



Southam Parish Council



MINUTES (subject to agreement at the next Council meeting)

of an Extraordinary General Meeting held on the 26th April 2023 at 6pm in the village hall to transact the business on this agenda.

Councillors Present: Chairman Cllr. Adrienne Wood, Cllr. Karen Licence, Cllr. Steve Lennon, Cllr. Rebecca Prince, Cllr Carli Burke

Also Present: Clerk/RFO, 3 members of the public

77. To receive apologies

None received

78. To receive declarations of interest/requests for dispensation

There were no declarations or requests

79. To agree the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting and General Meeting held on the 11th April

The Minutes of both meetings were accepted and agreed

80. To receive advice on continued business activity of the Council and to agree that the Clerk/RFO is hereby authorised to settle the Council's debts, maintain contractual obligations i.e. clerk's employment, grasscutting, website, newsletter, paye, payroll, email accounts and receive monies on behalf of the council. The Clerk is also authorised to carry out any of the decisions made by the Council during and prior to this meeting. The Clerk to provide reports to the elected members.

The Council agreed the above authorised delegated responsibility to the Clerk/RFO.

In the interim Cllr Licence offered to represent the parish on the Cleeve Conservators and Cllr Price would represent at village hall committee meetings

81. To receive the Independent Auditors Report

The audit was concluded on the 21st April but the report was not yet available

82. To approve and sign the Annual Governance Statement 2022-23

The Annual Governance Statement was approved and signed by the RFO and Chair

83. To approve and sign the Annual Accounting Statement 2022-23

The Annual Accounting Statement signed by the RFO was approved by unanimous vote and signed by the Chair

84. Agree distribution of the reserve balance

Agreed - Reserves would be maintained as follows:

Reserves	
General	7000

Legal	
Fees	3450
MVAS	3495

85. Agree payment of the GAPTC invoice for audit services

Payment of the audit fee at £180 was authorised

86. To agree to replace the open top litter bin adjacent to the war memorial with a green multi purpose bin (cost approx. £470 with installation)

Agreed by unanimous vote to proceed with replacement of the bin

87. Planning Matter - 23/00372/ADV Freestanding digital advertising and information screen sign (internal LED lighting) for Cheltenham Rugby Club measuring 6m x 3m to replace the existing signage. Cheltenham Rugby Club, Southam Lane and APP/G1630/H/22/3307139

Agreed previous comments still valid

88. Consider Grant requests:

1. "Newlands Park is an inclusive venue for people and children of ages from six years to sixty years, playing ten sports, seven days a week with an annual footfall of 43,000. Cheltenham Rugby Club is managed by a small group of passionate volunteers, who seek to improve our facilities for the use by the local Community. The rugby club owns the freehold of the 19 acre site. The request for funding is to replace our Ground Source Heat Pump, which is in line with our Environmental policy. The cost is £23,985 and we would be seeking a 25% contribution of £6,000. It is hoped that we will secure the other 75% of funding from the Football Foundation, who have just launched an Energy Fund"

Agreed – Grant of £250

2. Winchcombe Arts & Community Hub are trying to raise funding to purchase the Methodist Church to create an Arts Centre open to all and is seeking help from neighbouring parishes. "The church has been declared an asset of community value and we have been granted a 6-month moratorium until 6 June in which to raise the purchase price of £325,000. Repairs, upgrading for environmental sustainability and refit are estimated to total a further £287,500, of which £195,000 will be needed in the first phase of works.

We hope to raise approximately half the money from the Community Ownership Fund; we have passed the first stage of the process and are about to submit a full application to meet the deadline of 14 April. We will need to match the £250k COF grant from other funding sources, for which we need the support of key figures in the community. We are also preparing funding applications to carefully selected Trusts and Foundations, some of whom are likely to be more valuable for the development of the building after it has been purchased".

Considered but meaningful contribution not available, therefore no grant on this occasion

89. Public Adjournment

A resident had kindly reported the broken sign Gravel Walk to be removed, and had also reported a temporary diversion sign left on the verge

90. Date of next meeting

to be advised when Council is quorate. Tewkesbury Borough Council will call a further election and if insufficient candidates they can co-opt a ward councillor to the Council.