

CENTRAL SWINDON NORTH PARISH COUNCIL

LEISURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held at Pinetrees Community Centre at 7pm on Thursday 2nd September

Present Cllr M Lucas (Chair)
Cllr W Stone (Vice Chair)
Cllr J Ballman
Cllr R Ballman
Cllr M Beale - Via Zoom
Cllr P Exell
Cllr D Patey
Cllr J Yeowell

Officers A Briggs (Estates Manager)
A Reeves (Parish Clerk)

Meeting started at 7.00pm.

LR030 **Apologies**
Cllr S Exell
M Ware – IDV Contracts Manager

LR031 **Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**
Cllr J Ballman declared a non-pecuniary interest in HBuF and the RSPB.

LR032 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
The Estates Manager presented the minutes of the previous meeting of the 14.07.21.

The Chair asked for comments.

Cllr R Ballman raised comment in relation to the minutes of 14.07.21, the Extraordinary L&R Committee Meeting. The question was posed, of whether the opportunity had been lost for the live well hub to be situated in Pinehurst, due to relocation of CAB from the offices at Pinetrees was asked.

The Parish Manager provided response and referred to the decision made on at the extraordinary committee meeting held on 14.07.21.

No further comments received.

Cllr P Exell proposed

Cllr W Stone seconded

All Members agreed.

Minutes were approved.

The Estates Manager presented the minutes of the previous meeting of the 27.07.21.

Cllr J Ballman asked about the benches at St Marks.

The Estates Manager advised this item was being discussed in AG7

No further comments received.

Cllr P Exell proposed

Cllr D Patey seconded

All Members agreed.

Minutes were approved.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Leisure & Recreation Committee meeting held 14 July 2021 be approved as a true and accurate record.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Leisure & Recreation Committee meeting held 27 July 2021 be approved as a true and accurate record.

LR033 **Raybrook Meadow**

The Estates Manager provided a verbal update on the project. Advising Members that the Parish Clerk will be setting up a Meadow Working group to discuss this and other Meadow areas within the Parish.

The Committee were also informed that the community group had been advised the Parish are unable to authorise any works at this time. However, that SBC had given permission for them to cut some of the area for wild flowers.

Members noted the update.

LR034 **Project Planner**

The Estates Manager shared the document on screen for members to view.

The Estates Manager advised Members that a Play Strategy will be drafted for Committee review by November 2021.

The Estates Manager updated Members on the scheduling of works at the Gorse Hill Community Centre.

Members noted the update.

LR035 **Grounds & Street Cleansing**

The Estates Manager presented a written report on behalf of the Grounds Contract Manager, M Ware.

Cllr J Yeowell raised comment with the request for the data relating to litter bin collection frequencies.

The Estates Manager advised this information would be shared once received from M Ware.

Cllr J Ballman referred to a communication from Swindon Borough Council pertaining to their responsibility for collection of all fly-tipping and enforcement.

The Estates Manager advised he wasn't aware of the communication and referred to the current specification agreement between SBC and the Parish Council.

Cllr J Ballman commented that, the Parish agreement may have been superseded by the recent communication and this is a matter to be checked.

The Parish Manager advised Members that a meeting had been set up in the coming weeks for senior Officers of SBC, Parish staff and Cllrs to discuss the matter further.

Members held discussion on the item.

Cllr J Yeowell & Cllr M Lucas queried the definition of what is classed as fly tipping.

Cllr M Lucas raised the need for a working group to be established to review the Grounds & Street Cleansing Contract and extended invitation to members.

The Estates Manager advised an invitation email would be issued to Cllrs following the meeting.

Cllr J Ballman & Cllr J Yeowell expressed interested to be a part of the working group.

Members noted the update.

LR036 **St Marks – Green Flag Remedials Update**

The Estates Manager presented a written report on the item. A copy of which can be found in Appendix A.

Cllr R Ballman asked whether the two Gorse Hill Cllrs present could agree on the replacement gate for the park side entrance.

Cllr J Ballman commented that the potential for security / access of the side entrance where the gates will be sited, could be linked in with the overall parking management scheme of the park, that Council will be reviewing in due course.

Discussion is held on the types of security provisions available for the site.

Cllr R Ballman referred to the need to install the gates as part of the Green Flag Award.

Cllr D Patey proposed to proceed with the purchase of gates as recommended by the Estates Manager, paid via allocated Ward allowance.

Cllr R Ballman Seconded.

Cllr J Ballman reported a section of damaged fencing along the external perimeter of St Marks.

The Estates Manager acknowledged.

Cllr J Yeowell asked whether there was sufficient monies left to cover the cost to repairing the 2 x benches acquired from the Bowls Club within the Green Flag Award.

The Estates Manager gave confirmation.

All Members voted in favour.

LR037 **Christmas Lights 2021**

The Estates Manager presented a written report on the item. A copy of which can be found in Appendix B.

Cllr R Ballman asked why there was a cost difference between installing light at Gorse Hill Community Centre in comparison to Pinetrees Community Centre.

It was explained the infrastructure for Pinetrees was already in place and this would need to be

installed as new.

Cllr R Ballman gave objection to the lights at the Chapel Street Toilets.

Cllr J Ballman asked whether the lights at Clive Parade shopping precinct could be included.

The Estates Manager referred to budget allocation and that the suitability and cost of these columns would need to be identified.

Cllr J Yeowell commented regarding some of the columns that were previously identified as not suitable for motifs along Rodbourne Road.

The Estates Manager advised Members that SBC would be contacted to ensure the Columns were suitable prior to purchase or installation.

The Estates Manager informed Members that he would look into the cost of the additional lights for Clive Parade and bring a report back to the next Committee meeting, as there should be enough time to review and place an order if agreed.

Cllr P Exell commented on the agreed £10k budget for the project and that a review of what can be afforded within this should be the first task.

Cllr P Exell raised that Committee recommend the item be taken to Sept Full Council.

Cllr R Ballman proposed the removal of lights from the Chapel Street toilets.

Cllr P Exell Seconded

All Members voted in favour.

Resolved – That the Estates Manager removes the inclusion of the lights for Chapel Street toilets and provides costs for installing motifs on the 7 x columns located at Clive Parade, and that the costs are presented at the Sept 21 Full council Committee Meeting.

LR038 Gorse Hill – AD Hoc Weekend Cover

The Estates Manager presented a written report on the item. A copy of which can be found in Appendix C.

Cllr P Exell raised concerns around the inclusion of any unidentified revenue costs and the need for the clarification of responsibility of collection of fly tipping. Comment was also given to the need for education of the local community and for replacing current inadequate bin provisions.

The Estates Manager reiterated there was no allocated budget line for this project.

Cllr W Stone reciprocated Cllr P Exell's concerns. Further commenting about the insufficient provisions in place for the residential properties, which is not the responsibility of the Parish.

Cllr R Ballman commented that a better use for the money would be to provide more bins in the area and also liaise with SBC to support residents in disposing of their household waste.

Cllr J Ballman raised the need for clarification of responsibilities between the Parish and SBC.

Cllr J Ballman commented on replacing the missing bins and giving uniformity to all bins within the area and joint partnership working to tackle the issues being seen.

Cllr M Lucas commented on replacing the existing bins with the current Parish standard.

Cllr M Lucas expressed the need to defer any decision on the item until after the Parish had raised and discussed the matters with SBC. Further comment was made for the need to print publications in other languages to ensure inclusivity.

Cllr P Exell advised Members to put through missing bins or replacement bins to the Environment & Planning Committee for consideration.

Cllr J Ballman asked what day the meeting with SBC had been organised for.

The Parish Manager advised the date as Wednesday 15th.

Members requested for the Parish Manager to email Cllrs and request hot spots areas that can be raised for discussion within the meeting with SBC on the 15th Sept.

The Parish Manager acknowledged.

LR039 The Great Blondinis

The Estates Manager presented a written report on the item. A copy of which can be found in Appendix D.

Cllr R Ballman commented that the statue could remain in its current position, if the base in which it sits was extended or made bigger. This would stop damage from mowers and deterioration from grass cuttings.

Cllr P Exell suggested Ward Cllrs could use their allowance to complete the project.

Cllr R Ballman advised that she may wish to use part of her Ward allowance for winter plants within St Marks and asked for costs that would allow identification of remaining budget for the project.

Cllr P Exell reminded Members that the E&P Committee have a budget for floral planting, of which St Marks could be put forward for consideration.

Cllr P Exell also referred to the community planting that needs to be arranged with Idverde.

The Estates Manager agreed to send Cllr R Ballman ideas for types of pots that could be used at St Marks for winter plants.

Cllr J Yeowell asked how long the restoration works were likely to last.

The Estates Manager provided response.

Cllr J Ballman provided comment on ad hoc planting within St Marks, and referred to a previous planting scheme designed by SBC for planting within St Marks. Cllr Ballman advised he would look for the plans.

The Estates Manager agreed to update Gorse Hill Ward Cllrs of their current Ward allowance amounts following the meeting.

Cllr J Ballman referred to funding available through Idverde for community events and that this should be looked in to by the Parish Grants Manager.

A discussion around Ward Allowances was held.

Cllr M Lucas suggested the report along with identification of relevant Cllr Ward Allowances be taking to the F&GP Committee meeting for discussion.

Cllr D Patey proposed

Cllr P Exell seconded.

Resolved – That the Estates Manager provides Gorse Hill Ward Cllrs with their current Ward allowance spend and that the report is presented to the F&GP Sept 21 Committee for consideration.

LR040 **Redcliffe Street – Allotment Shed Removal**

The Estates Manager presented a written report relating to the item. A copy of which can be found in Appendix E.

The Committee were informed that a payment of £144.00 was received by the previous tenant in 2019.

Cllr R Ballman asked for clarification of what vegetation was covering the shed and that the vegetation would also need to be removed along with the structure.

Cllr P Exell agreed with the concerns raised within the report of one member of staff removing the structure on their own.

Cllr R Ballman asked whether Idverde could assist.

It was advised that there would be a cost in doing so and that cost was included within the report.

Cllr D Patey queried the cost difference between the quotations.

The Estates Manager provide response.

Cllr R Ballman proposed for the project to be completed in full as per the quotation provided by Clean and Clear Waste solutions at a total cost of £650.00. with the additional sum of £506.00 attributed to the ringfenced allotment budget line.

Cllr D Patey seconded.

All Members voted in favour.

Resolved – That the external contractor 'Clean and Clear Waste Solutions' is instructed to undertake the removal of the structure at the Redcliffe Street Allotment site. That the total cost of the project (£650.00), including the already agreed allocated sum of £144.00 be attributed to the monies ringfenced for the allotment sites.

LR041 **Exclusion of Press and Public**

To RESOLVE that in accordance with the provision of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, Section 5 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations, the public and press be excluded during consideration of the following items on the basis of **Commercially Sensitive Matters**.

Recording stopped at 8.42pm

LR042 **Croquet Club Lease – Moredon Site**

The Estates Manager verbally informed the committee of the approach by the Croquet Club to Parish to renew their lease at the Moredon Recreation Site.

The Estates Manager informed the committee that the Parish is yet to sign its lease for the site. Therefore, cannot grant the sub lease at this point in time and that the item is to bring the matter to Cllrs attention.

A discussion around parts of the existing lease terms and the responsibilities the club currently holds.

The Estates Manager advised their may be additional costs for services such as Wi-Fi and CCTV that would need to be considered.

It was mentioned that should be involved as a key stakeholder within the site overall.

Cllr J Ballman referred to the arrangements in place with the Tennis provider at St Marks and that the terms for the Croquet Club would need to be reflective of the circumstances.

The Estates Manager agreed that the terms in place should be reviewed reflective.

Members noted the item.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Leisure & Recreation Committee

