

**Minutes of the proceedings of the Siston Parish Council meeting held remotely via Zoom on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 commencing at 7.30pm**

**Present** – Parish Councillors Andrew Stacey (Chair), Alan Bryant, Jon Gadsden James Hackett, Nathan Reed and Gloria Smith

**50. Apologies for Absence**

None received.

Members Phillipa Gibbs and Johnathan Maytham did not attend and did not send apologies.

**51. Declarations of Interests under the Code of Conduct adopted 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2012**

Councillor Bryant item 61 – correspondence from Kingswood Heritage Museum.  
Councillor Hackett item 61 – correspondence from Friends of Siston Common Group.

**52. Minutes of the Meeting of Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2020**

**Resolved:** the minutes were passed and will be signed as a correct record when Covid 19 lockdown restrictions have been lifted and meetings in person can be arranged.

**53. Public Participation**

Kim Scudamore attended in his capacity as one of the District Councillors for the Parish,

**54. New Member**

The Chair welcomed new member Nathan Reed.

**55. Finance**

a. Precept discussed and agreed that it should be kept as per 2020 – Total £40,000 from precept and £2,835 from Council funds.

Councillor Bryant proposed, Councillor GSM Seconded – Motion agreed.

b. The Budget was approved as per all documents sent and discussed by the Finance committee.

c. Members received all the accounts schedules and all were approved. Members saw the bank statement for the month and confirmed all was in order and balanced. The clerk went through the Summary to clarify everything to all members.

d. The Clerk informed all Members that all rents have been collected for this year and only a few Tenancy agreements remain outstanding. A chaser letter has been sent to everyone that has not returned their signed agreements yet.

e. The Clerk informed the Members that she has been in touch with the company that was going to do the Humber sign but as yet she has not had a date back from them to potentially start the work. The Clerk was asked to chase this again.

f. Members discussed using CIL funds to purchase a new Dog bin for Overscourt Wood. It was agreed that the Clerk would get some more information about how long it takes to purchase and place a bin and how long in advance South Glos need to know so that can add to their collection schedule. Clerk to seek permission from the land owner – The Forestry Commission.

g. The Chair informed everyone that Councillor Smith would be taking over as the Chair for the Finance Committee from now on.

h. The Chair asked Councillor Reed if he was happy to join the Finance Committee – he agreed to this. Councillor Bryant will step down from this committee.

**56. Social Media**

a. Councillor Reed gave an excellent presentation on where he feels the Council should have a presence on Social Media. He has put in place holders for @SistonParish Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Tik Tok. There was lots of discussion about what material that could be posted and it was agreed that the Clerk and Councillor Reed would discuss this further and report back at the next meeting. The Admin of the sites needs to be agreed. Councillor Scudamore advised caution as he has seen other authorities face problems when Social Media has not been managed correctly.

**57. Asset Register**

a. The inspection rota was circulated in advance – members familiar with the Parish selected assets that they were happy to inspect. The list is to be recirculated by the clerk to be completed by the end of the month.

**58. Localism Contract Review**

a. A discussion was had about the contract for 2021/22. No price increase was noted but members want to understand the implications and possibilities surrounding adding more bins. The clerk will get more information and circulate it to members ahead of the next Finance committee meeting.

**59. Planning**

a. Planning Applications – see attached.

It was agreed that Councillor Gadsen would put together the wording for the Council to submit in relation to the planning appeal received in respect of Bridge House Farm.

b. Planning Decisions – see attached.

**Meeting closed at 20.40**

**60. Correspondence**

- a. Resident email regarding issues in Siston Lane and Overscourt Wood. Members discussed options – the Clerk is to follow this up and liaise with the South Glos and the Police etc to improve the situation.
- b. Resident email about conditions on some of the commons where walkers are accessing through small gated areas and how the mud etc have made areas impassable. Members agreed that the Clerk should email South Glos on their behalf and chase up the option to have the areas mulched as a layer of protection.
- c. CEF – Councillors Hackett and Stacey attended. Police spoke of improved patrols in areas of concern.
- d. Grant application form requests have been received from Kingswood Heritage Museum and Friends of Siston Common.

**61. Accounts for payment**

- a. Members received the monthly payment approval spreadsheet and authorised the on-line payment of the following items:
    - 1. A. Adams Salary - £702.37
    - 2. HMRC Monthly payment - £212.96
    - 3. Audit fee - £612.00
    - 4. A Adams Exps - £14.73
    - 5. C.R Belcher – Goose Green path improvements - £2856.00
    - 6. St Anne’s Church notice board contribution - £237.23
- Resolved** - Members approved all payments.

**63. Any Other Business** – for information purposes only

- a. Councillor Gadsen wanted it noted that the lighting of the Railway Path that was discussed at last month’s meeting was not accepted by all Members and he objects to further lighting in the rural areas.
- b. Councillor Smith informed the Members that Warmley Community Centre has served notice on the Social Club based there due to none payment of accounts.
- c. Members were advised that the Walking group has changed it’s name to the East Bristol Fringe Cycle and Walking Group. They would like to seek support from SPC. This will be added to the agenda for the next full council meeting.
- d. Councillor Scudamore started an update to members on matters he as District Councillor has been dealing with – this will be followed up with an email.

**Date of next meeting: 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021 via Zoom (subject to change if covid restrictions ease).**

**Confirmed and signed Chairman.....**

**Date.....**