



# St Andrews Parish Council

## **Draft Minutes of the Redhouse Community Centre Committee Meeting Held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 at 7:30pm at Redhouse Community Centre, Frankel Avenue, Swindon**

**Councillors Present:** Daniel Adams, Mary Friend, Paul Morris (Chairman), Vera Tomlinson and Vince Williams  
**Officer Present:** Emma Sylvester and Centre Manager  
**Public Present:** 0

### **22. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None

### **23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

### **24. PUBLIC RECESS**

None

### **25. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022 as a true record.

### **26. OVERVIEW OF CENTRE USAGE**

The Centre Manager reported that during that past few months regular hirers have increased hours and children's parties are filling up the weekends over the next couple of months.

Members inquired about staff and if there was sufficient cover. The Centre Manager responded that she was in the process of hiring an additional member of staff which would hopefully prevent issues when current staff were on leave.

### **27. ACCOUNTS AND EXPENDITURE**

- (i) Members received an income and expenditure report up to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023 as attached in the Minute Book.
- (ii) Members noted that the Chairman and the Clerk had approved a change to the current broadband and telephone following a decision made at the last meeting. The Centre Manager reported that when Virgin (the previously chosen supplier) came to install the broadband they said that it wasn't possible hence the need for an alternative supplier. The Centre Manager added that she had been able to secure a large discount with a new supplier and the decision had been made to use Vodafone at a cost of £526 for two years and following several issues with the installation £100 had been offered as a gesture of good will.

### **28. MAINTENANCE**

- (i) The Centre Manager reported she had sought the opinion of three independent building professionals regarding the hairline cracks in the ceiling of the halls. All have advised that these are normal in the type of roof that Redhouse Community Centre has. Members agreed to continue to monitor and should the cracks become wider to report to Swindon Borough Council.

- (ii) Members considered a report from the Centre Manager regarding the boundary hedging of the outside area of the pre-school. It was reported that the fake hedging that was planted several years ago had begun to deteriorate and no longer provided privacy to the pre-school which was the reason for purchasing.

**RESOLVED**

To purchase privet hedging from Kingsdown Nursery at a cost of £480 + VAT which will be planted by the Grounds Maintenance Team.

**29. POLICIES**

Members noted that Full Council had approved the recommendation to amend the Debt Recovery Policy as detailed in the document attached in the Minute Book.

**30. YOUTH**

Members discussed a request from the Youth Committee to erect a shed in the grounds of Redhouse Community Centre. Members asked questions regarding the size and use. The Clerk reported that the Youth Committee had not finalised full details.

**RESOLVED**

The Committee were not against placing a shed in the grounds of Redhouse Community Centre in principle however further details were requested including the size and location.

**31. CHARGES**

Members discussed the current charges to hire the centre. All members agreed that each hall offered good value to customers and costs were low compared to other venues in the area. Members were aware that hirers had been struggling due to the current cost of living crisis.

**RESOLVED**

To not increase any charges.

To review charges as follows:

Hirers in 6 months

Sub Lease in a year

The meeting closed at 8:05 pm.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_