

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on 16th October 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)

1. Apologies for Absence

Ward Cllr Matthew Riddle (SGC) was unavailable due to at a meeting with Magnox/Nuclear Legacy Authority (NDA) as the Chair of the Oldbury-on-Severn Site Stakeholder Group.

2. Declaration of Interests

(Clerk) reviewed the requirement form SGC to complete a "Dispensation Request Form" (previously distributed) which were duly completed and returned to (Clerk) whereupon all dispensations were approved. Otherwise there were no declaration of interests.

3. Evacuation Procedures

The evacuation procedures were noted.

4. Public Participation

Four members of the public were in attendance (three relating to item 6 on agenda). Resident Ms. Jill Neave was granted five minutes to raise concerns which included litter picking issues regarding paint containers which was rectified at meeting. She also informed Cllrs that a gate at the Cross Hands play area was slamming shut. (Clerk) advised that this is the mechanism on the Prosafe gate and recommended repair although could cost up to £600 as would require a new motor. Cllrs authorised repair as it was a health and safety issue. Finally Ms Neave noted that Mt Bryan painter had retired and asked if the position would be filled. (Clerk) stated he was reviewing the position and would post a vacancy notice on website/ noticeboard in due course.

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.

23.028 Resolved: The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on Monday 19th September 2023 were accepted as accurate and signed by the Chair.

6. To Consider request for sport equipment storage

Mr Paul Feragut plus one other from Olveston Football Club and Martin Wistow from Alveston Cricket Club attended the meeting looking for a solution relating to issues with storage for sports equipment. Mr Feragut explained that the junior goalposts were being damaged by members of the public and the cost to replace was unsustainable. He suggested that the football club use "Herras Fencing" to store the equipment which will be secured and locked. Cllrs considered that the "Herras Fencing would be an eye saw but agreed there was little alternative in the short term. Mr Wistow also required increased storage capacity for his growing club and asked Cllrs to consider a more permanent solution. (AC) proposed that to erect Herras fencing is permissible for this season and a solution using a metal storage container be considered at close of season. (JG) seconded and all Cllrs unanimously agreed.

23.029 Resolved: The use of Herras fencing to store goalposts on site for Olveston Football Club is granted.

7. To consider actions relating to Ash Die Back Report

(Clerk) pre-distributed the 2023 ash die back report completed during the summer 23. Several trees were recommended for felling and after due consideration in relation to latest opinion that many ash trees are now surviving die-back that (JG) proposed that the trees be allowed to remain for a further year and (clerk) to continue to monitor, (VW) second the proposal and Cllrs agreed.

23.029 Resolved: The ash trees earmarked for felling as indicated within the ash-dieback survey be allowed to remain with further monitoring required.

8. To Consider request for payment of insurance cover for Community Forum

(Clerk) reminded Cllrs that the last years' substantial decrease in insurance premium did not include Community Forum insurance and that the Parish Council agreed to grant to the community forum the monies to cover the premium. (AC) proposed that the Parish Council continue to make payment to the Community Forum to cover insurance, (MCR) seconded and Cllrs unanimously agreed.

23.030 Resolved: The Parish Council to make payment to the Community Forum to cover insurance premium.

9. To receive report from South Gloucestershire Council ward Cllr

In the absence of ward Cllrs at the meeting (MR) forwarded recap of activities and distributed to Cllrs prior to meeting and items were reviewed.

A meeting was held with the residents who raised concerns at a Parish Council meeting relating to analysing the traffic speeds on site at Strode Common as it enters / exists the village and confirmed that the flashing speed sign will be re-installed for a few weeks from 4th October. (MR) had lobbied the Avon and Somerset traffic police (using data collected over the last three years by SGC) to ask them to enforce the speed limit. Their response given was:

"I have visited Strode Common with a view to carrying out enforcement at this location. As Strode Common runs into Down Road, I thought it would make sense to enforce from various locations on both roads. The data you have provided makes shocking reading. It is rare to find such a high percentage of non-compliance from vehicles and I look forward to comparing our findings with that of those from South Gloucestershire's data collection. I have applied for a site code for us to start enforcement. Once we receive this, we are good to go. Hopefully our attendance will greatly improve compliance on both roads.

The resurface of Down Road began by laying the base of the road covering an area that had failed and was planed off and removed. A dense bitumen macadam product was applied at a cost of c.£150,000. Officers would now like that to harden/ oxidise for at least year before putting on the top layer/ wearing course of the road, which will cover the whole road. The two areas where the pavement had sunk have been repaired. However, (MR) is now campaigning for the top layer/ wearing course over the whole road to be done next year once the current surface has hardened/oxidised.

Grants that (MR) has recently supported are to; Alveston Community Forum for work to The Parade Canopy (£350), Alveston Community Events for a PA loudspeaker system for their community events (£495) both made available from the SGC Members Awarded Funding (MAF). The Alveston Jubilee Hall benefited from a grant of £1,500 for its heating management system, from the SGC annual Councillor's Allowance.

10. Financial Matters

(Clerk) had distributed July / August / September Finance Report with the agenda packs.

23.031 Resolved: The financial report for July / August / September 2023 as presented were accepted as accurate and signed by chair.

(Clerk) had distributed the external auditors report with the agenda packs and the two issues raised by the external auditor were discussed and accepted. The conclusion of audit was noted & display to public had been placed on the website and on the noticeboards at the Alveston Parade and Rudgey Park.

23.032 Resolved: The external auditor report accepted, and display of conclusion notices agreed.

(Clerk) requested guidance for 2024/25 budget setting. Cllrs agreed that consideration is required for predicted price increases, expected uptake on s137 payments and Parish improvements to be

considered for 2024/25. Cllrs agreed that (Clerk) should base his budget proposals in line with the current RPI.

11. Review and recommendations from Planning Committee.

(AC) reviewed planning considerations as forwarded by (MR) to the committee. SG Council has now decided NOT to determine the application for 25 and 25A Quarry Road because the proposal was very similar to what had already been refused (both by the Council and the Planning Inspector on Appeal). (MR) is now pushing for the enforcement action to continue as the applicant had ONE year up to 16th September to comply with the planning permission they had gained.

The planning application for one 15m mast at Greenhill Road has now been refused by SGC.

12. Responsible Councillor and sub-group reports.

(Clerk) informed Cllrs that the application for s106 funding had been accepted by SGC and funds allocated. (JG) advised Cllrs that a meeting with Hanson would take place last week in October where an application for grant for aggregate would be made. (Clerk) agreed to progress both the Pump track and Nature area with suppliers and report at next meeting.

The grounds maintenance contractor recommended that it was the correct time of year to cut the hedge to the rear of the field store and plant the infill bushes. (Clerk) confirmed this would take place during the week as per the action allocated at the meeting in July.

(PC) reported on matters relating to allotments. (Clerk) had issued a warning letter to the holder of plot 6B as instructed and (PC) was pleased to report that work had begun to bring the allotment back to an acceptable standard with the support of AAA. (AC) commended the community spirit within which the allotment holders operate by helping others in time of need. (PC) reported the vandalism of the mirror that the AAA had erected at the corner of the entrance footway and the next AAA committee meeting would take place on 2nd November. (Clerk) informed Cllrs that there is currently eight persons on the waiting list.

The allocation of the s106 monies for allotments had been confirmed and (PC) agreed to ask the AAA for their proposal for introducing a breakout / social area on the land previously covered by plot 34.

(VW) reported to Cllrs the activities of the Oldbury-on-Severn Site Stakeholder Group as reported at their recent committee meeting.

13. Authorisation of Payments

13.1 Payments authorised 16th October 2023 by (JG) & (CV)

| Details | Ref. | £ |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Grounds Maint. / leaf blower | B/P 379 | 1512.82 |
| Photocopy & Print | B/P 380 | 50.70 |
| Leavers Payment | B/P 381 | 221.10 |
| Salary & Expense | B/P 382 | 1967.45 |
| Salary | B/P 383 | 148.62 |
| Jubilee Field Trees | B/P 384 | 480.00 |
| Ash Die back Inspection | B/P 385 | 330.00 |
| External Auditor Charge | B/P 386 | 756.00 |
| Quarter Tax & NI Payments | B/P 387 | 1781.59 |
| Empty of Litter Bins | B/P 388 | 74.88 |

| Details | Ref. | £ |
|---------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Grant Aid – Funding Mgmt System | B/P 389 | 2500.00 |
| Total Payments | | £9,823.16 |

13.3 Recent Receipts September 2023

| Details | Ref. | £ |
|-----------------------------|------|------------|
| Half Year Precept | DCR | 31655.00 |
| Internment Grave Plot 69 | DCR | 190.00 |
| Deed of Grant Grave Plot 14 | 0027 | 300.00 |
| Total Receipts | | £32,145.00 |

23.033 Resolved: That all receipts and payments presented to the PC meeting on 16th October 2023 were accepted.

14. Correspondence

(Clerk) advised that there were two items of correspondence each relating to the issue of the proposed erection of a communications mast at the Parade. Although the application had been refused on one of the letters suggested that the Parish council form a policy on mast installations. Cllrs felt that they did not have the expertise to do this and that a consultant would be costly and possibly bias. It was considered by Cllrs that SGC have more resources and would likely follow government guidelines which the Parish Council could not argue against in the planning process. It was unanimously agreed that the council should consider each application individually and look to SGC / government guidelines during any future application process.

15. Website / Helmet

(Cllrs suggested that a small narrative be placed on the website relating to the refusal of the application relating to the telephone mast.

16. Any Matters the Chair Considers Urgent

None

Meeting Closed 21.30PM

The next Council Meeting will be 20th November 2023. (Jubilee Hall)