

HAYDON WICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting of Haydon Wick Parish Council held on Tuesday 1st April 2025 at 7.30pm held at Parish Council Offices, Thames Avenue, Swindon, SN25 1QQ.

ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS: Councillors B Patrick-Okoh (Vice Chair) J Ali, E Baker-Walker, J Jackson, L Jackson, A Jimmy, A John, P Park and L Stevenson.

OFFICERS: Georgina Morgan-Denn, Chief Officer/Clerk & RFO
Laura Cutter, Deputy Clerk/ RFO, HR & Services Manager
Julie McMorrow, Meetings Administrator

ALSO IN

ATTENDANCE: Councillor V Manro

CD 096 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and noted from Councillor R Ross (Personal Commitments) and Councillor A Roupelis (Work Commitments).

CD 097 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

CD 098 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were none.

CD 099 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Members reviewed the minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting held on Tuesday 4th February 2025 and the Chair of the Committee signed the minutes as a true record.

Proposed: Councillor E Baker-Walker Seconded: Councillor A John

Vote: Agreed with two (2) abstentions.

RESOLVED: To confirm as a true record the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4th February 2025 and the Chairman signed the minutes.

CD 100 COMMUNITY ROOM HIRE

Members noted the report. Two popular and well attended exercise programmes were designed and delivered using external contracts paid for via the community choices initiatives in 2023 and 2024. The aim of the sessions was to reduce loneliness and isolation, improve mental health and wellbeing, whilst offering fitness classes locally at a low cost to improve movement and mobility. To begin with, the sessions were paid for by HWPC and free for residents to attend and as the sessions gained momentum the participants were charged a small token fee for commitment at the sessions and extend the programmes by paying for the external trainer's time. The classes are very popular and well attended, there was concern that additional room hire charges to the trainer's would be offset to the attendees most of which are retired. After discussion, Members agreed to implement a £10.00 per hour rate to continue these sessions at a cost effective price.

Proposed: Councillor A Jimmy Seconded: Councillor J Jackson

Vote: Agreed with one (1) Abstention.

RESOLVED: To approve the recommendation to offer reduced room hire rate of £10.00 per hour for community initiatives that have grown off the back of the Community Choices programmes.

CD 101 MEMORY CAFÉ & COMPANION CAFÉ UPDATE

The committee noted the report. Memory Café continues to flourish under the guidance of the Memory Café Co-Ordinator who continues to support and run events proving extremely popular such as fish and chips, afternoon teas all of which come with excellent entertainment.

The new Companions Café is growing and offers a wonderful safe space for attendees to relax and make new connections.

Councillors wished to pass on congratulations to the Memory Café Co-Ordinator and the Volunteer Team on the amazing work that goes into the cafes and for keeping the residents interested in the content.

CD 102

COMMUNITY CAFES

Councillor P Park and E Baker-Walker gave an overview of the cafes being thought of to offer into the Community of Haydon Wick Parish. The two cafes would be 'Chronic Pain Café' and a 'Neurodivergent Café' to run simultaneously by Councillors with a small amount of support from Officers. There are similar cafes running in Penhill and Pinehurst.

Committees discussed the complexities of both cafes, the in-depth risk assessments that would require to be carried out and how 'qualified' volunteers would be to deal with potential groups of attendees with very specific neurodivergent requirements.

It was agreed that more data and investigation is needed to be carried out and until then it has been agreed to defer pending collection of more information.

CD 103

COMMUNITY CHOICES CONSULTATION RESULTS 2025/2026

The committee noted the chosen themes for 'Celebrating Community' in 2025/2026 after a consultation period of one month, the results were:

- 1st Repainting of Thyme Close Play Area
- 2nd Dog Play Area

The budget is £7,500.00 for 2025/2026 and has been split into the following categories:

- £5,000.00 General community projects.
- £2,500.00 Youth projects (delivered either in-house and/or outsourced).

Previously the Council has vired some of this money to support the Council's Community Grants scheme, larger scale events or to enhance the Christmas Parcel scheme to a wider audience, if there is the demand and/or if the budget allows.

It would be well received to distribute the budget to support as many of the project themes as possible. There is also a sponsorship opportunity for the Dog Play Area, so the Officers are pricing up fencing, a gate and signage.

Action: Deputy Clerk & Services Manager to provide pricing for fence, gate and signage.

CD 104

COMMUNITY & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Members noted the report. This report was put together by Community Development Officers and despite the re-structuring of the office team events have been in abundance, sessions have included 'Skate Jam' and BEST events, the underground and an array of half-term events proving to be highly successful. Equally the Community provisions and thriving with the use and trips on the Community Bus, Menopause Café, Yoga and regular creams teas, one of which was a thank you to HWPC (Haydon Wick Parish Councils) wonderful volunteers.

Scheduled and coming up in April is:

Easter Egg Hunt: We currently have over 100 applications for our Easter Egg hunts that we are hosting at both Queen Elizabeth Drive and King George V play parks. Maximum capacity was 160 to reach our target of easter eggs within the existing budget. Thanks to those Councillors who have donated some easter eggs.

Easter Big Art: This is the first time that we have taken art to the community as an external event. Children will be encouraged to be creative with messy paint and printing techniques.

Easter Youth Arts & Crafts: Was very quickly oversubscribed so a decision was made to split the bookings into 2 sessions. We are still over 30 people at each session allowing for some no shows.

Easter Cake Pop Decorating: Was also very quickly oversubscribed in the first session so we asked some to attend the second session we now have a balance of numbers for both.

Easter Wreath Making: A workshop style activity aimed at over 18's with 16 workstations. Crafting in a relaxed environment. We currently have 7 booked this is only day 2 of marketing the event.

Tea, Toast and Talk Tuesdays: Another new initiative to reach out to a different audience. We are offering a short drop-in session to give mums / dads / carers the opportunity to have a cuppa in a friendly space – aiming to support building our community and improving loneliness and mental health.

CD 105

VE DAY 80 EVENT

Councillor A John gave an overview of progression of plans for VE Day. The aim is to offer a nostalgic event and a family picnic. Collaborating with Swindon & Cricklade Railway to incorporate the nostalgia of steam and recreate the homecoming. Family picnic sited on the large sports field area at Mouldon Hill Country Park with some performances from Swindon Brass Band throughout the event. Attendees are encouraged to participate in wearing military or 40s dress to support the nostalgia of yesteryear. A meeting took place on 4th April at Swindon & Cricklade Railway where they confirmed their support and schools, and Community Groups have been contacted. A Working Party meeting will be held during April (date to be advised) after which a more detailed update will be made available. In general progressing very much as planned and in good time.

CD 106

MARKETING, COMUNICATIONS & BRANDING UPDATE

The Committee noted the report. Councillors would like to look at how stats are reported and what we are learning from this data. Committee would like to understand the value of providing monthly stats and numbers and suggested perhaps this area of reporting is provided on just a six (6) monthly basis. With that in mind the Chief Officer, Deputy Clerk, Marketing Co-Ordinator and Councillors will work together to agree a reporting protocol.

Committee would like it acknowledged the excellent work that the Marketing Co-Ordinator coverage that's provided both on social media, bulletins and notice boards and gave thanks to the Community Development team for the excellent on-going standard of work produced by the team.

Action: Committee members, to give feedback to the office and advise what they would like to see in terms of marketing and communication updates.

CD 107

COUNCILLOR ENGAGEMENT – MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK EVENTS

CD 107A

Members received a verbal update on the Group Litter pick on Saturday 17th May 2025.

Councillors B Patrick-Okoh, J Jackson and L Jackson are leading on at litter pick on Saturday 17th May there will be three locations of where the litter pick will take place. Each one will take place at 10am – 12pm. Councillors able to attend please try and bring residents, family, friends along to bolster the numbers. The three (3) locations will be Oakhurst with representation from Councillor R Ross, Haydon End will be represented by Councillors B Patrick-Okoh and A Jimmy. Finally Haydon Wick will be led by Councillors J & L Jackson. Councillors will engage with scouts, schools to encourage a fun event and offer sweets after the event and a certificate.

Action: Community Development team to produce thank you certificates for the children after the litter pick.

CD 107B

Members received a verbal update on the Orbital Event taking place on Sunday 18th May 2025. Currently working through the risk assessment that will go to the manager at Orbital. The Police stand is confirmed, Kelly Foundation, Fire Services

and Live Well Hub have all confirmed their attendance. Everything is going well and on schedule.

CD 107C

The committee noted the Charity Quiz will be rescheduled until later in the year. Currently scheduled to be held at the Haydon Wick Bowls Club in October 2025, date to be confirmed in due course.

CD 108

COUNCILLOR ENGAGEMENT – COMMUNICATIONS SCHEDULES & CAMPAIGNS

Councillor L Stevenson briefed the committee on the proposed campaigns. This proposal is to highlight days in each month to be celebrated and create events around them and to build on the 'Community Led Action Plan'. Councillors are asked to choose a campaign to which they can lead and dedicate time to spearhead events. The purpose is that these are Councillor led not run or administered by Haydon Wick Parish Council (HWPC) officers. Should this be successful over the year this would demonstrate to the residents the achievements of the Parish Council.

It was concluded that this is an excellent idea but currently there are only approximately six (6) Councillors that regularly engage with events and therefore ideally this should have all Councillors in participation of some description or this project potentially should not run. This needs to be run collectively as a group.

Proposed: Councillor L Stevenson Seconded: Councillor B Patrick-Okoh
Vote: Agreed with one (1) Abstention.

RESOLUTION: Resolved to recommend to Full Council to consider promoting nationally celebrated days and awareness campaigns with the full support of HWPC Councillors.

CD 109

COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor P Park – Nothing to report.

Councillor E Baker-Walker – Nothing to report.

Councillor A Jimmy – Nothing to report.

Councillor J Ali – Nothing to report.

Councillor L Jackson – Attended a litter pick as part of the Spring Clean 2025 programme collected 12 bags.

Councillor J Jackson – Also attended a litter pick as part of 'Spring Clean' 2025.

Councillor A John – Attended orbital Market last Saturday very successful. VE Events progressing well.

Councillor L Stevenson – Attended Councillor engagement event at Orbital Park last Saturday 29th March 2025.

Councillor V Manro – Attended Councillor engagement at Orbital Park, only requires two Councillors per hour. (note for future reference).

Councillor B Patrick-Okoh – Also attended the Councillor engagement event at Orbital Park.

CD 110

REGULAR SERVICE PROVISION

Committee note the report. Updates to the Memory Café will continue to be reported every six months therefore the next review will be in October 2025. The Companion Café is still very new so there is not an update at this stage but will be reviewed alongside the Memory Café in October 2025.

CD 111

SBC PARTNERSHIPS - LIVE WELL, BOROUGH SANCTUARY, SWINDON WELCOMES UKRAINE

Councillor L Stevenson explained that a remote teams call between HWPC and SBC to expand on the Summer Event for the Ukrainians and other groups for immigrants that have sought refuge in the community. SBC house the event under 'borough of sanctuary'. There is an accreditation proposed by SBC to work with parish councils and therefore leads to good working partnerships. This offers help to adult services, children's services, help with council tax and community events. Live Well, Borough

Sanctuary will attend the event for 'Mental Health' at Orbital to make themselves known, engage with all age groups to make residents aware of the services available to them. Cllr Stevenson and Councillor V Manro will attend the SBC (Swindon Borough Council) quarterly event and invite any other interested Councillors to attend this meeting. Chief Officer and Councillor V Manro are meeting with SBC this week to go further forward with this.

CD 112

FLOOD REPORT – S19

To note. This report came to the Community Development Committee as it is part of the emergency action plan.

CD 113

GRANT FUNDING REPORT

To note: 'A national lottery awards for all' grant is being put together for the Summer Event and this will be reported back when an answer has been received.

CD 114

OPERATIONAL BUDGET MONITORING

Committee noted the Income and Expenditure against budget Balances as of 28th February 2025.

CD 115

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

To Chief Officer before the 3rd of June 2025

The meeting closed at: 20.56

Chairman: