



Sodbury Town Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council**  
**14<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 19:30 hrs, Remote meeting held via Zoom**

*Brenda Allen SS*

**Present:** Councillors J Ball (Chair), M Gilpin, P Rumney, P Smith, S Spooner, P Rumney, A Rush, L Rush, A Williams

Members of the Public x 1 (left at 19:44 hrs)

Cate Davidson – Town Clerk  
Jackie Murley – Assistant Clerk

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**A Public Participation**  
See "Correspondence"

**193 Apologies and Chairman's Remark**  
Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Banister, Hays, Gibson and Lewis

**194 Declarations of Interests and Granting of Dispensations**  
None to report

**199 Correspondence**

**Requiring Response/Comments/Action**

- **Local Resident** – Email circulated in relation to speeding traffic along Rounceval Street (ITEM BROUGHT FORWARD)  
A Rounceval Street resident addressed and thanked members for the invitation to speak with regard to the issue of speeding in the area and grave concerns that an accident could occur in the 20mph zone. She had received a disappointing response from the Speed Unit who had recommended she record number plates and who said 80% travelled at 20mph. A mobile speed van had been located at Rounceval Street at 09:00 on a Sunday which was not considered an appropriate time. She added that speeding vehicles were also a problem on Bowling Hill and Yate by-pass and sought assurance that the Town Council were taking some action to remedy the problem. Cllr Ball confirmed the 20mph was not mandatory and the Police were well aware of the situation. It was also noted speeding had worsened during 'lockdown' and a 'smiley face' speed detector had now been deployed in High Street. In addition, there was a speeding problem in Waitrose car park at night which was being monitored by the Police and Cllr Ball would continue to liaise with them. Cllr Allen continued there was a speeding problem on St John's Way, particularly with Hanson lorries and that she would contact the Hanson manager to report this. At the new development site on St John's Way, Cllr Rush added speed limits were being recorded as SGC was considering whether speed humps were required and hoped further information would become available in the next few weeks.

The resident thanked members and left the meeting at 19:44

*SS*  
8/9/2020

**195 Reports from South Gloucestershire Councillors on matters relating to the Parish and not included on the Agenda**

Cllr Rush reported as follows:

- With regard to renovation of the old Natwest Bank at Broad Street, SGC Enforcement had attended site and halted works. A planning application had now been submitted to SGC for nos. 75 and 77 Broad Street and further updates were awaited.
- SGC had launched a new "Call to Sites" Consultation which would run until 20/10/2020 in preparation for the Local Plan.
- A review of the whole planning system was underway by SGC. There was a limit of 5 minutes for members of the public if they wished to speak and Town and Parish Councils would now be allocated 5 minutes to address the Committee
- Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPD) Consultations were open with regard to (1) Householder Extensions and (2) Barn Conversions
- SGC reported to be way over budget, although hoped to get some funding from Central Government

**196 Reports from representatives from other bodies on matters relating to the Parish and not included on the Agenda**

Cllr Gilpin reported with regard to the Tourist Information Centre (TIC). As space was very limited in the building and many of the volunteers categorised as vulnerable, it was uncertain whether the Centre would open for Summer 2020. And, it was confirmed the TIC would not be taking on the Christmas Card contract for 2020.

Cllr Gilpin reported that South Glos Youth Housing (SGYH) no longer had a base in Yate since Andrew Millman Court in Station Road, Yate ~~had not~~ <sup>has</sup> been made over to new company. SGYH continued to have a base in Kingswood.

Cllr Allen reported that at a recent Hansons Quarry Liaison Meeting, there had been reports of people climbing on the quarry walls at the Barnhill housing site and the matter was being dealt with.

**197 Approval of Minutes of Full Council Meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

**RESOLVED** the Minutes of 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020 be approved as a true and accurate copy and signed by the Chairman (at his next visit to the office) subject to the amendment to strike out "L Boon" and replace with "B Allen".

**198 Finance – Payment of Accounts**

**RESOLVED** that the schedule of payments was approved.

The Clerk added that a quote had been sought and received of £460 for cutting back of the hedge in the garden with works to take place later in the year and Members **RESOLVED** the works to go ahead.

**199 Correspondence**

- **Local Resident** – Email circulated

The Clerk was in receipt of a handwritten letter from a local resident who raised issues, eg:-

- *Drinking outside of pubs (60/70 reported people outside of The Horseshoe)*
- *Implementation of a "public space protection order"*
- *Pavements blocked by drinkers*
- *Lack of policing*
- *Disrespect for COVID-19 Rules and Regulations*

A discussion took place and it was noted that new guidance was in place to stop drinking outside of pubs but it was important to know precisely what the rules were. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would (1) contact SGC Licensing and (2) look into the matter of a public space protection order and report back in September (3) respond to resident accordingly.

- **SGC Community Engagement Forum (CEF)** – nominations for Vice Chair  
The Clerk confirmed she was in receipt of a letter from CEF who were looking for Vice Chair nominations. No Members volunteered at this time.

**For Information Only**

- **SGC** – Advising of closure of Cotswold & Church Lanes in Old Sodbury for a period of 2 days at some point in the 18 month period from 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020 (as emailed to Cllrs and advertised on social media)

- 200 Internal Audit Report (circulated)**  
**RESOLVED** report noted and approved. No issues had been raised by the Auditor.
- 201 Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2019/20 – Annual Governance Statement**  
The Statement had been circulated to all members with the agenda for this meeting. The Clerk read through the Statement and responses were recorded. **RESOLVED** that the Annual Governance Statement 2019/20 was approved to be signed by the Chairman, at his next visit to the office, and Clerk for submission to the external auditor.
- 202 Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2019/20 – Accounting Statements**  
The Statement had been circulated to all members with the agenda for this meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that the Accounting Statements 2019/20 are approved and signed by the Chairman, at his next visit to the office, and Clerk for submission to the external auditor.
- 203 Annual Town Council Meeting**
- Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** not to hold an Annual meeting (in light of the COVID-19 amendments to the regulations) and that the Chair and Vice Chair would continue in their roles until May 2021.
- 204 South Gloucestershire Local Plan**  
Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that Members would complete the Consultation on an individual basis.
- 205 Neighbourhood Policing – Electric Bikes**  
Members discussed the request from the Police of funding 2 x electric bikes and accessories for the Beat Team. Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk refer back to the Police with a request to provide further information on their usage as Members considered it was important to be able to justify the cost to tax-payers. The Clerk confirmed that once a response had been received, the matter would be put on the Agenda later in the year.
- 206 Town Council Appointments**  
**RESOLVED** Members appointed as follows:-  
F&GP Committee – Cllr Spooner  
Markets Committee – Cllrs Rush and Smith  
Sodbury Commons Field Allotment – Cllr Gilpin  
Tourist Information Centre – carry forward to September's FC meeting  
Chipping Sodbury Chamber of Commerce – Cllr Lewis (in his absence)  
Personnel committee – Cllr Rush

The Clerk reported there was also a vacancy on Chipping Sodbury Town Trust and apologised for not including on the Agenda. The matter would be referred to September's Agenda and the Clerk would liaise with the Clerk of the Trust. Cllrs Allen and Gilpin expressed an interest.

  
S. Spooner  
8/9/2020

**207 Staff Matters**

*In terms of schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 it is likely that discussion around this item will disclose exempt information in relation to Council contracts and personal information and it is, therefore, **RESOLVED** that pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies Act 1960 the public and press be excluded and this matter be considered at the end of this meeting.*

See Confidential Minutes

**208 Items of Report**

**Cllr Spooner** reported (1) that Network Rail had commenced further work which could delay purchase of land in relation to Old Sodbury Woodland project (2) the Sodburyinfo.com website was "live" (3) with regard to The Snuggery and its future use, potentially storage or as a community group meeting place and consider utilising CIL monies. Cllr Spooner was asked to take proposals to the next meeting.

**Cllr Rumney** confirmed attendance at Dyson's new art gallery scheme which would require entrance and exit at Coombs End and that residents were unhappy at the potential increase in traffic. A planning application had yet to be submitted.

**The Clerk** reported with regard to The Spar and that their move to alternative premises would now take place in 2021. Concern was made of the Post Office as it had been rumoured it would be located in Spar's new premises but, due to delay of re-location, Chipping Sodbury continued to be without a PO. The Clerk was investigating the mobile library van and an update awaited from the PO. In addition, Cllr Gilpin would look out details on the van's timetable and pass to Clerk.

Post office  
87

**209 Next Full Council Meeting : 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 19:30 via Zoom**

Closed at 20:50 hrs

Signed ..... (Chairman)

Dated .....