

CENTRAL SWINDON NORTH PARISH COUNCIL

LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 07 February 2018 at Pinetrees Community Centre

Present Cllr T Smith (Chair)
Cllr R Ballman
Cllr H Fullick
Cllr M Lucas
Cllr J Rodrigues
Cllr S Thompson
Cllr J Yeowell

Cllr J Ballman (Non-committee member)
Cllr D Moffatt (Non-committee member)

Officers A Reeves (Parish Manager)
H Morgan (Deputy Clerk)

Public Two

Public Session There were no questions or comments from the members of the public present.

345 **Apologies**

Cllr P Baker
Cllr K Parker

346 **Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**

None

347 **Election of Vice-Chair of Leisure & Amenities Committee for 2017/18**

Cllr S Thompson was proposed and seconded.

RESOLVED that Cllr S Thompson be elected as the Vice-Chair for the Leisure & Amenities Committee for the remainder of the 2017/18 municipal year.

348 **Skate Park at Penhill, Justin Tomlinson**

The Parish Manager explained that in June 2017 a request was received to install a Skate Park in Penhill. At the time it was felt like the Parish Council couldn't commit to the spend and it would be looked at again in the future.

If agreed to; the skate park would be located at the bottom end of Penhill and would be provided and paid for solely by the Parish Council and would require consultations with Penhill residents and Swindon Borough Council (SBC).

The average cost of a new skate park is approx. £65k, which is based on the cost a skate park recently installed in Highworth. The expected maintenance (revenue) costs would be approx. £5-10k in years 1-4.

Marilyn Beale, a member of the public present, spoke about a community plan developed for Pinehurst & Penhill in 2014 which focused on something for local children to do, primarily a splash park which included a small skate park. The splash park had been agreed to, in principal, by SBC.

Cllr R Ballman queried the insurance costs associated with a skate park. The Parish Manager confirmed a skate park would be high risk and the Parish Council would need to look into the RIDDORS etc. of existing skate parks.

A discussion took place around the type of facility the Parish Council should be looking to provide and the associated costs. Suggested facilities included the replacement of the closed Penhill Paddling Pool and a new play area to replace the area which was located on the Abbey Meads/Penhill Boundary which was recently decommissioned.

Cllr S Thompson suggested the option of a skate park be disregarded and focus should be on the idea of a splash park.

Cllr R Ballman agreed and the Parish Manager suggested a working group be set-up to investigate the available options.

Cllrs R Ballman & S Thompson volunteered to sit on the working group.

RESOLVED that Cllrs R Ballman & S Thompson sit on a working group created to investigate the options for building a splash park in Penhill and an initial meeting will be set-up.

It was stated that a splash park currently exists at Coate Water which is very successful during the months of the year that it is open.

349 **Bus Shelter(s)**

The Deputy Clerk confirmed she would be meeting with Queensbury Shelters on Thursday 8th February 2018 to discuss the options for the installation of a new bus shelter.

It was confirmed that the new shelter should be Green with a noticeboard, seating is not required within the shelter and the possibility of solar lighting should be looked into.

350 **Chapel Street Toilets**

The Parish Manager confirmed works are due to start week commencing 12th February 2018 and should be completed within approx. 1 week.

The Parish Manager confirmed that the shrubbery surrounding the toilet building were being included in the works.

351 **Libraries & Library Trust**

The Parish Manager confirmed that the application to set-up the Library Trust could be with the Charity Commission for up to 5 weeks from the date of the meeting.

A Job Description for a Full-Time premises assistant employed directly by the Parish Council, rather than agency, was approved at the Finance & Staffing Committee meeting held on 6th February 2018. This position will move to the Trust once it has been set-up.

Provision of the Library Service has been agreed with Swindon Borough Council until September 2018.

Members of the Trust were confirmed as Cllrs P Baker, J Ballman, S Henderson, K Small and J Yeowell.

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the broadband and new PCs had been installed at Penhill Library, broadband had been installed at Pinetrees Community Centre and the library IT is due to be installed on Wednesday 14th February 2018.

The IT cannot be installed at Even Swindon Library until the broadband has been moved and the IT will be installed at Moredon & Rodbourne Cheney Library once the broadband is in place and the work on the IT suite and wiring has been completed.

A request to change the opening hours at Penhill Library on a Saturday to 10am-1pm has been received and absent Penhill Ward Cllrs will be contacted to ask for their approval. There were no objections from meeting attendees.

352 Parish Noticeboards

The Parish Manager confirmed planning permission was being sought for the freestanding boards to be installed.

Locations of all noticeboards were confirmed as per Min. 277.

Cllr S Thompson commented that there are no noticeboards in Gorse Hill and suggested the Parish Council seek permission to use the Community Centre board.

Cllr J Rodrigues suggested the Parish Council could charge local businesses to display notices within their noticeboards.

Cllr R Ballman expressed concerns over the positioning of the noticeboard being installed at Clive Parade.

The Parish Manager confirmed this was due to the provision of services which are located below ground.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Council