

CENTRAL SWINDON NORTH PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 December 2017 at 7.00pm at All Saints Church

Present Cllr D Moffatt (Chair)
Cllr R Ballman
Cllr P Exell
Cllr S Exell
Cllr M Lucas
Cllr K Parker
Cllr J Rodrigues
Cllr K Small
Cllr S Thompson
Cllr J Yeowell

Officers Andy Reeves (Parish Manager)
Hannah Morgan (Deputy Clerk)

Public One

Public Session The member of the public commented on Chapel Street Toilets but noted that his questions had been answered under Min. 276 of the Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting held 06 December 2017.
The member of the public went on to state that they had visited the Chapel Street Car Park in Gorse Hill on 2 occasions in the previous week and on both occasions the car park had been full. It was asked if anything could be done to prevent users who are assumingly not members of the public, and possibly those that work nearby, from using the car park. The Chair confirmed that the management of the car park concerned had not been transferred to the Parish Council and remained the responsibility of Swindon Borough Council.

279 **Apologies**
Cllr J Ballman (Vice-Chair)
Cllr P Baker
Cllr S Henderson
Cllr T Smith
Joyce Holman (Parish Clerk)

280 **Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**
With regards to Min. 287 it was noted that Cllr S Exell sits on the Swindon Borough Council Planning Committee.

281 **Minutes of the previous meetings**
RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 15 November 2017 be approved as a correct record.

282 **Planning & Environment Committee**
RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on 22 November 2017 be confirmed and adopted.

283 **Planning & Environment Committee**
RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on 06 December 2017 be confirmed and adopted.

284 Leisure & Amenities Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Leisure & Amenities Committee held on 06 December 2017 be confirmed and adopted.

It was noted that following the resignation of Cllr Montaut from the committee the position of Vice-Chair was vacant and the election of a new Vice-Chair is to be included as an agenda item for the next committee meeting.

285 Finance & Staffing Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Finance & Staffing Committee held on 05 December 2017 be confirmed and adopted.

286 Deeds

The Chair provided a verbal update and confirmed that Cllr J Ballman and himself had attended the Swindon Borough Council Offices the previous week to sign but as at 3pm on the 20th December any transitional funding had not yet been transferred to the Parish Council.

287 Parish Libraries

The Parish Manager provided a verbal update on the Trust model development. The Parish Manger confirmed that the Trust Foundation document had been sent through in October 2017 and that it forms the basis of the Trust. He stated that the CIO had been broadened to include leisure activities and assets.

Cllr Parker arrived 7.13pm.

The Parish Manager summarised the objects and powers of the trust as detailed in the CIO.

A discussion took place around the Trusts ability to directly employ staff, in particular for libraries, and obtain funding via external grants.

288 Moredon Sporting Hub

The Parish Manger provided an overview. The main picture included in the Public Consultation document shared with the Shadow Council in March 2017 was displayed. An application will be going to Swindon Borough Council Planning Committee on 24 January 2018 for consideration.

The Parish Manager stated that to date the involvement of the Parish Council had been to help with the consultation and planning processes.

A discussion around the proposed hub took place and comments were made about the high capital costs that would be involved, potentially high revenue generation and resulting high costs involved with maintaining the site and pitches to expected standards.

The Chair asked for Cllr Rodrigues to assist him with looking at the finances. Cllr Rodrigues agreed.

Cllr Small suggested that the Parish Council engage with the managing agents of Odd Down Sports Ground which is a similar facility built in recent years.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council supports the Moredon Hub Initiative.

289 **2018/19 Budget & Finance**

The Chair started by referring to a recent government announcement around council tax increases and a discussion about the possible effects on the Parish Council and Parishioners ensued.

Cllr Small stated that he would be working with the Parish Manager over the next month to breakdown the current cost coding structure to make it more meaningful for the 2018/19 budget, that the future budget will be clearly split between Capital & Revenue and a reporting system will be implemented which would include year-end forecasting.

It is planned for a report to be presented at the Jan-18 Finance & Staffing Committee Meeting and a special meeting will be held for the 18/19 Budget which will go to Full Council in Feb-18 as a recommendation.

Cllr Small asked that other committees inform the Finance & Staffing Committee of any spend to be included in next years budget as soon as possible.

290 **SBC Car Parking Strategy Impact**

The Chair reported that at the last Swindon Borough Council Cabinet Meeting a 60-page report on a car parking strategy was presented which referred to the car parks in Gorse Hill and implied that Swindon Borough Council would retain the car parks and make them chargeable in the future.

The Chair suggested that the Parish Council do not support the notion to charge for the car park and if charges were to be implemented it should be under a 'first 2 hours free' scheme.

All unanimously agreed.

291 **Chairs & Officers Report**

The Chair and Cllr R Ballman spoke of the work by Parish Officers; Bernice Mack, Hannah Morgan and Andy Reeves in preparing and organising Christmas hampers for the Parish Council Christmas Giving Box Scheme and for helping to organise the event held in John Moulton Hall.

RESOLVED that the Parish Officers be thanked and congratulated for the Christmas hamper initiative and its success.

A discussion was had around no. 32 The Circle and the possibility of obtaining the building in the future to use an extension to Pinetrees Community Centre and as the Parish Council Chambers.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council explore the possibility of occupying the building.

The Parish Manager asked if the Parish Council would like to invite the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), to a future meeting.

The Chair suggested the PCC be invited to a meeting 6-7pm prior to a Full Council meeting.

RESOLVED that the PCC be invited to an arranged meeting prior to a future Full Council meeting.

292 **Parish Council Representatives' Report**

None

293 Admission of Public and Press

RESOLVED that in accordance with Standing Order 3d) that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they be instructed to withdraw; the reason being staffing employment. The Parish Manager and Deputy Clerk also left the meeting.

294 Appointment of Parish Clerk & Parish Manager

Cllr S Exell reported on the decisions taken at the Finance & Staffing Committee meeting held 05 December 2017 regarding how the Parish was dealing with the refusal by SBC to agree to TUPE transfer of the Parish Manager. A proper recruitment process was in hand and applications were being received.

The Chair and Cllrs S Exell, J Ballman and Small would conclude and report to the January 2018 Full Council.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Council