



Parish Council
Central Swindon North Parish Council

Princess Elizabeth Pavilion

Moredon Sporting Hub

Cheney Manor

SWINDON SN2 1QR

**EXTRAORDINARY FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
 MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday 5th August 2026 19.30

Present:

Councillors:

Cllr Dave Patey (Chair)
 Cllr John Ballman
 Cllr Paul Exell
 Cllr Kevin Small
 Cllr Josh Woods

Clerk:

Mr Andy Reeves (Parish Clerk)

Officers:

Mr Andrew Briggs (Ops Manager)
 Miss Rachel Westcott (Committee & Finance
 Administrator)

Member of the Public Present: none

Apologies

Cllr Muhammad Khan
 Cllr Javes Rodrigues

		Action
FGP-2026.65	Declarations of Interest Cllr John Ballman declared an interest in The Library & Leisure Trust, HBUF and RSPB. RESOLVED to NOTE the Declarations of Interest.	
FGP-2026.66	Public Questions & Public Correspondence None RESOLVED to NOTE	
FGP-2026.67	Ward Allowance Cllr Ana Fernandes requests £1,500.00 from her Ward Allowance towards the St Marks Summer Fete. RESOLVED to APPROVE Cllr Ana Fernandes request for £1,500.00 from her Ward Allowance towards the St Marks Summer Fete.	
FGP-2026.68	Grounds & Street Cleansing Consultancy Support Review Mr A Briggs presented a verbal update from a written report. See attachment FGP-2026.68. Cllr D Patey noted the importance of employing a consultant on what is a large one-off tender that will last support the Parish for several years. He supported Tender B as a recommendation. Cllr K Small agreed and recommended the creation of a Consultancy EMR similar to the Election EMR which is added to each year to cover situations like this so as not to impact the General Reserve in future years. Councillors discussed the recommendations. Recommendations. The Committee is recommended to: • APPROVE the appointment of Bidder B to provide procurement advisory and project support; • APPROVE a budget of up to £20,000 ex VAT, including the fixed fee of £18,550 and a limited allowance for approved travel or essential additional work;	

	• AUTHORISE Officers to agree the final scope, programme and terms within the approved budget; • NOTE that Officers will continue to prepare the core procurement documents and the inhouse business case; • NOTE that the Council's external legal advisers will provide TUPE and legal advice; and • AGREE that the cost is met from an available year-end underspend or, if required, general reserves. Cllr D Patey proposed APPROVING all the recommendations and the appointment of Bidder B subject to references. Four voted for, one abstention. RESOLVED to APPROVE all the recommendations and the appointment of Bidder B subject to references.	
FGP-2026.69	Solar Panels JMH Mr A Briggs presented a verbal update from a written report. See attachment FGP-2026.69. Councillors discussed the recommendations. Cllr J Ballman enquired about the roof at John Moulton Hall (JMH) and whether these are suitable for solar panels. Mr A Briggs responded that the roof at JMH is in a healthy condition and suitable for solar panels. Cllr K Small wondered why the Parish were only looking at JMH and no other Parish assets. Mr A Briggs explained that other assets can be reviewed for future meetings. Cllr K Small proposed increasing the number of solar panels to 30 and the possibility of including an extra battery by giving Officers an additional £5,000.00 net cost (before VAT) budget, and request looking at getting Moredon Community Centre (MCC) solar panels as well up to a pre-approved cost of £17,000.	

	Recommendations. The Committee is recommended to: 1. NOTE that independent energy assessments have identified John Moulton Hall as suitable in principle for roof-mounted solar PV. 2. APPROVE in principle the Switch Together proposal for: • 25 x 460W solar panels; • approximately 11.5 kWp installed generation capacity; • estimated annual generation of 10,303 kWh; • 15.6 kWh battery storage; • inverter, mounting system, installation and online monitoring; • bird proofing; and • a total quoted cost of £13,304 including VAT. 3. APPROVE funding from the £50,000 Green Energy allocation within the Council's Public Works Loan Board capital programme. 4. AUTHORISE Officers to finalise the installation agreement, subject to: • a satisfactory site and structural survey; • confirmation of the final panel layout and system capacity; • confirmation of the exact inverter and battery specification; • electrical load testing by the Council's Salix contractor; • confirmation that the incoming electrical supply is adequate; • any required Distribution Network Operator approval; • confirmation of landlord consent where required; • satisfactory warranties, certification, insurance and aftercare; and • the final scheme remaining within the approved Green Energy capital allocation. 5. AUTHORISE officers to explore whether more than 25 panels can be installed where the site survey demonstrates that this would be technically appropriate and provide improved whole-life value. 6. Require coordination between the solar installer and the Council's Salix contractor so that the solar PV and battery installation is compatible with the completed heat decarbonisation works.	
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	RESOLVED to APPROVE all recommendations with an amendment increasing the number of solar panels to 30 and the possibility of including an extra battery by giving Officers an additional £5,000.00 net cost (before VAT) budget, and request looking at getting Moredon Community Centre (MCC) solar panels also up to a pre-approved cost of £17,000.	
	Meeting Closed 20:09	

Signed.....

Date.....21/9/26.