

Minutes of the proceedings of the Siston Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 20th June 2019 commencing at 7.30pm (view online at www.sistonparishcouncil.org.uk)

Present - Councillors' Alan Bryant, Andrew Stacey, Paul Jermy, Pippa Gibbs and Jacquie Stephens.

District Councillor, Ben Stokes, Boyd Valley Ward.

Councillor Bryant Chaired the meeting.

21. Apologies for Absence received

None required.

22. Declarations of Interests under the Code of Conduct adopted 19th July, 2012

None declared.

23. Minutes of the Meeting of Thursday 16th May 2019

Resolved: the minutes were passed and duly signed by Cllr. Bryant as a correct record.

24. Public Participation

Resident in attendance to observe.

25. Matters arising

a. Councillor Bryant asked that election of Chair, to preside at July meeting, appear as the first item on the July agenda.

26. Elections

a. Members were advised that as no one stood for election in May for Siston Common and Rural Wards elections had to be held again. The deadline for nominations was 28th June 2019 and if no one stood the election would roll over, if one person stood in each Ward then the remaining seats could be co-opted and if more stood than there were seats an election would be held on 25th July 2019.

27. Parish map

a. Members were provided with the final draft of the parish map. The need for further amendments was noted and members agreed to provide the Clerk with final changes. Members were asked to vote on the purchase of the map, including full copy right, at a cost of £400.00 with no right to future amendments or £500.00 with 3 years free amendments.

Resolved: members approved the purchase at £400.00.

28. Asset inspections

a. Members were advised that asset inspections were conducted in June and December each year to ensure the assets are in a safe condition and good state of repair. Members reviewed the asset rota and confirmed which assets they would check. To be reassessed once full complement of members achieved.

ACTION: Clerk to provide members with a copy of the asset rota.

29. Budget 2019/20 review

a. Members reviewed the projects included the budget:

1. Portable speed camera – members were advised a static speed camera was considered in response to complaints from Siston Lane about speeding traffic but as South Glos Council had reviewed and changed its policy on street furniture only a portable speed camera was an option.

ACTION: Cllr. Stokes advised he was scheduled to meet Siston residents and would appreciate receiving background information on previous enquiries with Highways – Clerk to provide.

2. Gin House – it was explained, this was an accumulating fund.

3. Best garden/hanging baskets – no further action, hold over to promote in 2020.

4. Benches – 4 included in the budget.

Resolved: members approved the purchase of 3 benches:- 1 to be sited at the Signal Box, 1 near the Skate Park and 1 at the top of Warmley Forest Park. Clerk to arrange purchase and delivery of all to Signal Box, Cllr. Stephens to liaise with contact at Signal Box to arrange storage.

The remaining bench for siting at Felicity Park once the Indemnity Form was arranged with SGC.

5. Litter bin – 2 in budget.

Resolved: members approved the purchase of 2 round general litter bins - Cllr. Stephens to provide exact location details of agreed sites.

6. CCTV, Warmley Community Centre – to be reviewed at a later date.

30. Change of Condition

a. Members were advised that a condition attached to planning meant that the car park near the Scout hut Warmley Forest Park meant it could not be used by or for other activities and an ex-councillor had liaised with Open Spaces who in turn approached Planning Services in order to remove this condition but no further action or update had been received.

ACTION: Clerk to provide information to District Councillors Bromiley copy Cllr. Stokes, for further enquiries to be made.

31. Warmley Forest Park – condition of pond

a. Members were advised the condition of the pond had been reported to South Glos Council and, more recently, photographs of further deterioration and fallen trees. South Glos Council sent assurances that the weed is not dangerous and that they did want to clear it but were awaiting the repair of the sluice gates by the Environment Agency then the weeds would be cleared and the trees attended to.

ACTION: Clerk to follow up in 2 weeks.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephens to approach local Environment Agency office to make enquiries.

32. Warmley Community Centre

a. Members were advised the Community Centre was progressing with the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status and it was understood were seeking legal advice. Siston Parish Council, as custodial Trustees, would also need to secure legal representation.

ACTION: As no update had been received recently on progress, Clerk to make enquires with Community Centre about current position and report back to members at July meeting.

33. Finance

a. Members were provided with the 2019/20 account summary and, once checked, the HSBC statements were duly signed by the Chair.

b. Members received an update on the position with regard to electricity supply for the floodlight and, as the EON quote had not progressed, that further enquiries to secure a competitive price would be necessary.

ACTION: Clerk to seek further quotes.

34. Skate Park

a. Members reviewed the completed works and all were extremely impressed.

ACTION: Clerk to write to Skate Park project group inc. Oldland Parish Council to express sincere thanks for their hard work and to say how satisfied they should feel given the final result.

35. Bench – Form of Indemnity

a. Members requested this be held over for review at the July meeting.

ACTION: Clerk to re-send FoI to all.

36. Planning

a. Planning Applications – see attached.

b. Planning Decisions – see attached.

37. Correspondence

a. Resident – regarding further concerns about the budget and enquiries regarding position with councillor vacancies and Clerk's response.

NOTED.

b. PA system – loan - to confirm, it was agreed the PA system be loaned to St Barnabas Church prior to meeting due to short notice of event.

NOTED, agreed.

c. SGC – consultation – addition of Highways maintenance to SGC CiL Regulation list.

RESOLVED: Clerk to register members' strong objection to what is proposed.

d. Warmley Wheelers – briefing on scheme and plans to expand facilities – provided for information purposes.

e. Ex Chair, Siston Parish Council – to express sincerest thanks to members who had arranged a gift in recognition and appreciation of the years of voluntary service given to the parish council.

f. SGC – consultation – Station Yard car parking restrictions.

RESOLVED: Clerk to register members support for what is proposed.

g. SGC – Internal Audit – members received information on further correspondence by the Clerk with the Head of Internal Audit and ALCA/NALC.

RESOLVED: Clerk provided with permission to continue to investigate.

h. Oldland Parish Council – indicative share of charge to repair tarmac at Skate Park.

RESOLVED: payment of £474.00 to be approved upon receipt of invoice.

i. SGC – consultation – Waiting Restrictions/resident parking permits.

RESOLVED: Clerk to register members support for what is proposed.

j. Oldland Parish Council – predicted insurance cost at renewal for new Skate Park due October 2019 and confirmation that the charge will be shared by the Joint Parishes Forum 2019/20 but Siston Parish Council to take over full payment 2020/21 as previously agreed.

NOTED, agreed.

k. Resident – concerns regarding the possible sale of Shortwood Lodge Golf Club as it is Green Belt and question in relation to the Club being listed as an asset of community value.

RESOLVED: Clerk to reply to say the Club is a business and as such will not be listed as a community asset and to confirm the golf course is regarded as Green Belt.

Until the council, as statutory consultees, receive notification of a planning application members are unable to provide comment on what might/could be proposed.

l. SGC – consultation – StreetCare service.

NOTED, members to respond on a personal basis.

j. Town & Parish Council Forum – date of next meeting.

RESOLVED: Cllr. Gibbs to attend to represent Siston Parish Council.

38. Accounts for Payment

a. Cllrs Bryant, Gibbs and Stephens were instructed, by Council, to authorise the on-line/cheque payments for the following items as set out on monthly reconciliation/cheque approval form:

1. NEST pension provider – auto enrolment – Direct Debit - £115.13
2. SGC – Highway/Street Scene services - £74.09
3. E. Kenny – salary, expenses - £1327.98
4. St Anne’s Fete – donation - £100.00
5. Warmley Flower Show – donation - £35.00
6. HMRC – tax and NI - £899.36

39. Any Other Business – for information purposes only

a. Cllr. Jermy – request for grant application form to forward to pre-school who wish to request financial support for the purchase of an awning.

b. Cllr. Bryant suggested, following recent judging of allotments, that, because only 5 large plots remain, perhaps more appropriate to judge in future for best and most improved plots. It was also noted that 4 plots had not been worked and would need a letter to improve within a month or tenancy would be terminated.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 18th July, 2019 - 7.00 pm

Meeting closed at 21.35

Confirmed and signed Chairman.....

Date.....