

## **CENTRAL SWINDON NORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

### **COMMUNITY WELLBEING COMMITTEE MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020 7.00pm via Zoom Link

**Present** Cllr S. Exell  
Cllr J. Ballman  
Cllr D. Patey  
Cllr P. Exell  
Cllr J. Yeowell

Cllr S. Henderson

**Officers** A Reeves (Parish Manager)  
A Webb  
G Barr  
M Johnson

**274** **Apologies**  
None Received.

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

Cllr S Henderson declared membership of the Gorse Hill Baptist Church and a trustee of VAS.

Cllr S Henderson noted that Jacob Barren, a meeting guest, is a staff member of the Gorse Hill Baptist Church and under his employ.

Cllr J Ballman declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Hreod Burnah Urban Forest during Agenda Item 4.

**276** **Minutes of the previous meetings**

The minutes from the Community Wellbeing Meeting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020 were recorded as an accurate record.

**277** **Citizens Advice Bureau**

Claire Newport, the CEO of the Swindon CAB provided a verbal statement on the current prognosis of CAB provision in the CSNPC area and Swindon wide. Claire advised that the service physically closed at the Pinetrees Community Centre on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 and there are no current plans to recommence this.

Support has now moved entirely online and whilst numbers initially reduced, enquiry numbers are now at or above pre-covid levels as enquiries have increased and the ability to adapt to online working has become more prevalent.

Claire confirmed that in total, 3,419 people have been helped in Swindon and of those 599 are from the CSNPC area; with a wide range of issues but mostly centred around debt, housing & benefit claimants.

Claire then showed a series of need analysis slides and anonymised case studies pertinent to the CSNPC area.

Cllr S Henderson asked Claire if the physical space at the Pinetrees Community Centre would ever be needed in the future. Claire Newport said that it would be beneficial to

maintain a presence but instead to trial a video support function using the libraries and that a virtual waiting room could be set up.

The Chair thanked Claire for the work she and the CAB have done to date.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillors note the verbal report and the Libraries Manager contacts Claire Newport to offer CV19 Video Conferencing assistance as a matter of urgency.

## **278 Food Support Programme & Youth Officer Update**

The Youth Officer introduced Jacob Barron, a Community Worker employed by the Gorse Hill Baptist Church on a three year contract to work within the environs of Gorse Hill.

Jacob explained the work he will be doing support community and food programmes and also working with young people and schools.

Cllr S Henderson asked Jacob to describe in more detail his work. Jacob explained that engagement would be split into three strands. First, that his youth work would be split into two age groups; under and over 11's and both would be completed online via zoom.

The second would be a suite of pre-recorded videos which will be put online with a focus on hard to do areas like crafts and stories for young people.

The third would be creating a physical trail along Cricklade Road with a Noah's Arc theme. This would support exercise and avoid physical interaction with others.

The Clerk asked Jacob to describe what targets and success measures would be sought from the work. Jacob advised this was work in progress, the work is not about converting residents to Christianity but any interaction and entertainment would be beneficial to all.

The Clerk asked Cllr S Henderson whether he and Jacob could share the job specification with the Parish Council so we can align our community work closely together. Cllr S Henderson agreed to share this.

The Clerk asked if Jacob had contacted any local schools. Jake advised not yet but Steve Robinson has started this as he already has a link. Jacob confirmed that when permissible this will happen.

The Chair thanked Jacob for attending the meeting. Jacob Barron left the meeting at 19.37

The Youth Officer presented an update on the Half Term food delivery programme following a kick-off meeting with Glyn Hambidge, Cllr J Yeowell, Swindon Wildcats, Andy Reeves and Aaron Webb.

The Youth Officer advised that 155 deliveries were made initially from 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020, this increased to around 365 deliveries a day up to and including 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020. The Youth Officer then provided a visual presentation on the breakfast club and school dinners project.

The Chair thanked the Youth Officer for the update and working on delivering food as short notice.

The Chair explained the statistic behind the SBC FOI on youth provision and provided a summary on the significant youth service cuts that have taken place over the previous ten years from 2009.

Councillors noted this context and the FOI report.

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council cannot reasonably support youth work to the same level as Swindon Borough Council, by virtue of cost alone. The key would be to secure external funding and work smarter with partners.

The Grants Manager was brought in and advised that the Parish Council could expand youth work interest; with support from additional grants. There is currently a live application for £10,000 which will focus on four key areas: Importance of Green Spaces to young people, Securing a Voice of Young People, Career aspirations for Young People such as apprenticeships and lastly supporting mental and physical wellbeing among young people. The Grants Manager will keep Councillors updated with this after 19 November.

The Chair thanked the Grants Officer for this vital support in securing third party funding. The Chair went on to ask for an update on working with Children with Disabilities from the Youth Officer.

The Youth Officer went on to explain that a meeting will be set up with Lewis Bird at SBC along with Cllrs Exell & Yeowell to develop a clear inclusion strategy in this regard. This meeting should take place w/c 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

**279 Post Natal Family Intervention**

Jane Griffiths from SBC was unable to attend the meeting but the Clerk advised that she should be able to attend the next meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020, should Council agree to monthly meetings of this Committee.

The Clerk presented a summary of the project slides which detailed the intention to start a virtual post-natal support arrangement in Pinehurst & Penhill at both JMH and 32 The Circle.

Cllr S Exell thanked the Clerk for the presentation; Cllr S Exell also reminded Parish Councillors that training on this topic is available to Parish Councillors and those who wish to take part should contact the Clerk for more information.

Cllr J Ballman reminded Parish Councillors that this is an SBC workstream and the Parish Council plays an important supporting role.

Cllr S Exell asked about the repairs. The Clerk advised that the water is being connected in November and the Estates Manager will have the stair ramp gap fixed in place within the next six weeks.

**280 Work Programme Update**

Councillors reviewed this programme and a further update will be provided at the next meeting, particularly reviewing the information shared by Councillor S Henderson on 4 (i) Understanding Social Wellbeing Legislation.

**281 Community Land Management Programme**

Cllr M Lucas to be asked to present an update at the next meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020 pending Full Council approval.

**282 Virtual Programme Opportunities**

The Assets Manager advised that the Dementia Café had restarted again with six attending.

There was no interest in virtual bingo due to a lack of online access.

The Assets Manager asked about Christmas Hampers and whether we could support this programme.

The Chair asked the Clerk for advice and the committee were advised it would not be appropriate to deliver hampered food and attend peoples properties with hampers at this time. Not least because the recipient demographic is disproportionately affected by the effects of CV19.

Another idea could be hampers to be collected in a safe environment with someone within each recipient's bubble although this may prove impracticable.

The Chair asked that Cllr Mick Lucas considers whether anything can be done perhaps in the new year. Cllr S Henderson would also like to be involved.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr S Exell to set up a meeting to look at Hampers to be delivered in the new year.

**283 Community Wellbeing Communications Update**

The Clerk confirmed that, following interviews, Matthew Bradley had been appointed as the Marketing & Press Officer until March 2021.

The Marketing & Press Officer presented a written and verbal report in the online communication work that had taken place in October 2020 and forthcoming plans for November 2020.

Cllrs J Yeowell & S Exell wanted to thank the Marketing & Press Officer for his work to date in just six weeks.

**284 Libraries Community Impact**

The Libraries Manager advised that Click n Collect had seen around 40 users although this will now be suspended over lockdown until December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020.

The Libraries Manager will be investigating with Schools whether they could attend libraries and this offer will be made in December.

The Libraries Manager advised that libraries will be closed from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020 until Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020.

The Libraries Manager is setting up bespoke Libraries Facebook Page and an online YouTube story time during lockdown.

Cllr S Exell asked about exemptions and whether Click n Collect will continue. The Libraries Manager advised there are none for libraries.

The Clerk referred the Chair back to the FGP Part iii Coronavirus Act exemptions where Libraries were not mentioned. The Chair noted this.

Cllr S Exell asked about Story Time, the Libraries Manager advised that as a priority story time will be set up as soon as possible.

**Meeting Frequency**

The work of the committee is significant and the Clerk had asked the Chair whether meetings could be made monthly rather than two monthly. The Chair asked Councillors if they objected to this suggestion.

No objections were received; and it is proposed to meet again on December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020 and monthly therein.

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk to present to Full Council on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020 a revision to the Committee frequency and reference agreed June 2020 for monthly meetings until May 2021.

The meeting closed at 21.14pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair of the Community Wellbeing Committee