

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
Held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7.30pm in the Jubilee Hall.**

**Present:** - Cllrs John Graham (JG) (Chair), Valerie Williams, Carmen Vazquez (CV), Marion Reeve (MCR),

Graham Smith (Clerk), Ward Cllrs Matthew Riddle (MR).

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs Paul Caddick, Anne Curtis

**2. Declaration of Interests**

None

**3. Evacuation Procedures**

The evacuation procedures were noted.

**4. Public Participation**

Two members of public were present. They requested that the council reexamine the published minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> of September as it is believed that inaccuracies occurred. It was emphasised to councillors that the Parade Management Committee have no objections to granting permission for community activities to take place on the square, subject to the appropriate and relevant legal documentation being obtained and always entrances to the retailers' businesses are kept clear.

(Clerk) informed Cllrs and displayed on screen an email received from a representative from the Community Forum wishing to make clear that there is no animosity between the Community Forum and retailers and, to the contrary, work very well together.

Cllrs requested that, for future reference, (MR) enquire with SGC licensing all relevant permissions required to host charity events on private land.

**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.

(Clerk) informed Cllrs that due to a printer malfunction and the necessity to purchase a new one, there was no printed minutes to sign but would be available for chair to sign as soon as possible.

**24.034 Resolved:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024 were accepted as accurate and will be signed by the Chair when available.

**6. To receive report from South Gloucestershire Council**

(MR) updated Cllrs on matters relating to South Glos Council (SGC) activity.

The new car parking charges to be introduced next year: At least 10 per cent of spaces in short-stay car parks remaining free for stays of up to 30 minutes, and the first hour being charged at just 70p, £1.30 for up to two hours, £3 for up to three hours and £5 for stays up to four hours in short-stay car parks. Parking in long-stay car parks and spaces will be £3.00 for the first four hours; 4–6-hour tariff charged at £4.00 and stays of more than six hours will be charged at £5.00. The price of season tickets. Weekly tickets will be £20; monthly tickets will be £75.00; a new option of a six-monthly ticket will be £435; and annual tickets will be £840.00. Blue Badges holders will be able to park for free for up to four hours in any space in any car park, provided that their valid blue badge is displayed.

There are currently several issues being dealt with which directly affects Alveston residents:

SGC have agreed to paint some '30 mph' roundels at the entrance to the village at Strode Common and Vattingstone Lane, this is likely to be done in April when there is hopefully better weather.

Campaigning to get Down Road and the side roads off it, resurfaced also a rough part of the pavement in Down Road.

(MR) is monitoring closely the planning application at Old Church Farm/ aka Alveston Manor and suspects this to be a long process.

SGC has been advised that the developer who is promoting land at Vattlingstone Lane, (just in Olveston Parish), under call for sites ref SG096 for development through the new Local Plan will be undertaking archaeological trenching and geotechnical trial pits at the site in the next few weeks, now that the forage maize crop has been harvested. The presence of equipment and workers on the site carrying out field operations may attract attention locally and lead to calls to the Parish Council and Parish Councillors. (MR) has raised the issue of the ancient round barrow in the field and subsequently received this further response:

*After discussions with the developer, SGC and Historic England made it clear that development north of the barrow would not be supported as it would constitute an unacceptable level of harm to the setting of the Scheduled Monument. Development could potentially occur to the south and southwest of the barrow, where the impact to the setting of the monument was less, provided that a suitable buffer was established to ensure that development did not encroach on the scheduled monument and further to additional below ground archaeological investigation to determine the presence and significance of any other archaeology, particularly that found in the recent geophysical survey. The Local Plans Team have received recent confirmation from the promoter that they intend to follow the above technical advice.*

## 7. Financial Matters

### October Finance Report

Due to a printer failure (Clerk) advised Cllrs the finance report and reconciliation for October will be presented at the December meeting for approval and sign off.

## 8. To consider / approve charges for 25/26

The (Clerk) had distributed the draft of 25/26 Parish Council charges with the agenda packs and stipulated that a 5% increase had been implemented across the board as requested by Cllrs at the previous meeting. (MCR) proposed that the 2025/26 Parish Council charges be adopted. (JG) second and all Cllrs agreed.

**24.035 Resolved:** The Council's 25/26 charges as presented be implemented.

## 9. To consider / approve proposed Parish Council Budget / Precept 25/26

(Clerk) had distributed the draft of 25/26 Parish Council budget with the agenda packs and stipulated that a 5% increase in precept had been implemented and budget be drafted to meet this requirement. (As requested by Cllrs at the previous meeting). (MCR) proposed that the 2025/26 Parish Council Budget and Precept as presented be adopted. (CV) second and all Cllrs agreed.

**24.036 Resolved:** The 25/26 budget as presented be implemented.

**24.037 Resolved:** The 25/26 precept requirement of £87,500 be requested.

## 10. To Consider Submitted Grant Applications.

(Clerk) had distributed with the agendas the applications forms from grant applicants.

An application had been received from 2<sup>nd</sup> Alveston Scouts for £1000 to assist with expenses relating to a scout camp which will occur in 2025. (MCR) proposed that the application be accepted, (CV) second and all Cllrs agreed.

**24.038 Resolved:** Council approve grant funding to 2<sup>nd</sup> Alverston scouts toward the activity of summer camp 2025.

An application had been received from the Helmet Magazine for £500 toward the community magazine running costs. (Clerk) emphasised that this grant as approved each year by the parish Council. (JG) proposed that the application be accepted, (CV) second and all Cllrs agreed.

**24.039 Resolved:** Council approve grant funding to Helmet Magazine of £500 toward running costs.

(Clerk) reminded Cllrs that a grant payment of £130 is paid each year toward defibrillator maintenance and it had been agreed several years ago that it was not necessary for the Defib Group to submit a separate form each year as the grant will be paid automatically.

**11. Responsible Councillor and subgroup reports**

(Clerk) informed Cllrs that it had been agreed with National Grid and their tree contractor that permission is granted to remove over growing branches at electrical power cables on the Jubilee Field adjacent to Greenhill

(Clerk) informed Cllrs that a resignation from the allotments had been received due to terminate at year end. The plot will be offered to the next on list. Two residents are now on the waiting list as a new application has been received during the month.

(MW) reported from the Youth Centre Management committee and expressed their appreciation that the Parish council is considering a grant payment in 2025 toward the toilet refurbishment.

**12. Authorisation of Payments**

12.1. Payments to be authorised at meeting. by Cllrs John Graham & Carmen Vazquez).

Details	Ref.	£
Grounds Maintenance	B/P 500	1216.80
Photocopy & Print	B/P 501	50.70
Clerk Salary & Expense	B/P 502	1897.42
Salary – Cemetery Caretaker	B/P 503	163.21
Leaf blowing/ additional maintenance	B/P 504	251.68
Currys - New PC Printer (Paid on Card)	B/P 505	287.59
Trough Supply - Allotments	B/P 506	179.31
Water Supply – Jubilee Field	B/P 507	43.47
Total Payments		£4,090.18

12.2 Recent Receipts (October 2024)

Details	Ref.	£
Allotment Plot 10	DCR	10.00
VAT Refund	DCR	13784.37
Total Payments		£13,794.37

**24.040 Resolved:** That all receipts and payments presented to the PC meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024 were accepted.

**13. Correspondence**

An email had been received by a member of Alveston Community Forum requesting clarification of matters discussed in Item 4 under public participation.

**14. Website / Helmet**

Nothing to add.

**15. Any Matters to be carried to next meeting.**

None

Meeting Closed 20.21PM

**The next Council Meeting will be 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024. (Jubilee Hall)**