



## Southam Parish Council



MINUTES (subject to agreement at the next Council meeting) of an Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council held on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.30pm in Southam Village Hall.

Councillors Present: Steve Lennon, Rebecca Prince, Nigel Adock, Cheryl Agg

Also Present: Clerk/RFO 9 members of the public

91. To appoint a Chairman

Cllr. Lennon proposed, Cllr Agg seconded Joint Chairmanship between Cllr Prince and Cllr Lennon. All in favour

92. To appoint a Vice Chairman

No appointment

93. To receive declarations of interest/requests for dispensation

No declarations or requests

94. To receive and agree the minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting of the 26<sup>th</sup> April

The minutes were agreed as a true record

95. To receive a report on interim matters from the Clerk

1. New bin installed by the war memorial
2. Mr Lloyd has started work for the PC and has cleared the vegetation around Old Road/Gravel Walk and the Verge on New Road, cleaned the bench by the bus stop. He is quoting for repairs and re-staining 3 benches which are in need of attention as this was too big a job within the hours provided.
3. Grasscutting on main road and Southam Lane checked
4. Survey of the village hall carried out and Council documents now lodged with David Billingham in Bishops Cleeve. Village Hall Committee asked to insure for £600,000.
5. Laptop repaired with new motherboard and hard drive. Software licence renewed.
6. Website updated – minimising emails to residents as this is too time consuming
7. Mr Lloyd cleared the planter at the top of Southam Lane but it needs planting with perennials. Approach made to Gardening Club
8. Have requested new Horse Sign for New Road (the post is still there) and a Deer sign for Cleeve Hill
9. Reported the stressed tree on the New Road layby verge

96. To receive & request reports from Borough/County Councillors on matters relevant to Southam

Cllr Agg reported that at the last Borough meeting webcasting was agreed and will make matters more transparent. Planning Policy needs a lot of work. 5.6 years of supply not available, it may be more like 2.6. Other parishes have suggested judicial review of planning decisions. Kayte Lane Comms channel open between TBC and residents and matter under

legal process. Cllr Agg was grateful to parishioners who had turned out for the walkabout the village. Advice surgeries will be held in Bishops Cleeve library.

97. Public Participation (Members of the Public are invited to speak to any item on the agenda. If the matter is on another topic they should write to [clerk@southamtoday.org.uk](mailto:clerk@southamtoday.org.uk))

Q Cllr Lennon asked if independent legal representation could be obtained rather than using One.Legal?

A The Borough Council has its own experts within One.Legal who are well versed with the situation

Q Green Orchard should have been vacated and cleared in December 2022 – why hasn't this happened?

A Will find out.

Q Public footpath has become inaccessible due to intimidation – is this fair?

A Intimidation should be reported via 101.

Q How long will legal process take?

A Uncertain, depends on many factors.

98. To agree financial reports

The clerk circulated the budget report to end of June, expenditure £5350.57, income £13402.61. **The report was checked and agreed against the bank statement reconciled at £10170.31.**

**Anticipated payments in July were agreed as follows:**

PAYE	81.4
Administration Costs	326.02
Village Maintenance (3 visits)	300
Office Expenses	43.6
	<u>751.02</u>

99. Planning Applications to be considered:

23/00523/FUL Provision of new low energy infill dwelling. Adderstone House Spring Lane Cleeve Hill Cheltenham Gloucestershire GL52 3PY – **Objection and request for further information**

23/00561/FUL Change of use from a car park to a car sales. Newlands Park, Southam Lane, Southam – **Objection**

23/00521/FUL Domestic extensions and alterations 1 Queenwood Grove, Prestbury – No Objection

100. Receive a note of Planning Decisions by Tewkesbury Borough Council:

None

101. To agree that Southam Parish Council policies have been updated and are fit for purpose

**Agreed by unanimous vote**

102. To agree that committee appointments/external representation will be postponed until the next meeting

**Agreed by unanimous vote**

103. To receive applications for co-option and agree membership

Cllr Lennon gave an outline of Parish Council matters and welcomed the applicants who were able to attend the meeting. 7 applications were received for the 5 vacancies. The Council agreed to appoint on a first come first served basis. The first applicant withdrew her application at the meeting. **The following residents were offered co-option by unanimous vote:**

Pam Sissons (present to sign declaration of acceptance of office)

Robert Torrington

Joyce Calam

Joseph Welsh (present to sign declaration of acceptance of office)

Marilyn Harries

104. To fix the date of future meetings

The meetings will resume on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month commencing 8<sup>th</sup> August 2023