

## **CENTRAL SWINDON NORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

### **LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2018 at 32 The Circle, Pinehurst

**Present** Cllr M Lucas (Vice-Chair)  
Cllr J Rodrigues  
Cllr J Yeowell  
  
Cllr D Moffatt (Non-committee member)

**Officers** H Morgan (Deputy Clerk)  
H Armagan (Allotments Officer)

**Public** None

**113** **Apologies**  
Cllr T Smith (Chair)  
Cllr J Ballman  
Cllr R Ballman

**114** **Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**  
None

**115** **Allotment Shop**  
Cllr M Lucas stated that he had discussed an idea for an Allotment Shop with the Parish Manager. The Allotments Officer shared similar ideas.  
Cllr M Lucas went on to explain that allotment plot holders often plant an abundance of produce on the assumption that some won't grow. The idea for an Allotment Shop is to ask tenants of the Leisure Gardens that the Parish Council manage to donate any surplus crops they are willing to be sold on to the public at a low cost.  
The first step would be to meet with the site reps and obtain their views and ask them to speak with plot holders to gain their views and interest.  
Cllr D Moffatt supported the idea and suggested SALGA are also involved in initial discussions.  
Cllr M Lucas moved that the Deputy Clerk be asked to set up an initial meeting with members of the Allotments Working Group, site reps and SALGA reps to discuss the idea of an Allotment Shop.  
All agreed.

**RESOLVED** that the Deputy Clerk set-up an initial meeting for the Allotment Shop.

Cllr M Lucas went on to say that any money made from the sale of produce would go back to the allotment 'fund' and added that it would be a great way to get those that wouldn't usually afford fresh produce to introduce it as regular feature in their diets.

Cllr J Rodrigues suggested the Parish Council would need to be careful about the issue of pesticides etc. Cllr D Moffatt agreed that this would be something the Parish Council would have to be mindful of.

**116** **Day trip to Weston-Super-Mare**  
The Deputy Clerk introduced and summarised the written report circulated, a copy of which appears as Annex A in the Minute Book.

Cllr J Rodrigues supported the idea and asked about the take up. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the trip had sold out.

Cllr M Lucas suggested that should the trip be a success the Parish Council could look into running a similar trip annually for parishioners for a small fee.

Cllr D Moffatt expressed concerns about who would organise a similar trip in future as it is not the job of a Parish Council to organise events for its parishioners, but funding could be made available.

It was confirmed that funding for the day trip to Weston-Super-Mare was coming from Cllr K Parkers Ward Allowance as agreed at the July 2018 Full Council meeting.

**117 Update from Deputy Clerk**

**Allotments**

The Deputy Clerk explained that the Allington Road Leisure Garden site was not included in the transfer of Leisure Garden sites from Swindon Borough Council (SBC) in October 2017. Residents living adjacent to the site have contacted the Parish Council on a few occasions to complain about overgrown vegetation from the site encroaching on their gardens. These complaints have always been referred back to SBC. More recently a tenant of the Leisure Garden site had contacted SBC to try and pay the current years fees but had been referred to the Parish Council. This query was subsequently referred back to SBC. As a result of this SBC had now been in touch to ask if the Parish Council would be willing to take on the management of the site concerned, and have it transferred to the Parish Council as per the other Leisure Garden sites.

The committee were asked to confirm if they would be happy to take on the site in which case a report would be presented to Full Council for a final decision.

Cllr D Moffatt stated he had visited the site and confirmed that 2 plots out of 4 were currently tenanted. It was suggested that if the committee agreed to take on the site it would be recommended to Full Council that the Parish Council agree to take on the site providing the land is transferred to the Parish Council as with the other sites transferred in October 2017. All agreed.

**RESOLVED** that a report be presented to Full Council recommending that the Parish Council take on the Allington Road Leisure Garden site providing the freehold for the land is transferred to the Parish Council as per the other Leisure Garden sites.

The committee were asked to approve spend of £350 to purchase stakes to be attached to the plot number plaques produced for the Parish Council for the Gorse Hill Leisure Garden site. All agreed.

**RESOLVED** that a maximum of £350 be spent on purchasing stakes for the Gorse Hill plot number plaques purchased previously.

Cllr J Yeowell asked for an update on the composting toilet to be purchased and installed at the Pickards Field Leisure Garden site.

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that a plot for the toilet to be installed on had been identified and agreed and the toilet supplier and installer were to be contacted to arrange a meeting on site.

Cllr M Lucas asked for an update on the hardstanding car parking area for the Churchward Avenue Leisure Garden site.

Cllr D Moffatt confirmed that SBC had provided the cheapest quote for completing the required works.

Cllr M Lucas stated that a maximum budget of £15,000 had been agreed at the meeting of Full Council in July 2018.

**Bench to be installed in Gorse Hill**

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that a bench had been ordered and was expected to be delivered and installed by the end of August 2018.

Bus Shelters

The Deputy Clerk stated that she had met with SBC and Queensbury Shelters and a quote for 5 shelters had been received and an order would be placed imminently. It expected that the bus shelters will be installed by the end of Sep-18.

The meeting closed at 8.54pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Vice-Chair of the Leisure & Amenities Committee