

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
Held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.30pm in the Jubilee Hall.**

**Present:** - Cllrs John Graham (JG) (Chair), Anne Curtis (AC), Paul Caddick (PC), Marion Reeve (MCR), Carmen Vazquez (CV), Valerie Williams (VW),

Graham Smith (Clerk), Ward Cllr Matthew Riddle (SGC).

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Tony Williams (SGC), PC Will Price

**2. Declaration of Interests**

None

**3. Evacuation Procedures**

The evacuation procedures were noted.

**4. Public Participation**

Three members of the public were in attendance.

Mr Simon Ponting was in attendance to follow up on the meeting in May agenda item 14, where Cllrs agreed to instruct grounds maintenance contractor to replant like for like and that there is no objection from the council with what the neighbour decides to do on his/her side to protect the garden from unwelcome intrusion. Mr Ponting advised Cllrs that this had not been done. (Clerk) confirmed that he had instructed the grounds maintenance contractor. (JG) confirmed that the contractor had not planted the bushes in May as it was an inappropriate time to do so due to the unavailability of a person to water the bushes daily as per the requirement of summer planting and confirmed the bushes will be planted in Sept /Oct. Mr Ponting requested details of the species to be planted. (JG) confirmed that this would be in line with existing planting and agreed with Mr Ponting that more mature shrubs rather than saplings would be planted to speed development of hedge. Mr Pontin requested that the hedge be regularly maintained, (Clerk) confirmed that the hedge is physically cut back each autumn to which Mr Ponting denied that this was not happening. (Clerk) agreed that he will be in attendance again when the trimming occurs and will advise Mr Pontin when on site. Mr Pontin raised issue regarding stray Cricket balls entering his garden from use of practice nets and could present a danger to family when in garden. Cllrs agreed to meet with the ACC to discuss ways in which to alleviate the intrusion.

**F230717-01** To meet with ACC to discuss the ways and how the practice nets are used to prevent the unwelcome of cricket balls into the neighbouring premises.

**Action to (Chair & Clerk)**

**F230717-02** To meet with grounds maintenance contractor to discuss the planting of bushes and arrange planting and trimming in early autumn and advise Mr Ponting accordingly.

**Action to (Chair & Clerk)**

Marian Summers & Helen Potter were present to raise issues regarding speeding vehicles at Strode Common. The residents believe that there has been no gathering of evidence regarding the traffic speed as vehicles exit along Strode Common stating that moving from the 30 mph zone to the 40 mph zone in the direction of Olveston seems to create a challenge to some antisocial drivers. The speeding generally begins after the Vattingstone Lane junction and the long straight stretch of Strode Common offers these "motorists" the opportunity to reach speeds way more than the limit. It is felt that this stretch of road should also be monitored to get the full picture of the speeding vehicles. The noise these drivers make at times can be really upsetting and if you are not expecting to hear a car shrieking down the road at a massive speed it can be quite shocking as well.

Both Mrs Summers and Mrs Potter live right on the cusp of the speed limit change and over the course of the last ten years have both become distressed by the impact, the volume and the speed of passing traffic and the effect has had on their mental health and lives. Windows have to remain shut due to the noise. They are aware that the traffic is much worse than it has ever been and

since lockdown the road has become busier and busier as people have found a convenient rat run and the speed of the passing vehicles has got faster and faster.

As long-standing residents having lived in the same houses for over 40 years they feel very qualified to make a stand on this issue and ask for 100% support from Alveston PC on this matter and would like them officially to request that urgent action is taken by South Glos Council and Avon and Somerset Police to monitor and prosecute the offending motorists.

This issue should be being monitored by a Speed Indication device for both directions of traffic. More signage needs to be installed telling people the speed limit and this should also be actioned on the road and also with repeater speed signs in line of the driver's sight. Residents request a Mobile Speed Enforcement Camera to make regular stops on this stretch of road.

(MR) reported that SGC had gathered speed statistics on that stretch of road and reported that 80% of traffic were breaking the speed limit with an average speed of 39MPH and that 15% of the traffic was travelling at a speed greater than 45MPH and agreed that further measures are required which would be investigated and reported back to the Parish Council.

**F230717-03** To further investigate measures to regulate the speed of vehicles at Strode Common.  
**Action to (MR)**

## 5. Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated with the agenda papers and Cllrs agreed that this was an accurate representation of the meeting.

**23.015 Resolved:** The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were accepted as accurate and signed by the Chair (PC).

## 6. South Gloucestershire Council

(MR) informed Cllrs that Cllr Williams was at another meeting and would be available for the meeting in September. Cllrs requested concern that since his election victory Ward Councillor Williams had not attended any meetings to introduce himself nor to understand the business of the Parish. Cllrs thanked (MR) for standing in.

There were no South Glos consultations currently running however, (MR) made Cllrs aware of the impact upon residents regarding the strike by SUEZ stating that it was likely to continue until 3<sup>rd</sup> September and advised Cllrs of the actions taken by SGC to alleviate some of the impact.

## 7. Representative Reports

None

## 8. Financial Matters

May and June Financial Statements and reconciliations had been pre-circulated to Cllrs. (Clerk) requested confirmation that the reports had been reviewed. (JG) recommended they be accepted as true and accurate by the Council.

**23.016 Resolved:** The financial reports for May & June 2023 as presented was accepted as accurate.

## 9. Review & recommendations from Planning Committee

(AC) stated that minutes of the planning meetings were included in the agenda packs and all information is available within the minutes and that there is nothing further to report.

## 10. Responsible Councillor and sub-group reports.

Allotments – (PC) informed Cllrs of up-to-date information relating to allotments including confirmation that the “Cyclist Dismount” signs had been erected and the AAA plan to erect a convex mirror at the corner of the access path. The AAA requested that the Parish Council ask permission for holders to temporarily access the field next to the allotments to trim back brambles. (Clerk) confirmed that he will seek permission from the landowner.

**F230717-04** To meet landowner to seek permission for access to land to cut back brambles.

**Action to (Clerk)**

It was brought to the attention of the Council that on the footpath crossing the private land adjacent to the allotments that a tree had fallen, and a thick log was obstructing. (Clerk) stated he would mention this when meeting the landowner.

**F230717-05** To meet landowner to advise of obstructions on footpath.

**Action to (Clerk)**

(PC) advised council that AAA were looking to purchase a petrol driven shredder. (Clerk) advised that potentially there is s106 monies available for the purchase of seating and tables in the area vacated by plot 34 and sought permission from the council to apply for such funding. (PC) proposed (JG) seconded and all Cllrs agreed.

**23.017 Resolved:** The Parish Council to apply to SGC for s106 funding for allotments.

AAA advised Cllrs that they had received requests from some neighbours bordering the homes situated on the A38 / Glos Rd to install a gate at the base of their garden to enable them to access the allotments. It was noted that these residents were not allotment holders. (Clerk) informed council that the installation of access gates whereupon non allotment holders could access would amount to trespass and neighbours should be advised accordingly. (Clerk) however confirmed that he had received no such requests.

Allotment holders raised the issue of traffic on 40acre lane forcing pedestrians to the side of the road which is increasingly overflowing with branches and rocks. It is noted that this is SGC highway adopted land (MR) agreed to visit the area to assess the issue.

(PC) advised Cllrs that he had completed the bi-annual allotment inspection with no major issues to report and reported the results of the AAA annual awards. **1.** Most Improved allotment – Plot 19. **2.** Best beginner – Plot 23. **3.** Best Crop – Plot 7 **4.** Best Plot – Plots 4 & 25.

(Clerk) raised the point that the AAA advised him that the minutes for May 23 were inaccurate. Cllrs advised that the approved minutes be corrected to replace the word “formed” for “supporting” (PC) proposed (JG) seconded and all cllrs agreed.

**23.018 Resolved:** The Parish Council agree to change the approved minutes (Item 12) replacing the word “formed” for “supporting”.

Playing Fields & Open Spaces - (Clerk) presented proposals and costings from the manufacturer relating to the installation of the “Pump Track” which is proposed to replace the Skate Park in the Lime Kiln Field. Councillors noted that there was a shortfall of £20,000 on the current financial projection subject to Hanson providing all aggregate and construction material. (JG) proposed that the Parish Council engage the services of Nicola Glanville as a fund raiser after her successes with the Gym and Down Rd play area and that (Clerk) apply for s106 monies from SGC. (AC) proposed (CV) seconded and all Cllrs agreed.

**23.019 Resolved:** The Parish Council to apply to SGC for s106 funding for proposed pump track and to re-engage the services of Nicola Glanville to fund raise the shortfall of cost.

(Clerk) presented a proposal for the further development of the Down Rd nature area relating to biodiversity, planting and insect and pollinator space. Cllrs agreed that the project to be further pursued and for (Clerk) to liaise with SGC and to apply for s106 funding. (JG) proposed, (CV) seconded and all Cllrs agreed.

**23.020 Resolved:** The Parish Council to apply to SGC for s106 funding for proposed further development of nature area.

**F230717-06** To complete all relevant s106 forms and submit to SGC prior to the deadline of 28<sup>th</sup> July. To contact and engage fundraiser. To consult with SGC re further development of proposed nature area on Down Rd greenspace.

**Action to (Clerk)**

**11. Authorisation of Payments**

12.1 Payments authorised 17th July 2023 by (JG) &amp; (CV)

Details	Ref.	£
Grounds Maintenance Contract	B/P 353	1170.00
Photocopy & Print (Mar / Apr)	B/P 354	50.70
Bin Empty	B/P 355	74.88
Bus Shelter Clean	B/P 356	240.00
Salary	B/P 357	250.20
Salary & Expense	B/P 358	1943.50
Salary	B/P 359	148.62
Qtrly Tax & NI payment	B/P 360	1781.39
Repair to meter cabinet (Lime Kiln)	B/P 361	100.00
Alveston Events	B/P 362	500.00
Total Payments		£6,259.29

13.3 Recent Receipts June 2023

Details	Ref.	£
Internment CR Plot 90	DCR	115.00
Rent Allotment Plot 13	DCR	35.00
Rent Allotment Plot 30a	DCR	21.00
Total Receipts		£171.00

**23.021 Resolved:** That all receipts and payments presented to the PC meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were accepted.

**12. Correspondence**

(MR) advised that he had contacted SGC Street Care relating to two complaints regarding over growth of bushes and brambles at the highway side of the fence at the new houses at Barnwell Close and confirmed they would be cut back immanently however, it remains unclear who owns this section of land and who has the responsibility of controlling the vegetation and (MR) confirmed he would investigate.

**13. Website / Helmet**

None

**14. Any Matters the Chair Considers Urgent**

(MCR) brought to the Cllrs attention that the formal opening of the refurbished Jubilee Hall garden will take place on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 11AM

Meeting Closed 20.58PM

**The next Council Meeting will be 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023. (Jubilee Hall)**