

## **CENTRAL SWINDON NORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

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

Minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 32 The Circle

<b>Present</b>	Cllr M Lucas	(Chair)
	Cllr J Yeowell	(Vice-chair)
	Cllr J Ballman	
	Cllr R Ballman	
	Cllr D Patey	
	Cllr S Thompson	
<b>Officers</b>	H Morgan	(Deputy Clerk)
	A Briggs	(Estates Manager)
	A Webb	(Youth Worker)
	H Armagan	(Allotments Officer)
	M Johnston	(Community Centre Manager)

**Public** None

**334** **Apologies**  
Cllr J Rodrigues

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

**336** **Youth Worker Annual Presentation**

The Youth Worker presented a report on his first year in post and thanked the Parish Council and Cllrs for their support. A copy of the presentation can be found as Annex A in the Minute Book.

Cllr J Yeowell thanked the Youth Worker for the presentation and work completed to date. He asked if the bike marking could be extended to a wider audience. The Youth Worker stated this had been mentioned to the Police who were responsible.

Cllr J Ballman asked if a group of young people had been identified to take up boxing sessions being offered at Scrappers Gym. The Youth Worker confirmed that young people who attended Youth Club had been selected, both males and females. He added that other individuals would be targeted in the future.

Cllr D Patey suggested working with the boxing gym on Ferndale Road. The Youth Worker confirmed that he had worked with the gym in a previous role and was working with Scrappers Gym currently as they had approached the Parish Council.

Cllr M Lucas asked about Youth Work in other areas. The Youth Worker confirmed that in the New Year he would be covering additional areas, including Rodbourne Cheney, he had been in touch with Even Swindon Community Centre and that he had made links with Nova Hreod School.

Cllr R Ballman asked whether CRB checks were to be carried out periodically. The Youth Worker responded that it was thought that additional checks would not be needed whilst in post, but this would be confirmed.

Cllr J Ballman asked where the services of the Youth Worker and the work he completed was advertised. The Youth Worker responded that his work was advertised in schools and colleges, on social media and via word of mouth.

**337**     **Update from Estates Manager**

The Estates Manager provided a written update, a copy of which can be found as Annex B in the Minute Book.

1. Football update

The Estates Manager confirmed that the grant for the tractor had been awarded.

2. American Football/Southbrook

Cllr J Ballman spoke of the line marking robot and the report which had been presented to the Finance & Staffing Committee the previous evening.

The Estates Manager confirmed that he was to look further into the different costings of line marking and report back to the Finance & Staffing Committee in the future.

3. Even Swindon Community Centre

The Estates Manager stated the contractor was to be challenged and asked for repairs to be completed.

5. 32 The Circle

Cllr M Lucas queried whether a ramp or a lift would be most appropriate. The Estates Manager confirmed this could be looked into.

Cllr D Patey asked about disabled parking or whether Double Yellow Lines would be installed outside the front of the building. Cllr J Ballman responded that advice would be sought from Swindon Borough Council Highways Department.

Cllr J Ballman asked about the foyer area. The Estates Manager responded that works to be completed were to be looked into and a report and quotes would be presented in the future.

9. Allotments

The Estates Manager confirmed that a meeting of the Allotments Working Group had taken place and positive feedback had been received and points raised noted.

Drainage at Rodbourne Farm continued to be an issue and problems reported with gates not being shut or locked.

Parking in front of gates at the Rayfield entrance of the Pickards Field Leisure Garden had been reported but the area was not Parish Council land. Cllr J Ballman suggested the installation of Double Yellow Lines could resolve the issue.

11. CCTV Signage

The Estates Manager confirmed that comments & feedback had been received in response to the CCTV signage installed at Redcliffe Street.

Cllr R Ballman queried why the Parish Council were getting involved with the GWW underpass. The Estates Manager confirmed this was requested by the Parish Clerk.

**338**     **Update from Allotments Officer**

The Allotments Officer spoke of the Allotments Working Group meeting and of a rat problem reported at Crowdys Hill Leisure Garden site which a tenant had asked for assistance with. Cllr J Ballman confirmed that there was livestock held at Crowdys Hill School which could attract rats and contribute to the problem.

The Estates Manager suggested the Parish Council speak with the school in the first instance to establish the size and extent of the rat problem and work in partnership with the school to resolve the issue.

The Allotments Officer explained that the placement of skips at the Leisure Garden sites had been successful.

Cllr J Ballman asked about a specific plot at the Gorse Hill Leisure Garden site and amount of rubbish left. He suggested that the Parish Council might need to intervene and enforce rules on the amount of rubbish that can be kept.

Cllr M Lucas suggested Cllr S Thompson completes a walk around of the Leisure Garden sites with the Allotments Officer and report back.

A discussion was had around the locking and not locking of gates and how the problem could be reduced.

The Allotments Officer spoke of the tree planting day he had been organising to take place at Cobden Green. He went to inform the Committee of other activities he had completed including installing a new plaque at Mannington Recreation Ground, moving WWI Tommy statue, installing CCTV signage, assisting with maintenance at the Parish Office & Community Centres, cutting hedges at Moredon & Rodbourne Cheney Library.

The Allotments Officer stated that he had covered for the Washroom Assistant whilst he was on annual leave and had opened, closed and cleaned Chapel Street Public Conveniences.

**339 Update from Community Centre Manager**

The Community Centre Manager informed the Committee that she had been continuing with the collection of donations and nomination forms for the Christmas Giving Boxes. She explained that 100 hampers had been received from a well known London store.

A trolley had been put out in Asda Walmart for donations of toys etc. for the youths.

Christmas decorations had been put up in Pinetrees Community Centre and John Moulton Hall (JMH) and good feedback had been received.

The Community Centre Manager confirmed that the Pinecones Café would shut for Christmas from the 17<sup>th</sup> December due to staff shortages and that their Christmas Lunch Club would take place the following day.

The Community Centre Manager explained that Swindon Borough Council (SBC) had held a wreath making session in the Pinecones Café the previous day which had been very well attended.

Nationwide would be holding a Christmas event at Pinetrees Community Centre the following week.

Footfall in Pinetrees Community Centre had increased due to a number of events and activities put on in the library.

It was confirmed that the main kitchen in Pinetrees Community Centre was ready for training sessions to be held in there, but the roof was still to be repaired and decorating to take place.

The Community Centre Manager confirmed that the roof had been repaired at JMH and this had been paid for by SBC.

Excellent feedback had been received from the Christmas Light Switch on event.

It was confirmed that the event being held at JMH on Christmas Eve was being organised by the Community Church, Nightshelter and Haven and was not being advertised.

The Youth Worker and Allotments Officer left the meeting at 8.16pm.

Cllr M Lucas congratulated the Community Centre Manager on the works being completed.

The Community Centre Manager left the meeting at 8.18pm

**340**     **Storage Container for Southbrook**

A written report was circulated, a copy of which can be found as Annex C in the Minute Book.

The Estates Manager informed the Committee that there was a need for a storage container to store items currently held at the Southbrook Depot which would need to be moved to make room for a tractor.

It was confirmed that 2 containers would be allowed for in the planning application to be submitted.

It was confirmed that any container placed would be locked securely, that the costs given in the report included delivery and it was assumed that any container would be stackable.

All agreed with the recommendation of the report and that 2 containers be allowed for within any planning application.

**RESOLVED** that the Estates Manager be allowed to seek the necessary planning permission to place 2 shipping containers at the Southbrook Recreation Ground and, providing planning permission is given, purchase 1 container at a total cost of £1,975 + VAT.

**341**     **American Football Conditions of Hire**

The draft Conditions of Hire were circulated, and it was suggested by Cllr M Lucas that Cllrs take the document away to read and feedback any comments to the Estates Manager.

The Deputy Clerk asked for comments to be feedback prior to the 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019 and stated that if no objections were received the Conditions of Hire would be presented at the next Full Council meeting for agreement and adoption.

It was confirmed that American Football was to start in January 2020 and that costs had been provisionally agreed but nothing formal had been signed.

It was confirmed that similar conditions existed for the use of football pitches which were adopted from Swindon Borough Council (SBC).

It was suggested that the SBC conditions of use of football pitches be reviewed prior to the next football season.

**342**     **Community Christmas Tree Festival**

The Deputy Clerk explained that the Parish Council had been invited to take part in St Augustines Church Community Christmas Tree Festival which would require them to place a tree in the Church for the period of the Festival.

It was agreed that a real tree be purchased and decorated with lights and Green baubles.

**RESOLVED** that the Parish Council provide a tree with lights and Green baubles for the St Augustines Church Community Christmas Tree Festival.

The meeting closed at 8.39pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Leisure & Amenities Committee