating an action note that Mr A Reeves communicate with SBC and other Parish Councils re providing information on events in a timely fashion and in a usable format. Mr A Cripps explained that the Parish website uses a website that translates to other languages. He suggested Cllr V Bentley test the translator out and let him know if it is fit for purpose. RESOLVED to NOTE the update.	
CD242	Leisure Manager Update Mr A Webb explained that Mr M Gleed is on Annual Leave and recommended that his update be moved to the next meeting. RESOLVED to APPROVE the Leisure Manager update to be presented at the next meeting.	
CD243	Marketing, Literacy and Digital Services Manager Update Mr A Cripps presented a verbal update. The work on improving Moredon & Rodbourne Cheney Library has been progressing, weather permitting. The work will continue over the next few years. The libraries are running smoothly, with new clubs starting recently including a Lego club. The libraries are staying within budget at present, and he expects the budget to be the same as last year with an increase in 3.8% across the board.	

	Andy's Man Club is a mental health group for men which takes place across the country. They all operate on a Monday night between 7-8pm and are free. They are looking to start one in Swindon and are requesting use of one of our assets as a location to rent. The Community Calendar is still in progress and will be active on the homepage over the next few weeks. Cllr V Bentley spoke to Andy's Man Club about attending the events she had planned and is hoping they will become an active participant in future events to help support the male community. Mr A Cripps discussed the other men's mental health activities available. Councillors discussed the men's mental health needs in the Parish. Cllr D Patey asked about internet and broadband at MSH. Mr A Cripps responded that it is nearly completed. There are a few final steps to allow card payments. Cllr D Patey asked if internet and broadband provision was in place for the Pavilion. Mr A Cripps explained that when the project is started, he will be directed to input the internet and broadband connection to the Pavilion. Cllr P Exell noted that the tender is out at present. Cllr J Yeowell asked about library stock. Mr A Cripps explained how the Swindon wide libraries are stocked, and how libraries share books. RESOLVED to NOTE the update.	
CD244	Community Youth Manager and Events Update Mr A Webb presented an update from a written report. See Appendix 3. Cllr P Exell asked to pass on Cllr P Parks response re the grant funding; <i>'Just wanted to highlight the amazing work that went in to the Grant for the Sensory Space!!!'</i>	Officers to create an action log.

Absolutely amazing work! I'm so proud to be representing such a forward-looking parish.'

Mr A Webb explained the Fireworks display logistics.

Cllr P Exell proposed moving the Community Development and Environment & Planning Committee meetings from the 5th November 2025 to the 29th October 2025.

RESOLVED to APPROVE moving the Community Development and Environment & Planning Committee meetings from the 5th November 2025 to the 29th October 2025.

Cllr J Yeowell asked if the sensory sessions would work alongside the existing one's.

Mr A Webb responded that they will.

Cllr J Yeowell asked if the Swindon Tuition Centre were now in Parkside Hub.

Mr A Webb responded yes, they are.

Cllr D Patey asked if the Swindon Tuition Centre were happy with the sensory work in the back room.

Mr A Webb explained that this was discussed when they asked for a tenancy and are happy to accommodate any activities.

Cllr P Exell mentioned that work is underway to provide a nursery provision at MCC.

Cllr J Yeowell asked for a budget setting agenda item on the next agenda and for the creation of an action log.

RESOLVED to NOTE the update.

Meeting Closed 20:24

Signed.....



Date.....

25/11/2025

