

SISTON

PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Siston Parish Council Meeting held at Warmley Community Centre, on Thursday 16th February 2023 commencing at 7.30pm

Present – Parish Councillors Andrew Stacey (Chair), Alan Bryant, Mandy Dixon, James Hackett, Ros Mahoney, Lisa Mannion and Aled Rees.

178. Apologies for Absence Parish Councillors Jon Gadsden and Nathan Reed.

179. Declarations of Interests under the Code of Conduct adopted May 2022

Councillor James Hackett – Chair of Friends of Siston Common

180. Minutes Approved

Full Council Meeting – 20th January 2023

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

181. Public Participation

4 Members of the public were present.

1 member of the public expressed his intention to gain listed status for the Midland Spinner public house, 4 London Road, Warmley, BS30 5JB. He requested support from the Parish Council, in particular Councillor Bryant, to provide historical information that will be required to support his application.

1 member of the public advised his rationale for his objection to planning application P22/04252/HH and requested support for a site visit and a member of the Parish Council to speak on his behalf at the forthcoming Committee Meeting, where the application (revised) will be considered.

182. Ward Councillor Update

None present.

183. Bench for Bridgegate Common

Councillors declined the request for a bench on Bridgegate Common.

Resolved: All Agreed

184. Station Master public house pole and sign

The Clerk confirmed that there had been an initial positive response from the owner of the site for the pole to be restored.

Councillor Rees agreed to take the next step to engage with the owner to agree how to begin the work required on the pole.

Resolved: All Agreed

185. Kings Coronation Planning

Councillors agreed they would like the Clerk to investigate the costs and provision of wild flower seeds to all properties in the parish, with the package containing the approved King's Coronation logo.

Councillors agreed they may wish to consider using the available funding of £750 set aside for the Local Nature Action Plan towards the provision of wild flower seeds, if this idea proceeds.

Councillors agreed they would like the Clerk to find out if Warmley Community Centre would be holding a community event during the King's Coronation, to allow a possible contribution to the event.

Councillors agreed they would like to find out if the Bitton Parish Council are providing commemorative coins to the children of St Barnabas School, as although outside the parish, many of the children of Siston Parish Council, attend St Barnabas School.

Councillors decided not to proceed with the provision of coins to Warmley Park School, as most children travel from outside the parish to attend.

Resolved: All Agreed

186. Siston Village Signs

Councillors agreed the intention that two signs marking Siston Village agreed in October 2021 was still to proceed. Councillors agreed to provide information to the Clerk, to allow her to follow up with South Gloucestershire Council about their installation, as the Clerk record was incomplete.

Resolved: All Agreed

187. Elections 4th May 2023

The Clerk reminded everyone of the important dates of the forthcoming elections and the reminded everyone that there were information sessions planned by South Glos. Council.

Councillors agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting would take place in April 2023 and Finance and HR committee meetings would be held before the May elections.

Resolved: All Agreed

188. Two dog bins requested by St Barnabas Church

The Clerk advised the Council could donate the bins, but could not provide the money via a grant for this request.

The Clerk advised that the bins would be on private property and this needs to be a consideration.

The Clerk advised that if bins were to be provided, then emptied by the Church, this would need to be done through a written contract signed by both parties. Councillors agreed once the bins were provided, damage through vandalism or accident, would be at the Church expense.

Councillor Rees agreed to look into lower cost alternatives to those that South Glos. Council would provide and report back to the Council.

Resolved – All Agreed

189. Finance

a) Members received statement of accounts (receipts and payments inc. v budget) to the 29th January 2023.

b) Members received and approved the bank statements to 29th January 2023.

c) Members received the Bank Reconciliation to 29th January 2023.

Resolved - All agreed.

190. Accounts for Payment

The on-line payment of the following items for January 2023 were approved:

1. S Thomas – Salary - £795.50
2. HMRC - £231.64
3. S Thomas – Expenses - £224.47 (which includes the cost of the printing of the Newsletters)
4. South Glos Council – Localism Contract - £392.33
5. Warmley Community Centre Room Hire (Inc. Warm Space) - £158.40
6. At your Service Leaflet Distribution - £195.00

Resolved – All Agreed

191. Clerks Update and Correspondence

Update

- All the allotment payments have now been received and just one tenancy agreement outstanding as at 17th Jan 2023. Cllr Rees advised he will speak to the tenant. A reminder letter has also been issued.
- In 2022 we nominated Ian Adams for a Community Award for his work on the Jubilee Events on behalf of Siston Parish Council. He did not receive the award unfortunately. It was noted that Warmley Wheelers did win from a nomination from another organisation and attended the dinner. Congratulations to them.
- No response yet received from the Commons and Biodiversity Manager at South Glos. Council regarding the funding of the commons management.
- South Glos. Council have advised that due to being let down by a contractor to create a pathway on the new Wild Flower Meadow, there will be a delay before they require the three benches that the Parish Council agreed to purchase.
- Simon Penfold who is a Tree Officer for South Glos Council has reviewed the trees at the Memorial Garden following reports that the bark is being eroded by dogs gnawing it. He has

arranged for wire mesh to be fitted to the trees, to prevent further damage. The dog warden has also been made aware of the situation. Ward Councillor Steve Reade made an initial report with photos.

Correspondence

- 16th Jan 2023 - Call received from a resident asking for a commemorative bench for either Felicity Park or Siston Common. I am waiting a call back from the resident – messages left on the 16th and 17th Jan.
- An email was received from a resident on 23rd Jan 2023. He has advised of some large pieces of metal that have fallen near Siston Brook/Hotwater Lane onto the vegetation. It appears to be from a business on the other side of the fence. He had reported it already via email to Streetcare. Councillor Rees advised the metal has now been removed.
- An email has been received 23rd Jan 2023 to advise of commercial vehicles parking in Siston Hill, when they do not live there and then swopping the spaces for their personal cars during the day time. He advises that the estate of Siston was built for residents to leave their cars at home and take public transport, so had lots of parking spaces, but the public transport system has failed to meet those needs. The parking had to be modified with double yellow lines, which helped, but commercial vehicles parking is a new problem. The resident would like to see a new policy on parking. He has made contact with South Glos Council Legal Parking Team, Trading Standards and the Police.
- A note of thanks was sent and circulated to Councillors after the agreement to fund a new accessible external door and two accessible internal doors at the Warmley Community Centre. Tony Bell, the Chairman of the Community Centre has advised that the contractor will soon be arriving on site to complete measurements for the new door.
- An email has been received from PC Millward of Avon and Somerset Police to advise that there remains an ongoing problem with cars parking illegally on Siston Commons and the occupants are taking drugs and driving from where they are parked. The police will be establishing a Patrol, Visibility and Engagement Plan, also known as a PVEP, so that they can target the patrols at the right time. Depending on the result of the PVEP, a Problem-Solving Plan may then be established. The police will be engaging the Parish Council to formulate the PVEP.
- An email was received from the Commons and Bio-Diversity Manager of South Glos. Council to advise he gave permission to a developer to place stone on the Common land adjacent to 61 Siston Common, to help with delivery. This is temporary.
- A letter was received from NSI advising the mandate has now been correctly updated, with the Finance Committee members now added alongside Cllrs Stacey, Bryant and Hackett and the Clerk.
- An email was received from the resident. They were reporting a bin located on Bridgegate Common which is over full and needs emptying regularly and the remains of a bench. The Clerk advised South Glos Council, as this bin and bench is not owned by Siston Parish Council. The resident has made an enquiry about a new bench as noted on minute reference 183.
- The Feb 2023 Newsletter went into circulation on the w/c 30th Jan 2023. One resident has volunteered to be part of the Neighbourhood Planning committee so far. One email was received enquiring about land ownership of areas of land earmarked for potential housing, who were re-directed to the South Glos. Website. Three questionnaires have been received so far and 23 online responses. Councillors requested we give people time to respond.
- Email received from Ward Cllr Reade, advising he has reported a blocked drain on Siston Lane to South Glos. Council after a resident advised of the issue.
- An email was received from an allotment holder requesting permission to incinerate their organic matter in the allotments, which was stated as acceptable on the tenancy agreement.
- An email has been received from a resident reporting the broken Webbs Heath sign on the junction of Webbs Heath and Siston Lane. She was not able to find an option on the South Glos. Report it and reported the phone call length was too long. This was reported by the Clerk to SGC. The Clerk requested that Councillors sign post residents to the South Glos. Council reporting channels where possible.

- An email was received from the same resident advising that a hedgerow has been cut back on Siston Lane, near to the toll house and exit onto the Pucklechurch Road. On investigation, this is part of planning permission received in 2021 for new driveway for Manor Farm.
- Confirmation was received that they Section 137 limits for 2023.24 is £9.93, increasing from £8.82 in the previous year.

192. Friends of Siston Commons

Report sent ahead of meeting.

Councillor Hackett noted that cattle will soon to be reintroduced to Siston Common.

Councillor Hackett noted that an audit had recently been completed by Matthew Lipton, Biodiversity and Commons Manager of South Glos. Council, which showed Siston Brook is polluted and this is being investigated.

193. Planning

- a) Planning Applications – no objections.
- b) Planning Decisions – all noted nothing to add.

Resolved – All Agreed

194. Any Other Business

- a) Councillor Bryant highlighted the possible need to replace a tree in the Memorial Garden
- b) Councillor Bryant requested a copy of the newsletter, as he resides out of parish and had not received one.
- c) Councillor Aled Rees confirmed the bus shelter stickers were now all printed and he intended now to put them into place, post refurbishment.
- d) Councillor Stacey advised those attending that he had received a letter from the Environment Agency advising they no longer intend to repair the sluice gate at Warmley Forest Park and action will need to be taken to challenge this.
- e) A resident attending asked about a plaque in St Anne’s Church in memory of his late Father and was advised to speak to the Parochial Council of St Annes Church.

Date of next meeting: 16th March 2023 at Warmley Community Centre

Meeting closed at – 20.44

Confirmed and signed

Chairman..... Date

Sara Thomas

Clerk for Siston Parish Council

Email:- sistonpc@gmail.com Tel:- 07946 858048