

SISTON

PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Siston Parish Council Meeting held at Warmley Community Centre, on Thursday 20th February 2025 commencing at 7.30pm

Present – Parish Councillors Andrew Stacey (Chair), Alan Bryant, Justine Davies, James Hackett, Ben Milsom and Gloria Smith.

190. Apologies for Absence: Ward Councillor Marilyn Palmer and Ben Stokes. Parish Councillors - Steve Reade, Nathan Reed and Aled Rees.

191. Declarations of Interests under the Code of Conduct adopted May 2024

Councillor Gloria Smith – Management committee member of Warmley Community Centre.

Councillor James Hackett – Chairman of Friends of Siston Common.

Councillor Justine Davies – Minute Reference 195.

192. Minutes Approved

Full Council Meeting – 16th January 2025

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

193. Public Participation

None present.

Martyn Plumber was not in attendance.

194. Ward Councillor Update

None present.

The clerk read a note that had been provided in advance by Ward Councillor Marilyn Palmer. It advised Marilyn and Ward Councillor Ben Stokes had attended a meeting on the 14th of February with representatives from Bloor Homes, Friends of Siston Commons and Councillor Chris Willmore. It advised she felt it was good to be able to engage with Bloor at this stage and to be able to talk to their Ecologist, Head Planner and Legal Officer. The note stated they were able to answer a lot of questions about various surveys that have been carried out and land ownership. Whilst Marilyn fully accepts that the residents remain opposed to the proposals, she hoped it will be the first of many meetings, as by working together issues will be able to be flagged and the best outcome may be gained.

It was noted by the clerk that the parish council were offered the opportunity to meet with Bloor in the future. Councillors present declined to meet with Bloor at this point, to ensure it was reflected they do not agree with any development on green space.

Resolved: All Agreed

195. Local Plan Consultation

It was agreed that:

1. Councillor Reade would assist to co-ordinate the response to Regulation 19, to ensure that it is consistent with what is required by the Planning Inspectorate.
2. All Councillors are to provide in writing to the clerk any thoughts for inclusion by the 28th of February 2025, which is the start date of the consultation. Councillors chose this date to ensure they can meet the six-week deadline.
3. Councillor Stacey and the clerk agreed to organise a leaflet to highlight the consultation to members of the public, which may include maps, if possible. It was noted that the responses cannot be generic comments at this stage. The cost of printing the leaflets were approved for payment. Councillor Stacey, Davies, Smith, Hackett and Milsom agreed to post the leaflets, with some being left in local shops for people to pick up.

Resolved: All Agreed

196. V E Day Celebration – Update from Councillor Milsom and Mr Ian Adams

An update was circulated in advance by the clerk on behalf of Councillor Milsom.

It was agreed that:

- subject to permission from the owner, the fire engine on site will block the entrance, to prevent acts of terrorism with vehicles. If the engine was not available, there is a plan to park cars to create a physical barrier.
- Robbie Culley, a musician with some upbeat music should play and the cost of £150 can be paid on the receipt of an invoice.
- Councillor Milsom will light the beacon
- the fish and chip van should arrive onsite at 6.30pm, to give residents two hours to eat prior to the start of the entertainment/service. If the fish and chip van is not confirmed, councillors agreed that cakes could be provided and a quote for 150 cakes at the cost of £262 was agreed, as a plan b.
- the clerk could make payment for the purchase of bunting and a banner, which is expected to be around £45.
- programmes which have already been designed, can be printed, with the payment for the costs made by the clerk on receipt of the invoice.

The clerk confirmed the overall project budget currently available is £5266.

Resolved: All Agreed

197. Pucklechurch Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan

Councillors asked the clerk to confirm to Pucklechurch Parish Council that they agree with their proposed Neighbourhood Plan and have no objections.

Resolved: All Agreed

198. Architect Drawing for the Memorial

Councillors agreed to the payment of £100 for architect's drawing of the brass plaque.

Councillor Bryant agreed to take forward the action to check the missing names of the fallen were not present on any other memorials.

Resolved: All Agreed

199. 61 Siston Common – Exemption Certificate for Proposed Glamping Site

Councillors asked the clerk to respond to the site notice with the following questions/responses:

- How will residents with a complaint or concern be able to address those - what process will be in place?
- Who will manage the noise complaints - especially late at night?
- How many days a year will glamping be allowed and how will the number of nights be managed to ensure it does not exceed the number allowed?
- Who will manage the site day to day? Where will the contact details be displayed?

Resolved: All Agreed

200. Repair to the Perspex on the noticeboard at Siston Park

Councillors declined to repair and cover the cost to replace the Perspex on the noticeboard, as it has been vandalised on several occasions. The clerk was asked to speak with South Gloucestershire Council to enquire whether the noticeboard could be relocated to the outer perimeter of the estate, near to the roundabout on the main road, so that is not hidden by the hedgerow in the green space and therefore less likely to be damaged by vandals or accidentally.

The council agreed that they would consider purchasing a new one for the proposed new location, if it is not possible to relocate the existing one.

Resolved: All Agreed

201. Internal Audit - Contract Review

The council agreed to renew its internal audit contract with South Gloucestershire Council and instructed the clerk to sign and return the contract.

Resolved: All Agreed

202. Finance

- a) Members received statement of accounts (receipts and payments inc. v budget) to 29th January 2025
- b) Members received and approved the bank statements to 29th January 2025.
- c) Members received the Bank Reconciliation to the 29th of January 2025.

Resolved - All agreed.

203. Accounts for Payment

The on-line/card payment of the following items for February 2025 were approved:

1. S Thomas – Salary – £1119.81
2. HMRC - £413.28
3. S Thomas – Expenses - £59.50
4. Warmley Community Centre – Room Hire - £30.40
5. SLCC – Affiliation Renewal - £240
6. Audio Engineer – V E Day project - £250 (paid on the 6th of February 2025, as pre-agreed)
7. J W Plant V E Day Flag – VE Day Project - £44.80 (paid on the 6th of February 2025, as pre-agreed) (by card)
8. South Gloucestershire Council – Localism Charge - £572.40

Resolved – All Agreed

204. Clerks Update and Correspondence

Update

- Councillor Stacey cut back the hedge surrounding the bench at Bridgegate Common.
- The War Memorial Trust have advised that they would like to check each of the nine names for the war memorial before they are advertised.
- The South Glos. Council Cabinet approved the local plan on the 3rd of February 2025. The South Glos. Full Council meeting took place on the 12th of February and Councillor Stacey had read out a response on behalf of the parish council as agreed.
- There are three allotment plots vacant. A note was circulated to existing tenants, which has seen several people come forward.
- £50 compensation was received from NS&I as they failed in the first instance to process our closure request and incorrectly processed it as a change of name.

Correspondence

- A Facebook enquiry was received from a resident advising they would be interested in a bus route from Warmley to Mangotsfield. This information was passed to the working group for the 532 route.
- A resident reported a broken fence with nails sticking out on green space next to 27 Hinton Drive. This was passed to South Glos. Council to attend to.
- A complaint was received from an allotment holder, as prior permission was not sought before cutting down the tree which is on the corner of his plot. His wife also spoke with Councillor Bryant. The clerk sent an apology and advised that in future we will consult individual tenants, when undertaking work, which affects individual plots.
- A resident reported a row of trees that had been cut down on the railway path by the Signal Box. The clerk has reported and asked if SGC Trees Team are aware.
- Email and calls received from a resident in Oldland Parish. He complained about the speed of traffic on Tower Road (within Oldland Parish area) and the HGVs.

205. Friends of Siston Commons

A report was received which was shared in advance of the meeting.

Resolved: All Agreed

206. Planning

- a) Planning Applications – all noted, nothing to add.
- b) Planning Decisions – all noted, nothing to add

Resolved – All Agreed

Councillor Davies advised she has attended the South Gloucestershire Development Committee meeting on behalf of the parish council as the planning application P24/02077/RVC - The Lodge at Siston Court was being reviewed. She confirmed the planning application had been agreed by the committee, with some conditions to look at the surface of the parking area.

207. Other Business

- Councillor Hackett asked why a question had been circulated regarding a Geophysical survey at the proposed site for a new pond at Webbs Heath. It was confirmed that Councillor Reade wanted a better understanding of the bell pit and depth, before the opportunity was lost.
- Councillor Stacey asked if there could be a coordinated team to finish the cutting of trees on the allotment site. Councillors Davies and Milsom advised their availability, and the clerk agreed to let Councillor Reade know they were available to assist.

Date of next meeting: 20th March 2025

Meeting closed at – 20:45

Confirmed and signed.

Chairman..... Date

Sara Thomas

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