

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on 15th January 2024 at 7.30pm in the Jubilee Hall.**

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

Graham Smith (Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Carmen Vazquez

2. Declaration of Interests

None

3. Evacuation Procedures

The evacuation procedures were noted.

4. Public Participation

Mark Smith was present from Thornbury Town FC (TTFC) requesting to use the football pitch on Sunday afternoons to catch up on home fixtures. (JG) expressed concern relating to this clashing with the construction of the pump track which could start as early as mid-March. (Clerk) informed Cllrs that in the past there were issues relating to the overuse of the football pitch and restoring the field damage to a playable surface for cricket. This was particularly the case if teams did not cancel when the pitch is waterlogged. The council have an agreement with Olveston Football Club (OFC) which ensures games are cancelled. Mr Smith stated that he would, if the Sunday morning game is cancelled by (OFC), then he would also cancel and will liaise directly with OFC accordingly.

(PC) proposed to allow (TTFC) use of the pitch on Sunday afternoons to catch up with fixtures, (VW) seconded and a majority of Cllrs voted in favour.

23.056 Resolved: (TTFC) be permitted to use the football pitch on Sunday afternoons to catch up on fixtures.

To receive a report from PC Will Price. – PC Price introduced PS Brad Holway to Cllrs. (VW) raised issues relating to off street parking on pavements and grass verges. PC Price stated that this was not against the law if access for wheelchairs and buggies was accommodated. If this were not the case tickets can only be issued if he were present at the time to witness the offence. (Tickets can not be issued retrospectively).

There remains the occasional issue with youths at the youth centre on Wednesday evenings and although not serious they have been reported as nuisance anti-social behaviour.

PC Price had conducted speed checks on Down Rd and during a one-hour afternoon period he stopped seven vehicles for excessive speed with six of those being local residents.

(VW) thanked PC Price on behalf of the council for all the work he does within the Parish.

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.

23.057 Resolved: The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on Monday 18th December 2023 were accepted as accurate and signed by the Chair.

6. To receive report from South Gloucestershire Council

Cllr Matthew Riddle was present at meeting taking the place of Tony Williams due to sickness.

(Clerk) informed (MR) that residents are expressing concern relating to the lack of a face-to-face consultation by SGC relating to the proposed housing developments on land surrounding the

village? Thornbury Voice listed development sites with the council inviting comments up to 7th Feb. (MR) stated that the consultation had been put back to 17th Feb and appreciated the concern and would investigate the possibility of introducing an additional consultation within the Prish.

(MR) provided detail of the SGC local plan development (phase 3) and that the consultation deadline. Cllrs unanimously agreed that the proposed developments on green belt to be given the strongest possible objection as although it is recognised that SGC policy is that each parish sacrifices a certain given area of greenbelt to make a contribution to the SGC housing commitment it is felt that Alveston Parish Council have already fulfilled this commitment through an excessive amount of infill over recent years, this includes Barnwell Place, Costers Close Development, The Cross Hands Development and the Quarry Road Development along with many other smaller infill and barn conversions. (JG) proposed that the Parish Council object to greenbelt development within the whole of the Parish for the reasons discussed (VW) second and all Cllrs unanimously agreed.

23.058 Resolved: The Parish Council object in the strongest possible terms to the proposed development on any of the green belt throughout the parish as there already has been excessive infill within the village.

F240115-01 Lodge the Parish Council objection on the SGC consultation prior to deadline.

Action to (Clerk)

(Clerk) requested an update relating to a request from a member of public relating to dropped kerbs and an overgrown pavement adjacent to the church to which (MR) stated he would visit the lady in question. He also noted the list of issues (Clerk) reported before Christmas and stated that the Bus stop sign had been repaired and the keep left sign had been installed. (Clerk) confirmed that the Alveston sign at Strode Common, and the pathway woodwork were both falling away.

(MR) expressed concern relating to the proposed bus lane installation along the A38 to which he could not see any advantage which would warrant the cost and disruption as no improvement (in time or quality) to the bus journey along this route was evident.

(AC) confirmed that the Parish Council was also concerned relating to the cycleway and walkway proposed to be located at the field belonging to the Ambiance Paddock. The plans do not show exactly where the crossings are to be located and if it were proposed to be halfway down the hill it would influence all vehicles having to do "hill starts".

(PC) raised concerns that there would be no lighting on the cycleway itself which would bring cyclists back on the roads in the hours of darkness. (AC) stated that the Planning Committee had resolved to have objections to P23/03491/R3F as there is insufficient information supplied to make a constructive / informative decision. For example entrance to field and crossing for cycles over the main road.

(AC) informed (MR) that the council had resolved to prevent WECA from demolishing the Stone Bus Shelter and that the Parish Council had requested WECA to rethink the Down Road / Alveston Hill junction proposals. (MR) responded to say that the whole proposal is costly and contentious and any development relating to this "is not going to happen tomorrow".

7. Financial Matters

(Clerk) had distributed December Finance Report with the agenda packs.

23.059 Resolved: The financial report and reconciliations for December as presented were accepted as accurate and signed by chair.

(Clerk) had distributed with the agenda packs the in year internal audit as completed by South Glos Council Audit department and was pleased to report a high standard with no issues and one recommendation. (AC) proposed that the in-year audit be accepted (MCR) seconded and Cllrs thanked (Clerk) for the high standard of work.

23.059 Resolved: The Parish Council accept the in year internal audit as accurate.

8. To Review and Consider the new SGC Localism Contract

(Clerk) had previously distributed with the agenda packs a copy of the SGC localism contract as the existing ten-year contract expires on 31st March 2024. (Clerk) stated that grounds maintenance contractors he had contacted would not quote for highway adopted work due to roadside debris damaging machinery. Cllrs agreed that the work by SGC was carried out satisfactorily and had no issues with the terms of the contract. (PC) proposed that the contract be adopted (VW) seconded and all Cllrs unanimously agreed.

23.060 Resolved: The SGC localism contract is adopted.

9. Review and recommendations from Planning Committee.

(AC) stated that no other matters to consider as per reviewed on previous minutes.

10. Responsible Councillor and sub-group reports.

(JG) stated that a meeting with Velosolutions had taken place with Velosolutions on January 4th 2024 where project details were discussed and reported that the commencement of build is likely to start mid-March with a six week schedule. Much of this time a track will be laid across the outer edge of the football / cricket pitch. (Clerk) informed Cllrs that field users had been advised.

(JG) had updated Heidelberg Aggregates (formally Hanson)

(Clerk) placed on the screen images of existing pump tracks lined with wildflower meadow to give Cllrs a visual idea and (Clerk) stated that he would investigate potential organisations / contractors who had the expertise to assist with maintaining the standard of the wildflowers that are proposed to line the pump track.

(Clerk) advised Cllrs that two allotment plots had become available and would contact those next on the list upon his return from annual leave.

(Clerk) reported one internment at the cemetery.

11. Clerk Annual Leave and Cllr Availability

(Clerk) asked Cllrs to consider their availability over the next few months as councillor numbers are low there is a high chance that some meetings may not be quorate. After discussions Cllrs agreed that meetings should be scheduled as normal and if the matter arises it will be dealt with at the time. (Clerk) confirmed that Chair may call a council meeting at any time providing sufficient notice is given.

12. Authorisation of Payments

14.1 Payments authorised 15th January 2024 and signed by (JG) & (CV) ((CV) – out of meeting)

Details	Ref.	£
Grounds Maint	B/P 411	1170.00
Photocopy & Print	B/P 412	50.70
Salary & Expense	B/P 413	1887.71
Salary	B/P 414	148,62
Employee Tax & NI payment	B/P 415	2,040.98
Room Hire Sept - Dec	B/P 416	159.60
Fence Repairs as per ROSPA report	B/P 417	290.00
Total Payments		£5,747.61

14.2 Recent Receipts (December)

Details	Ref.	£
Credit Interest	DCR	151.93
Allotment Rent Recvd	DCR	6.12
Total Receipts		£158.05

23.061 Resolved: That all receipts and payments presented to the PC meeting on 15th January 2024 were accepted.

13. Correspondence

(Clerk) advised that two items of correspondence had been received both relating to the SGC housing plan and one also relating to the bus corridor and cycleway both of which were discussed within the meeting and (Clerk) to answer accordingly.

14. Website / Helmet

No matters were disclosed for inclusion.

15. Any Matters to be carried to next meeting.

(PC) requested that (Clerk) / (JG) make an enquiry and quotation if possible with regard to installing lighting surrounding the proposed pump track.

Meeting Closed 21.12PM

The next Council Meeting will be 19th February 2024. (Jubilee Hall)