



Parish Council

Central Swindon North Parish Council

Pinetrees Community Centre,

The Circle,

SWINDON SN2 1QR

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 4th March 2026 19.00

Present:	
Councillors:	Cllr James Yeowell (Chair) Cllr Paul Exell Cllr Paul Park Cllr Dave Patey
Clerk:	Mr Andy Reeves (Parish Clerk)
Officers:	Mr Aaron Webb (Community Youth Manager) Mrs Louise Whatley (Community Centre Manager) Mr Matt Gleed (Leisure Manager) Mr Stephen Mastin (Duty Manager) Mrs Vicky Jackson (Catering Manager)
Member of the Public Present: Mr Sumit Mehrotra (Blue Brigade) Mr Sanjay Sharma (Blue Brigade)	
Apologies	Cllr Vanessa Bentley Cllr Ana Fernandes Cllr Joy Grotzinger

		Action
CD283	Declarations of Interest None	
CD284	Public Questions & Public Correspondence None.	
CD285	Blue Brigade Cricket Team Mr S Mehrotra provided a verbal presentation from a slide show. See Appendix 1. Mr S Sharma explained that n experienced coach is coming over from India soon which will support all levels of players to learn and improve. He requested some funding support or a reduction in costs to pitches to help them invest in the growth through the projects presented. Mr M Gleed mentioned that there is a possibility to place batting nets in the empty space between the 3G pitch and the Pavilion at Moredon Sporting Hub (MSH). Cllr D Patey mentioned the Community Grant which could be a possibility to help support the projects, but that if the equipment was permanently on site, it could be something the Parish could investigate. He asked the prices of nets. Mr M Gleed explained that new ones vary from £3,000 - £12,000. Mr S Mehrotra explained they had looked at second hand which vary from £800 - £3,000, with flooring the costs are around £2,500 - £3,000. Mr M Gleed noted that at present there is only one club with a female player which is something the Parish could investigate for grant funding. Councillors agreed that supporting all sports, including cricket, is important. Councillors discussed options. RESOLVED to NOTE the update. Mr S Mehrotra and Mr S Sharma left the meeting.	

CD286	RCBC Capital Contribution to Pembroke Garden Mr A Reeves presented an update on the RCBC Capital Contribution to Pembroke Gardens and the proposed agreement the Parish will go into with RCBC. Proposal Summary • Standard hire rate: £22 per hour • Capital contribution: £25,000 • Prepaid usage allocation: 1,136 hours • Estimated duration based on expanded programme: 5 years 6 months • Priority access to agreed core sessions • Annual review of usage • Additional hours charged at standard rate Mr A Reeves noted that when the contract is finalised it will be approved at Finance & General Purposes Committee (FGP). Cllr P Exell queried which committee will approve terms of use i.e putting up posters and promoting religious beliefs. Mr A Reeves explained that the Parish cannot support any religion over another so an option would be to have a separate noticeboard for RCBC and one for the Parish. Mr A Webb explained that he has talked to RCBC around youth provision and religious provisions and what the Parish can support. Cllr D Patey asked if the rate for extra hours would be at the discounted rate or at the regular rate. Mr A Reeves explained that only the agreed hours would be at the discounted rate, but any extra hours would be at the prevailing rate. RESOLVED to NOTE the update.
CD287	Diversity Inclusion Update Cllr P Exell asked about the neurodiverse room at Parkside Hub. Mr A Webb explained that the renovation is progressing, and the lights are installed now. Councillors are free to visit and inspect the work if they would like. Cllr D Patey enquired if the multicultural event would be occurring this year at Mannington.

	Mr A Webb explained this could be discussed at the next Events Working Group. RESOLVED to NOTE update.	
CD288	Leisure Manager Update Mr M Gleed presented an update. He explained he is leaving the Parish soon and is in the process of doing a handover to a new Manager. He mentioned the ending of the football season and the start of the cricket season, the transition process and schedule. Room and pitch rate increases will take effect from April 2026 with a few leasing alterations to better suit all parties involved. Approved café price increases are also progressing. The cycling track has been reviewed by British Cycling and the reports sent to Sports England who are assessing the work done and what should have been done which could lead to repair works needed, causing closures of up to six months. The Parish has done all due diligence, and the Parish is awaiting communication and decisions from Sports England. Any legal battles will be done by them, and the Parish will apply for lost income from any track closure. There will be a new coffee machine once the FGP 18/03/2026 Ward Allowance approval has been received. MSH has been nominated for a community award which the Parish is awaiting the results from. Councillors thanked Mr M Gleed for his work to establish MSH for the Parish and making it so successful. Cllr J Yeowell mentioned if the track needs repairing should the Parish consider keeping the track or replacing with an indoor activity centre or reduce the size of the track and using the spare land for an indoor activity centre. Councillors discussed the idea and agreed this was something that Councillors would need to discuss. RESOLVED to NOTE Leisure Manager update.	
CD289	Community Centre Manager Update Mrs L Whatley presented a verbal update from a written report.	

	See Appendix 2. Mr A Webb explained the events the Parish are hoping to provide in 2026/27. The fireworks display in November 2026, as numbers were larger than expected in November 2025 the Parish will move the layout around to provide more fluid movement and access to stall holders. He mentioned two trips one from Pinetrees and one from MSH to try and cover the whole Parish. The Multinational Festival he would like to hold after the World Cup Final around the end of July or first weekend in August 2026. Councillors discussed ideas about locations for different events and the possibility of the Parish holding each event at a different location around the Parish. Each event could remain at this location instead of moving events around. This would mean all Wards would have it's own event. Mr M Gleed explained he is negotiating gaining sponsorship for the Pride of the Parish event and the staff Christmas party. He also suggested using empty rooms within Parish assets for events, without cancelling regular customer activities at MSH. RESOLVED to NOTE the Community Centre Manager update.	
CD290	Community Youth Manager and Events Update Mr A Webb presented a verbal update from a written report. See Appendix 3. Mr A Webb mentioned the lighting issues at night around the Changing Rooms and the Play Area near Parkside Hub (PSH) and the need to improve lighting to support safety for children to attend youth activities at PSH in the future. Cllr J Yeowell enquired about Cllr M Khan's Free Shop. Mr A Webb mentioned it has been very successful and is being held at Even Swindon Community Centre, as is the Pop-Up Shop at Pinetrees. The breakfast clubs are also very successful with up to 100 children using the provision. Cllr D Patey asked about putting on events for Gorse Hill.	

	Mr A Webb responded that Gorse Hill residents were encompassed in events at locations nearby. RESOLVED to NOTE the update.	
CD291	Budget Review • 25/26 Budget Review RESOLVED to NOTE update.	
CD292	Actions Noted Mr A Reeves explained that Swindon Borough Council (SBC) choose which events from across the Parish get posted on their pages. Mr A Webb sends them all the events the Parish put on and sometimes our Parish events are selected. RESOLVED to NOTE the Actions Noted.	
Meeting Closed 20:16		

Signed.....

Date.....