



Sodbury Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council 8th September 2020 at 19:30 hrs, Remote meeting held via Zoom

Present: Councillors B Allen, J Ball (Chair), S Gibson (joined 19:25), C Hays (Vice Chair), M Gilpin (joined 19:25), M Lewis, P Rumney, P Smith, S Spooner, A Rush, L Rush

Cate Davidson – Town Clerk
Jackie Murley – Assistant Clerk

David Glasson, David Glasson Planning Ltd
Nick Worboys, Dyson Estate
Magnus Boyd, Dyson Estate

Co-option members x 3
W & K N Rowlands representative x 1
Royal British Legion x 1 (left at 21:10)
Members of the public x 11

A Public Participation

Personnel representing the Dyson Estate addressed Members with regard to the planning application to demolish buildings, refurb an existing cottage and erect an art gallery which was at Consultation stage. The application had created much local interest and many neighbour objections had arisen at the prospect of an increase in construction traffic in an already over-used lane in Coombs End by Dyson Estate vehicles which had led the matter to be referred to Full Council. A Dyson representative reported a *revision* to the application which would avoid an increase in traffic in Coombs End during and after construction, ie on workdays, to divert 38 Dodington Estate vehicles away from Coombs End via internal roads. Following the reported revision, much discontent was voiced by neighbours specifically: - the continued problem of excessive construction vehicles in Coombs End and why Estate grounds could not be used; lack of due care to Coombs End residents and lack of consultation.

The Dyson Estate response was that there was no road within the Estate which could be utilised, and it would be impossible to get conservation permission on Grade II Listed parkland to build such a road. In addition, they were '*absolutely listening to the community*' and the number and size of vehicles would be limited during construction.

Cllr A Rush confirmed he would liaise with SGC Highways as the application lacked a suitable Transport Plan.

A neighbour of 26 High Street addressed Members with regard to the use of The Snuggery going forward and concern over increased use by community groups and the privacy of their garden and was available to answer any questions. The Clerk confirmed receipt of their e-mail which had been circulated to Members and the matter was on the Agenda for full discussion.

210 Apologies and Chairman's Remark

Apologised received and accepted from Cllrs Banister and Williams

Handwritten signature and date:
SISA
15/09/2020

The Chairman highlighted that a heavy Agenda followed with many contentious matters and reminded Members to make decisions based on the good of the town and for residents alike.

211 Declarations of Interests and Granting of Dispensations

Cllr Ball – Agenda item 219 – Trinity Lane

Cllr Hays – Agenda item 219 – Trinity Lane (in a professional capacity)

Cllr Spooner – Agenda item 215 – Finance (Athletics Coaching invoice)

Cllr A Rush – South Gloucestershire Council Planning

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

Cllr A Rush reported August as a very quiet month. (1) The new £50m motorway junction in Avonmouth was completed but not yet open as it was not yet connected to the local road network. Talks continued with the developer. (2) by mid-October a Local Plan should be available for approval.

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

Cllr A Rush reported the Youth Club was currently closed but would re-open in October for 2 nights per week.

214 Approval of Minutes of Full Council Meeting of 14th July 2020

RESOLVED the Minutes of 14th July 2020 be approved as a true and accurate copy and signed by the Chairman, subject to the following amendment (1) add Cllr Allen as present at the meeting (2) individualise Cllrs Rush with their first name initial (3) at Agenda item 196 “Andrew Millman Court in Station Road, Yate *had* been made over to new company.

215 Finance – Payment of Accounts

RESOLVED that the schedule of payments and Bank Reconciliation were approved.
Cllr Spooner abstained from voting.

216 Correspondence

None to report

220 Planning Application – P20/14647/F & P20/14652/LB: Dodington Park Estate

ITEM BROUGHT FORWARD

The revision to the application as proposed by representatives of the Dyson Estate at “Public Participation”, ie to divert 38 Dodington Estate vehicles away from Coombs End via internal roads was taken into account during discussion and the following points made:-

- *Cutting out 38 vehicles would have no impact*
- *Locals already endured 15 years of construction traffic and now a further 2 year project proposed*
- *The only way to gain support would be to take traffic away from Coombs End*
- *Lives disrupted and people upset because of a construction project*
- *A commitment required from Dyson Estate as to type of traffic and how many vehicles per day*
- *The end product would be good for the community although the fact it will only be open in August restricts the public benefit*
- *Acres of land available within Estate to build a road*
- *Conditions could be added to application with regard to vehicle movement etc.*
- *Formal clarification of the revision required*

In the light of a revision to the Application, Members were unable to make a definitive decision and it was **RESOLVED** to hold an Extraordinary meeting on Tuesday 29th September 2020 by which time a traffic survey would be to hand. One abstention recorded.

217 Co-option of 2 members for the South West Ward of Chipping Sodbury

- Members received copies of the applications from 3 candidates
- Presentations were given by the 3 candidates and Members had the opportunity to ask questions
- Proposals:-
 - Cllr Spooner proposed Tom Davis; seconded by Cllr Allen
 - Cllr Gilpin proposed Aaron O'Shea; seconded by Cllr Gibson
 - Cllr Rumney proposed Becky Romaine; seconded by Cllr Gilpin
- During a short recess, Members sent votes to the Clerk via text.
- **RESOLVED:** Aaron O'Shea and Becky Romaine be appointed to the South West Ward of Chipping Sodbury with the Acceptance of Office to be signed on a date to be arranged by the Clerk.

Mr Tom Davis was thanked for attending and left the meeting.

218 To appoint a Chairman for the next Agenda Item

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Spooner is elected to Chair item 219 only. Cllrs Ball & Hays left the meeting at 20.06.

219 Planning Application – P20/12395/F: Trinity Lane – 95 dwellings

The following points were raised by Members during discussion:-

- *Doesn't appear in Strategic Plan – a speculative development*
- *Concern with regard to increased flooding*
- *The wrong mix of housing*
- *No positive neighbour comments on SGC Planning Portal with most opposed to the application and some neutral*
- *Do not object to the need for more housing*
- *The site is placed so that no further expansion could be undertaken*
- *Transport connections good*
- *Acceptable amount of affordable homes*
- *More homes should have South facing roof to enable solar panels*
- *Trinity Lane very busy already – traffic concern*
- *Within the current application, many old hedges exist which should be retained and a Condition made to that effect. Conversely, at the Florence Garden site, old, established hedges were removed*
- *No traffic survey carried out*
- *Link paths to The Ridings inappropriate*
- *A space between The Ridings and the development should be created*
- *A Town Trust meeting was due to be held on 10/9/20 when the matter would be discussed*

Following discussion, Members **RESOLVED** to OBJECT to the application on the following grounds:-

(1) Loss of visual amenity on local Green Spaces, ie the Common and the Ridings (2) Increased traffic on Trinity Lane, St Johns Way and surrounding area (3) Not in the Core Strategy - a speculative development (4) Flooding concerns (5) Transport Assessment out of date as it states a Post Office and Natwest Bank exist. This needs to be revised.

Cllrs Ball and Hays rejoined the meeting at 20:24

Cllr Ball thanked Cllr Spooner for chairing Agenda item 219

221 Hounds Road – No Through Road

South Gloucestershire Council had put forward a proposal, following receipt of a request from a member of the public, to close off the narrow end of Hounds Road. Members discussed the matter in detail and the following points arose: -

- *It would be detrimental to residents who reside on either side of the dual carriageway*
- *A wider Consultation should be implemented*
- *It is an important through road and to shut off would be bad for business*
- *Consider a wider access to improve pushchair and wheelchair accessibility*
- *The bollard currently in situ was installed for the safety of the public*
- *Consider a pedestrian crossing on Broad Street*

A proposal was put forward to leave Hounds Road as it is which was seconded

An amendment was proposed to ask South Gloucestershire Council to investigate widening of the pavement to improve pushchair and wheelchair access which was **RESOLVED**. Clerk to liaise with SGC.

222 Personnel Matters

Members were informed that following a consultation the Library Coordinator role has been made redundant with effect of 20th September 2020. The Clerk will continue Managing the library with the Assistant Clerks help.

223 Chipping Sodbury Town Trust

RESOLVED Cllr Gilpin be appointed to the Town Trust and Clerk to advise accordingly.

224 Climate Emergency

Cllr Gilpin reported following attendance at a recent conference and that the town council should declare a climate emergency in Chipping Sodbury. Members went on to discuss how the town council could promote improvement, eg electric charging points, tree planting, encourage cycling, appropriate consideration in planning process (solar panels, rainwater harvesting). Following the debate, it was **RESOLVED**, Sodbury Town Council declare a climate emergency and a Sub Committee appointed to develop a Climate Emergency Action Plan (members Cllrs M Gilpin, M Lewis, A O'Shea, L Rush, S Spooner).

225 Town Events

It was noted that COVID-19 rates had increased in the South Gloucestershire area. A discussion took place and with much regret, it was **RESOLVED** not to go ahead with the Mop Fair in September and Remembrance Parade in November.

Mr Porter of W & K N Rowland thanked Members and with regard to March Mop Fair, put forward a thought of a ticketed event. A Markets Meeting was due to take place in January 2021 when the matter could be discussed further.

Discussion was had with regard to marking Remembrance in an alternative low-key style and Members came to a unanimous decision to consider holding a wreath baring event at 13:00 hrs of 30 people or less, a short service and no parade. This was subject to COVID-19 guidelines and the final decision be that of the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk.

226 Public Space Protection Orders

Defer to October 2020 Full Council Agenda.

227 The Snuggery

It was noted The Snuggery was currently in use by (1) Sodbury TC for storage and (2) Sodbury in Bloom for meeting/refreshment purposes. Cllr Spooner put forward a cost of £3000 for internal alteration to create a more usable space for community groups alike. A discussion followed as to whether refurbishment and/or usage by other groups was necessary or appropriate. In addition, the Clerk had circulated an e-mail received from

neighbours who had expressed concern as an increase in groups would affect the privacy of their garden. **RESOLVED:** The Snuggery to remain as storage for Sodbury TC and SIB meetings. Clerk to purchase table and chairs.

228 Neighbourhood Policing – Electric Bikes

Members considered the Police request to provide funding for two electric bikes. A proposal was put forward to agree to the funding of the bikes which was seconded. After further discussion, a counter proposal was put forward not to provide funding for the bikes as the Council cannot financially afford it at this time, which was seconded. A vote by show of hands took place and it was **RESOLVED** not to provide funding and the Clerk would liaise with the Police accordingly.

229 Items of Report

Cllr Gibson raised concern with regard to highway markings on Cotswold Road. Action: refer to October Full Council. In addition, overgrowth at Station Close. Action: SG to take photos and refer to SGC.

Cllr Hays reported the Town Trust meeting on Thursday was being held in The Old Grammar School at 19:30. Cllr Gilpin conveyed apologies.

Cllr Rush reported a meet-up with a TV crew with regard to SGC policy on fast food outlets banned from opening close to schools.

Cllr Gilpin reported the mobile Post Office van was due on Tuesday, outside Town Council office.

The **Clerk** advised Members that the office would be closed 14-18 September due to staff holiday.

230 Next Full Council Meeting: 13th October 2020 at 19:30 via Zoom

Signed (Chairman)

Dated

Closed at 21:30

