

# **CENTRAL SWINDON NORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

## **FULL COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held virtually via Zoom  
on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 7.00pm.

**Present** Cllr John Ballman  
Cllr Ray Ballman  
Cllr Marilyn Beale  
Cllr Ian Edwards  
Cllr Paul Exell  
Cllr Steph Exell (Chair)  
Cllr Mick Lucas (Vice Chair)  
Cllr Dan Miller  
Cllr Raj Patel  
Cllr David Patey  
Cllr Javes Rodrigues  
Cllr Will Stone  
Cllr James Yeowell

**Officers** Natasha Abrahamson (Administrator)  
Andrew Briggs (Estates Manager)  
Johanna Edwards (Press & Marketing Officer)  
Andy Reeves (Parish Clerk)  
Jodie Smart (Head of Finance & Governance)  
Aaron Webb (Community & Youth Officer)

The Chair gave a brief statement explaining that the meeting had been held virtually due to the recent announcement by the Prime Minister that the latest variant of Coronavirus is much more transmissible and that people should work from home wherever possible. The decision to change to an online meeting was taken with the interest of all Members and Officers in mind and to give them all the opportunity to receive booster jabs. The Chair stated that no legal votes could be taken at a virtual meeting so decisions will be ratified at the next physical Council meeting. The Chair informed Members that the Clerk could use his delegated authority to take actions as advised by this meeting. At the Committee meetings scheduled for the first week in January, it will be for Committee Chairs to decide whether the meetings take place in person or virtually, The Chair advised that they take any new information into account when making the decisions.

**Public** None

**FC111** **Apologies**  
Apologies were received from Cllr P Baker and Cllr K Small.

**FC112** **Declarations of Interest**  
Cllr J Ballman declared interests as a Member of the RSPB and HBUF.  
Cllr S Exell, Cllr J Ballman and Cllr R Ballman all declared interests as Swindon Borough Councillors, specifically in relation to agenda item 10 (leased land – trees).

**FC113**            **Minutes of Previous Meetings**  
The Chair presented the minutes of the meetings held on 17<sup>th</sup> November and 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021 be approved as true and correct records.

**FC114**            **Environment & Planning Committee**  
The Committee Chair presented the minutes of the Environment & Planning Committee meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021 to be approved as a true and correct record.

**FC115**            **Leisure & Recreation Committee**  
The Committee Chair presented the minutes of the Leisure & Recreation Committee meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2021 to be approved as a true and correct record.

**FC116**            **Community Wellbeing Committee**  
The Committee Chair presented the minutes of the Community Wellbeing Committee meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021 to be approved as a true and correct record.

**FC117**            **Finance & General Purposes Committee**  
The Committee Vice Chair presented the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021 to be approved as a true and correct record.

*Cllr W Stone entered the meeting at 7.08pm.*

**RESOLVED** that all committee minutes listed from FC113 to FC117 be approved as a true and correct record with the addition of noting the Committee Chair and Vice Chair on the Community Wellbeing Committee Minutes.

*The Chair moved agenda item 9 up the meeting.*

**FC118**            **Community Plan Confirmation**  
Members NOTED the draft Community Plan, presented by Cllr Dan Miller, the Grants Officer and Community & Youth Officer (pre-recorded), a copy of which appears as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

Members discussed the merits of a community plan when utilised for grant funding applications and to assist the Grants Officer with the focus for targeting applications. Members discussed the requirement for budget allocation as well as grant funding to reach the objectives. It was noted that the plan gave direction for more detailed action plans.

**RESOLVED** to approve the Community Plan as per Appendix A.

**FC119**            **Maintenance Management Plan**  
Members NOTED the draft Maintenance Management Plan cost analysis presented by the Clerk, a copy of which appears as Appendix B in the Minute Book.  
Members discussed possible funding plans to achieve the planned maintenance. The Head of Finance and Governance shared the report on options for a Public Works Loan to fund the maintenance plan (a copy of which appears as Appendix C in the Minute Book). Members

discussed the merits of this against a significant rise in precept demand to cover the required maintenance.

Cllr J Ballman raised the project for new flood lights at St Marks Rec (tennis courts) and discussion was had about whether this, as a new capital item should be included within the maintenance management plan and potential public works loan. It was agreed that this would be discussed at a future meeting.

**FC120**

**Leased Land - Trees**

The Clerk gave a verbal update following a request from the Leisure & Recreation Committee to write to Swindon Borough Council to dispute the devolution of tree maintenance over 2m.

**RESOLVED** to approve the Clerk to write to Swindon Borough Council in relation to formalising the dispute on the devolution of tree maintenance over 2m.

**FC121**

**Budget 2022/23**

Members NOTED the update from the Chair regarding the options for the 2022/23 budget setting. A copy of which appears as Appendix D in the Minute Book.

**FC122**

**Ward Allowances**

Members NOTED Ward Allowance requests;

**RESOLVED** that up to £3,500.00 of Cllr I Edward's ward allowance be used towards security improvements at Pembroke Gardens.

**RESOLVED** that up to £1,000.00 of Cllr R Ballman's ward allowance be used towards planters and bulbs at St Marks Rec.

The Clerk confirmed that the replacement bus shelter at Cheney Manor Road would be funded from the Insurance Ear Marked Reserve.

The meeting closed at 8.56pm

Signed.....

Date.....  
Chair of the Council.