

SISTON

PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Siston Parish Council Meeting held at Warmley Community Centre, on Thursday 28th March 2024 commencing at 7.30pm

Present – Parish Councillors Andrew Stacey (Chair), Alan Bryant, Ben Milsom, Steve Reade, Nathan Reed and Gloria Smith. Ward Councillor Marilyn Palmer

242. Apologies for Absence: Parish Councillor, Justine Davies, James Hackett and Aled Rees offered advanced apologies – approved.

243. Declarations of Interests under the Code of Conduct adopted May 2023

Councillor Alan Bryant – Men in Sheds – Min Ref 257.

243. Minutes Approved

Full Council Meeting – 15th February 2024.

Resolved: The minutes were passed and signed as a correct record.

244. Public Participation

One member of the public was present. Councillor Stacey asked if they would like to speak, but this invitation was declined.

245. Police Update

Due to a change of shift the police were not able to attend. A report was circulated to councillors in advance. See min ref 258.

246. Ward Councillor Update

Ward Councillor Palmer provided an update:

- The Assess and Decide Team at South Gloucestershire Council have very limited funding to progress applications proposed across the area. Only four schemes of those proposed are taken forward each year and funded.
- The application made by Siston Parish Council for traffic calming at Webbs Heath and Siston Hill has been subdivided into two applications following a meeting between Ward Councillors Palmer and Stokes with the Assess and Decide Team at South Glos. Council, to give it a better chance in being selected for funding in the future.

247. 80th Anniversary of D Day

Councillors approved the production of 150 copies of a programme for distribution to people attending the public event and the costs.

Councillors approved the purchase of a first aid kit (c£32) and hazard warning tape (c£10 plus VAT).

Volunteers from the parish council will include – Councillors Ben Milsom, Aled Rees, Steve Reade, Andrew Stacey, Nathan Reed, Alan Bryant and Gloria Smith.

Resolved: All Agreed

248. Neighbourhood Planning Steering Committee

Councillor Steve Reade provided an update advising that the original group of residents had decreased due to a change in personal circumstances and focus on the local plan.

Councillors approved the assistance of the clerk to organise a further public meeting.

Councillors approved production of a questionnaire for residents.

Councillors agreed that Councillor Reade could establish a Facebook page to publicise the Neighbourhood Plan.

Resolved: All Agreed

249. Newsletter

Councillors agreed to forward articles for inclusion in the newsletter by 2nd April 2024.

Councillors approved the cost of producing 2500 copies of the newsletter.

Resolved: All Agreed

250. New Bin – location ///blank.looked.twig

Councillors approved the purchase and installation of the bin and associated costs.

Resolved: By majority

251. Dropped Kerbs on Stanley Road, Capel Close and the Memorial Garden.

The clerk was advised to let the resident know - now that the application had been submitted to South Glos. Council, they feel it will score highly in the funding process with South Glos. Council – due to it being an equality of access issue.

Resolved: All Agreed

252. Youth Provision in Siston Parish

A report was circulated in advance prepared by the clerk.

Councillors agreed that they would like the clerk to investigate a youth and parent activity at the Warmley Forest Park skate park and the community centre next to the scout hut, during the summer holidays 2024.

Resolved: All Agreed

253. Restoration of the sand box in the memorial garden

Councillors approved a volunteer making a new box, with the cost of the materials to be reimbursed.

Resolved: All Agreed

254. Social Media

Councillor Reed confirmed the existing Facebook page called Siston Parish was intended as the Siston Parish Council page.

Councillors approved this page for use by the parish council, with Councillor Reade and the clerk having admin access for creating content and monitoring the page.

Resolved: All Agreed

255. Memorial Bench Policy

Councillors approved the policy for publication.

256. Grant Applications (2) – The Brightwell and St Anne’s Church System

The Brightwell – The councillors asked the clerk to check how patients can access the service, if it is self-refer or GP led? The application will be re-assessed in the April meeting.

Resolved: All Agreed

St Anne’s Church, Syston – Councillors approved a grant of £200. The church had applied for £500. The clerk confirmed guidance from ALCA confirmed that grant to churches under LGA 1972 s214(6).

Resolved: All Agreed

257. Finance

a) Members received statement of accounts (receipts and payments inc. v budget) to the 29th February 2024.

b) Members received and approved the bank statements to 29th February 2024.

c) Members received the Bank Reconciliation to 29th February 2024.

Resolved - All agreed.

258. Accounts for Payment

The on-line payment of the following items for March 2024 were approved:

1. S Thomas – Salary - £885.66
2. HMRC - £279.06
3. S Thomas – Expenses - £71.32
4. D&M Property Maintenance – Biannual clean of bus shelters - £180
5. James Micklejohn – 80th anniversary of D Day Bagpiper - £140
6. South Glos. Council – Siston Village Sign and Installation - £2458.09

7. South Glos. Council – Replacement Panel for Anchor Road bus shelter - ££216
8. Ruth Coleman – Designer- Interpretation Board Siston Common North - £1000
9. Warmley Community Centre Room Hire – Feb and March 2024 - £58
10. Men In Sheds – Number signs for allotments – £110 – To be paid in April (waiting bank details).

Resolved: All Agreed

259. Clerks Update and Correspondence

The clerk reminded the annual parish meeting will take place on the 18th April at 7pm. A short report will be read from the Chairman and each committee, and parishioners are invited to have a tea or coffee.

Update

- A meeting will be held – hosted by Ian Adams – on the 30th May 2024 at 7.30pm, Warmley Community Centre – Penny/Vowles Room, to complete the briefing prior to the beacon lighting on the 6th June 2024. This is for all councillors assisting and for volunteers.
- The Allotment Committee agreed to postpone placing an IBC at the allotment site – due to issues with installation.
- A broken bin was reported to the clerk – she has checked the location and identified it as a SGC bin and this has been reported. Location of the bin is approximately ///breath.hangs.grace. South Glos have advised that it will not be replaced – but it has been fixed to the floor, following the bracket being ripped off, which has caused the damage, but the bin is otherwise fit for purpose.
- The Clerk was asked to advise South Glos. Council of the good features of the parish for residents over the age of 50 and those areas which may need improving. Highlights included were Men in Sheds, Kingswood Heritage Museum, Friends of Siston Commons, Signal Box also mental health and dog walking, local shops and amenities. Improvements were the camber on the railway path, lowered kerbs, retention of green spaces, local and low cost dentists etc.
- The Interpretation Board (Siston Common North) will be delivered by the close of April and installed by the Kingswood Ramblers Association.
- The new sign marking Siston Village will be installed at the start of April.
- Engagement with residents on the Warmley Action Nature Zone has been organised – There are two sessions – Tues 2nd April 2024 – Spring Wildlife Walk, Warmley at 11.30am and Sat 6th April 2024 at 10.30am there will be a Wildlife Gardening Walk. Both bookable via Eventbrite.
- The Friends of Siston Commons AGM will take place on Monday 15th April 2024 at 10am at Warmley Community Centre in the Wakeford Lounge.
- Police report received from the Staple Hill and New Cheltenham Team. Incidents of bullying in schools, which have extended into social media and outside of school have risen, along with more reports of people owning XL bully dogs. They are engaging with schools about unacceptable parking, working with known vulnerable adults, as well as working with local businesses regarding prolific shop lifting. The police team will soon be returning to cycles to patrol the railway path and Siston Commons.
- The footpath between Goldney Avenue and public footpath PSN 52 (TheDramway) at Warmley DMMO 2020 – has been approved by the secretary of state as a public right of way.
- Warmley Flower Show organisers have been in touch to advise they are being asked to pay £400 in room hire fees to run the show again in 2024. They have asked if councillors are aware of any other venues. Suggestions made so far are Kingswood Heritage Museum and St Anne’s Church Hall, as they are both in the parish boundary.
- Community Payback have spoken with the clerk and advised they are happy with our proposed projects. A meeting is to be arranged in the parish to look at the areas and to plan the undertaking of the work.

Correspondence

- Email received from a resident asking how they apply for dropped kerbs on Stanley Road and by the memorial park, which was dealt with by the clerk. The resident asked for parish council support. See min ref 251.
- South Glos Council have advised that they are keen to share road safety messages with local groups. This extends from first car seats to, to motorbikes, to learning to drive. They will meet with local groups if requested to share the key messages – the contact is Dave Adams – Road Safety Technician

– Collision Investigation and Prevention. The clerk has suggested Warmley Park College may be interested in hearing about road safety and also baby groups (regarding car seats) – at Warmley Community Centre.

- Councillors Davies and Reade had a gentleman enquire about a field being dug just behind the cattery – near to the Mangotsfield amenities site. Councillor Reade was able to advise it was exploratory work being completed by Bloor Homes. There was an initial concern about trees being removed – but there was no evidence to suggest any trees had been affected. The resident was happy with what was advised.
- South Glos. Council have advised of a consultation for a booking in system to use the amenities sites in South Glos, to limit the amount of waste being deposited from restoration or building work. No commencement date has been advised.
- South Glos Council have launched a consultation on its four-year plan – which will impact its budgets. It closes on the 12th April 2024.
- A concern was received by the parish clerk regarding the plaque fitted to bench 35 – as it overshadowed the memorial plaque on it. A response was issued and the plaque removed, with numbers and the name of the council placed somewhere more discrete.

260. Friends of Siston Commons

Report circulated in advance of the meeting.

261. Planning

The clerk was asked to write to the Planning Inspectorate regarding the application under the Commons Act 2006 s38 for the Paradise Stud, Siston Common, driveway, stating that there needed to be assurance that the driveway construction will need to reflect the planning application approved, in both construction and materials.

A report was sent in advance of the meeting on the remaining planning applications.

Resolved: All Agreed

262. AOB

- Councillor Bryant advised of the exhibition at the Kingswood Heritage Museum on Warmley, Kingswood and Siston. They are currently constructing a model railway track.
- Councillor Ben Milsom advised that Warmley Bakery had recently closed.
- Councillor Gloria Smith advised that a fridge had been fly tipped at Goose Green and had now been removed.
- Councillor Reade circulated his update in advance of the meeting. He also presented a Hedgehog Hero sign and it was agreed that it could be erected on the fence at the front of Warmley Forest Park.

Resolved: All Agreed

Date of next meeting: 18th April 2024 at Warmley Community Centre

Meeting closed at – 20:43

Confirmed and signed

Chairman..... Date

Sara Thomas

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