

CENTRAL SWINDON NORTH PARISH COUNCIL

COMMUNITY WELLBEING COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 3rd March 2021 7.00pm via Zoom Link.

Present Cllr S. Exell
Cllr D. Patey
Cllr P. Exell
Cllr J. Yeowell
Cllr S. Henderson

Officers A Reeves (Parish Clerk)
A Briggs
G Barr
A Cripps

Public Questions

None received.

494. Apologies

None received.

495. Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

No declarations were received.

496. Minutes of the previous meeting.

RESOLVED: The Minutes for the Community Wellbeing Committee for the 3rd February 2021 are approved as an accurate record .

497. Capital Funding Update

The Head of Finance & Governance presented a slide of the current Capital spend projections.

The Estates Manager reminded Councillors there are three capital projects falling within this committee.

The Seven Fields Gym installation is progressing to consultation stage and an update provided next month.

The Parish Minibus is being led by the Youth & Community Officer and an update will be provided next month. The Youth & Community Officer has been in touch with dealerships.

The Youth & Community Officer recommended to Councillors for a 17-seat vehicle with no tail lift. Councillors advised they preferred to have a tail lift. Councillors considered access to be critical and preferred to have this over a larger amount of seating.

Cllr D Patey enquired as to what special training is required. The Clerk advised that MIDAS training has been completed by all Officers responsible for managing the vehicles.

The differences in options between leasing & purchasing were discussed. The Grants Manager was tasked with discussing whether Arval could provide a lease vehicle with sponsorship. The Grants Manager advised she will report back to the next Committee following a meeting with the Arval funding lead next week.

Cllr P Exell questioned the flexibility of a tail lift around moveable seating. The Youth & Community Officer advised there are options to have a movable tail lift but they are rare. He went on to advise the maximum seating with a tail lift is 13 seats, which may still be suitable.

The Clerk reminded the Chair that if the option transitions to Lease, this would become a revenue cost rather than Capital and may require Council amendment. A full update will be provided at the next Committee by the Youth & Community Officer.

The Moredon Youth hub is awaiting the decision of the Moredon Sports Hub to determine what youth investment is required in Moredon. The Estates Manager & Clerk will provide an update to the next Committee when Sport England confirm commissioned funding on or around 9th March 2021.

Cllr S Exell asked that considerations for a Pembroke Gardens offer & Moredon Community Centre spend be considered separate to the Moredon Sports Hub. Cllr S Exell also asked for an update from the informal meeting held with the Quantity Surveyor on Pembroke Gardens feasibility. The Clerk advised that the outcome was that refurbishing the existing site of the 'changing bunker' was unsuitable due to poor access and the cost of demolition/changes being prohibitive.

Any new facility at Pembroke Gardens would have to be sited along the existing play area on Abbey View Road and would require a new build. The surveyor presented the Chair & Clerk with a CGI of a potential design which was a 3m modular community space. The surveyor also advised that any works on the existing 'changing bunker' may be considered poor value for money given its overall deterioration.

Cllr S Exell reiterated that the Moredon Community Centre refurbishment was the core part of the original capital request and that all members of the committee should be considered if any variations to include Pembroke Gardens are made. The Chair asked for the original Capital decision to be shown to members to clarify this.

The Head of Finance & Governance reissued the minute at the Chairs request, which outlines both the Moredon Community Centre and Pembroke Gardens condition viability reports are a key factor in the next stage of funding and Cllr S Exell reiterated that all elements of this project are managed through this committee.

498. Financial Quarter 3 Update

The Head of Finance & Governance presented the Quarter Three revenue spreadsheet. The confirmed committee spent was £144,587 which is lower than YTD forecast.

RESOLVED: That Councillors **NOTE** the report from the Head of Finance & Governance.

499. BME Covid Update

The Clerk advised that attempts have been made to contact SBC after the January 2021 meeting with SBC Central Ward members on BME vaccine take up rates. So far we have been unable to make significant progress in working with the Public Health team.

Cllr S Exell advised that local data is still not filtering through to the decision makers locally. Cllrs S Exell highlighted the 'Community Connect' group which has been running for 12 months, this group is being tasked to help disseminate key CV19 information into all areas of the community.

Cllr S Exell suggested it would be useful to explore the work of the Community Connect group more thoroughly at the next meeting to see what links can be made and how we can ensure local data is sought and interrogated swiftly.

Cllr S Exell concluded that the key to ensuring all communities are aware of the CV19 vaccination programme is to appoint the right local leaders and advocates to ensure messaging is trusted and understood. Public Health bodies cannot work effectively alone, they need 'Community Connectors'.

RESOLVED: That Councillors note the Chair and Clerks update and look at exploring closer links with Community Connect. The Clerk advised he will also discuss with the Cabinet Member at the next Clerks meeting.

500. Youth & Community Officer Update

The Youth & Community Officer re-presented the visual presentation on the core work programme which was verbally communicated. Due to IT issues in February 2021 this presentation was displayed and presented again.

The Youth & Community Officer fed back from the last Community Online meeting in February and advised that the next one with the Community, SBC and the Clerk is being held on March 23rd 2021.

The feedback from residents so far is that the Parish needs to increase the awareness of the work we do locally, both visually and online. Particularly the events within the Pinetrees Community Centre.

The Grants Manager added that in addition to the information provided in the Youth & Community Officers funding report; progress had been made with Mike Ash, Housing Director at SBC in potential synergies between our Reaching Communities bid and SBCs Safer Streets Funding.

Cllr S Exell reiterated that equal importance is made to all areas of Parish work and not just towards sport. The Youth & Community Officer noted this and that all activities outlined in the officers children's report will be wider than just competitive sports.

501. Accessible Play Areas

The Estates Manager confirmed the Disability Access reviews for Play Areas from ROSPA have been returned and these have been distributed to all Councillors.

The reports highlight a number of focus areas and it is these which will frame the next Accessible Play areas working group taking place on March 4th 2021. Then a further report will be taken to Leisure & Recreation in March 2021, a further forensic focus then on four key parks of concern. Our Inclusive advisors of Becky Maddern and 'Mums on a Mission' MOAM will also be advising the Working Group.

Cllr S Exell enquired how budgets can be matched to the vast array of issues raised in the ROSPA report. The Estates Manager advised that all external funding streams are being looked into as well as making provision from precept.

RESOLVED: That Councillors note the Estates Manager verbal report.

502.Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED: that in accordance with the provision of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, Section 5 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations, the public and press be excluded during consideration of the following items based on Personal Staffing Issue.

503.Marketing & Press Officer

The Clerk presented a written report on the Marketing & Press Officer. The Clerk reminded Councillors that the previous post holder left on January 5th 2021 and as yet we have decided not to formally reappoint as there was less than two months remaining on the term.

In February 2021 it was agreed that while Libraries were closed that the Libraries Manager would, with his consent, take up the interim role of Press & Marketing Officer until April 2021 which would not require recruitment delays. This has been a productive & successful appointment with the Newsletter successfully produced printed & distributed before Purdah restrictions were applied.

The Clerk concluded the report, based on the success of the post, with a recommendation that the Press & Marketing Officer is extended for the critical first year of the new Council.

The Clerk shared again the Local Council Meeting findings from the LGA that dedicated promotion, press and awareness Officers has proven effective at disseminating information with multi-faceted Council media platforms.

The Clerk presented the recommendation that a 12-month role is considered and funded from the £15,000 Covid support fund. The role is for 10 hours per week across the whole Council with a pro-rata salary of £6,155 per annum.

Cllr P Exell & Cllr J Yeowell expressed their support for the role.

Cllr S Exell expressed concern that there may be reservations over the role from other Councillors as occurred in October 2020.

Cllr S Henderson raised a concern over timing, Cllr Henderson advised the Clerks Business

Case is concise and robust. Cllr Henderson suggested conversations with all Councillor

about the report may be helpful to share the understanding of the importance of having a system of sharing messages.

Cllr S Henderson asked that if the item does not meet the requirements of Full Council that the role is discussed within the Community Wellbeing budget as a one-off capital item for the purposes of CV19 support.

RESOLVED: That the Committee support the recommendation from the Clerks report. The report is to be taken to Full Council for consideration.

**Cllr S Exell closed the meeting at 20.36 and thanked all involved.
The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 6th April 2021**