

CENTRAL SWINDON NORTH PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held virtually via Zoom on 17th June 2020 at 7.00pm

Present Cllr S Henderson (Chair)
Cllr S Exell (Vice-chair)
Cllr J Ballman
Cllr R Ballman
Cllr P Exell
Cllr S Exell
Cllr M Lucas
Cllr D Montaut
Cllr D Patey
Cllr K Small
Cllr S Thompson
Cllr J Yeowell

Officers Andy Reeves (Parish Clerk)
Hannah Morgan (Deputy Clerk)
Andrew Briggs (Estates Manager)
Aaron Webb (Youth Worker)
Aaron Cripps (Libraries Manager)
Gladys Barr (Grants Manager)
Hakan Armagan (Allotments Officer)

Public None

42 **Apologies**
Cllr J Rodrigues

43 **Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**
Cllrs J Ballman & S Thompson declared a non-pecuniary interest as members of Hreod Burna Urban Forest.

Cllr K Small declared an interest as an employee of the Wiltshire FA and Agenda Item 6, Moredon Sports Hub.

44 **Meeting Protocols**
Cllr S Henderson reminded Councillors of the need to adhere to Standing Orders, even during online virtual meetings and to allow everyone to speak unhindered.

45 **Minutes of the last (prior to lockdown) Full Council on 17th March 2020**
Cllr S Henderson noted that these were extensive detailed notes and went through the Minutes page by page.

Cllr S Henderson advised he wished to make 2 amendments himself to the Minutes:

Under the Minute on Moredon Sports Hub
"Cllr S Henderson advised he has confidence we have sufficient reserves for such circumstances"

Amended to:

Cllr S Henderson sought assurance that we could have confidence in sufficient reserves for such circumstances.

Under the minutes on “Future Parish Grounds and Street Cleaning contract:
“Cllr S Henderson felt that he had no challenge on working with a private organisation on a point of philosophy but had concerns over making sure the Parish Council are not short changed and a robust agreement is required. “

Amended to:

Cllr S Henderson felt that he had no challenge on working with a private organisation on a point of philosophy, given the difficulty the Parish has in making a clear assessment about the service under consideration.

Cllr S Henderson felt a justification to support the proposal due to the lack of robust data from the present provider of the StreetSmart service and that the Parish could review its options within a 3-5 year period from commencement. He also sought assurance that the Parish Council are not short changed, and a robust agreement is required

Member of the Public arrived at 7.09pm. The Clerk reiterated the previously disclosed Public Question Time statement and the Chair invited the member of the public to speak if they wished and to identify themselves if possible. There was no response and the member of public left at 7.14pm.

Cllr J Yeowell advised he wanted his abstention to the ID Verde vote to be noted as due to ‘those in self-isolation not being permitted to vote’ rather than ill-health as noted.

Cllr S Thompson thanked the Clerk for the quality of the minutes in a challenging meeting.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Full Council meeting held virtually on 17 March 2020 be approved as a correct record with the amendments detailed.

46 **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 3rd June 2020**

In discussing these minutes, comment was made that because of the length and detail a specific request was made to make available hard copy, mailed out copies to Councillors who wanted them. The meeting was reminded that this would be contrary to the commitment the Council made in July 2017 to reduce paper usage as much as practicable. This specific request will be noted and considered.

Comment was made about the poor communication over the matter of Councillors’ Office elections and the structure of the meeting was challenged.

There was an expression of concern, notably that consent or non-consent was not properly acknowledged namely in the matter of the election of the Vice-Chair on the second vote. Further concern was raised about the structure of the meeting citing the disadvantages associated with muting Councillors.

The concern raised focused on the negative effect muting had on the flow of debate or discussion and was the likely cause of the confusion and the possibility of contributors not being given a fair hearing.

Comment was made that unless meetings were managed as an efficient way as possible, there would not be enough time to properly debate the Council’s work in hand.

Councillor Montaut left the meeting at the conclusion of this item.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 3 June 2020 be approved as a correct record.

47 Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee 3rd June 2020

Cllr J Ballman advised that he is discussing 323 Cricklade Road with Swindon Borough Council (SBC) and will report back to the Planning & Environment Committee as soon as practicable.

Cllr K Small advised that SBC will need to consider the impact of the former Park & Ride site and properly engage with the Parish Council. Cllr P Exell advised that no representations have been made to the Planning & Environment Committee.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 3 June 2020 be approved as a correct record.

48 The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England & Wales) Regulations 2020

Councillors noted the report from the Parish Clerk and thanked the staff for the work in keeping the Council functioning during the closedown.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

49 Moredon Sports Hub

The Parish Clerk provided a verbal update covering the project timeline, capital estimates and revenue projections. All of these updates will be formulated in an updated business proposal to include a first floor at Septembers Full Council meeting.

Concerns over the erosion of the track width from 6m to 5/4m was raised and this concern is re-enforced by the cycling groups consulted. This reduction could be detrimental to the business delivery plan as what is being proposed could affect interest in using the site for regional events. The Clerk will keep the Council members updated on the progress of this concern.

Concern was raised over the servicing of the capital cost estimates of the inclusion of a first floor of the Pavilion; this crucially relates to the assurance of a working business plan to mitigate the variation within subsequent revenue budgets. Therefore, it was expressed that great care needs to be taken. The meeting was reminded that the sums related to this matter are high end estimates and are based on former floor plan dimensions formulated by SBC.

It is expected that the Quantity Surveyor's Report will be completed by this coming August by which time accurate capital and associated cost estimates will be available.

The meeting received the Clerk's advice that facility income overall will make the site almost cost neutral and when the accurate estimates are received the September Council will be able to interrogate more robustly, this aspect of the project.

The Chair of Finance and General Purposes Committee requested that any PWLB payments be serviced twice annually at the same time the Council is in receipt of its precept.

In further discussion the following matters were raised; when variances were identified they were speedily resolved, that Councillor talents and experience were deployed for the most effective outcome – why limit the access to the Moredon Hub Project Group? There was assurance that all Councillors will have the opportunity to shape the business and decide collectively regarding the installation of the First Floor extension.

Question was raised about the apparent lack of an FFE budget. Advice was given about the option of purchasing or leasing gym kit within a presented schematic of the floor space estimate.

Caution was raised that Council should not agree large SBC Capital saving variations to the business case submitted in March 2020 which Councillors voted on, but it was acknowledged that there will be external factors out of the Parish control and the Parish should remain appraised of these.

Council was advised that costs associated with all aspects of this project should be viewed through the prism of a post CV19 and social distance rules, to identify and evaluate the inevitable impacts.

50 idVerde – logos livery and uniform

Quotations were submitted to 5 graphic designers. Most are around £300 or thereabouts for artwork and vectors.

The Libraries Manager advised he will proceed with Jazz Bones in Old Town, Swindon and a design and JPEG should be expected within 7 days from the date of this meeting for IDV livery.

A question was raised about how much it would cost to put on the vans. The Clerk advised IDV will pay for this to happen.

Councillor S Thompson left the meeting.

RESOLVED that the report be noted and to proceed with Jazz Bones for a maximum cost of £500.00.

51 Chairs Statement

The Chair read from a pre-prepared statement and this was noted by those present.

The meeting closed at 9.37pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Council