



Sodbury Town Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council  
13<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 19:30 hrs, held at  
Chipping Sodbury Town Hall**

**Present:** Councillors B Allen, J Ball (Chair), L Banister, Scott Gibson, Seb Gibson, A Gregson, C Hays, B Romaine, P Rumney, A Rush, A Williams

Cate Davidson – Town Clerk  
Jackie Murley – Assistant Clerk

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**A Public Participation**  
No public present

**583 Apologies and Chairman's Remark**

Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs. Smith, Spooner, Tubby

**584 Declarations of Interests and Granting of Dispensations**  
None

**585 Reports from South Gloucestershire Councillors on matters relating to the Parish and not included on the Agenda**  
**Cllr Rush** reported the Annual Council Budget 2023/24 was out for consultation. Cuts to street wardens was noted and a Full Council meeting was due to take place on 14/12/22, the first for three or four months.

**586 Reports from representatives from other bodies on matters relating to the Parish and not included on the Agenda**  
**Cllr Ball** attended the Chipping Sodbury Christmas Big Lunch which was a huge success.  
**Cllr Allen** reported regarding Community Engagement Forum and Sodbury, Yate & villages may become a joint Forum. Meetings were currently held via 'Teams' and generally poorly attended with mostly Councillors. Cllr Rush considered the Forums were not particularly fit for purpose.

**587 Approval of Minutes of Full Council Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022**  
**RESOLVED** Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022 are approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

**588 Matters Arising**  
The Clerk referenced (1) Agenda item 573 that related to the path of St John's Church. Confirmation had been received that South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) was responsible for the path and no further action required by STC, (2) Agenda item 577 – SGC had accepted the £2000 contribution for the litter bins which were due to be installed in the New Year, (3) Chipping Sodbury library – SGC awaited the Budget outcome, to be announced in March.

**589 Finance – Payment of Accounts**  
**RESOLVED** that the schedule of payments were approved and signed by the Chairman. The Clerk added the battery for the defib came at a cost of £128 each and had been replaced several times recently.

## 590 Correspondence

### Requiring Response/Comments/Action

- SGC – Diversion of footpath LSO/10/20 on St Johns Way for sewer construction works for a period of 3 weeks during the 6 month period from 16 January 2023  
*Noted*
- SGC – Closure of Horseshoe Lane for duct installation (electrical) for a period of 2 weeks during the 18 month period from 23 January 2023  
*Cllr Rush added the road was in a bad state and requested a proper resurface. Clerk to report to SGC.*

### For Information Only

HM Courts & Tribunals Service – Grounds of appeal in relation to the appeal to the ICO's decision and asking whether STC wishes to join the appeal as a party. This has been reviewed by the Chairman and Clerk who have raised questions and a response from HM Courts is awaited.  
*Noted by Members.*

## 591 Parking Proposals – Pitchings

- Further to a meeting of the Parking Working Group held on 29/11/22, proposals were put forward to install floral planters to the East of the Clock Tower to prevent cars from mounting the pavement to access parking spaces. The Clerk had issued a report via e-mail which provided a choice and details of various planters.
- Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to (1) include a Memorial planter for Queen Elizabeth II as the centrepiece and (2) opt for the steel design planter. Clerk to work out distances and order as appropriate to include two for 20 High Street.

## 592 Budget 2023-24

Members were provided with a copy of the Budget and Precept papers in advance of the meeting. At a Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 22/11/22, the Budget and Precept were considered in detail and recommended to Full Council for approval.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Budget be approved.

## 593 Precept 2023/24

Members were provided with a copy of the Budget and Precept papers in advance of the meeting. At a Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 22/11/22, the Budget and Precept were considered in detail and recommended to Full Council for approval. An increase in Precept was noted but due to an increase in the council tax base, the cost per household remained the same as 2022/2023.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Precept of £291,411 be approved and submitted to South Gloucestershire Council.

## 594 Items of Report

**Cllr Rumney** (1) referred to the incoming new bins and what would happen to the old ones as The Town Trust would be interested in taking them on for The Ridings. The Clerk confirmed the Chairman of the Town Trust was already aware of the situation and that SGC would make a charge for the bins, (2) the Clock Tower clock was in the process of being upgraded to a non-winding system

**Cllr Allen** reported that Sodbury Players was looking for a warehouse to store stage sets. Aware that it was not town council business, but if anyone had ideas to let her know.

**Cllr Williams** reported Victorian Day was very successful with lots of people attending. And, comments received on how great the lights on the trees looked this year.

**Cllr Seb Gibson** confirmed he held the spare flagpole key – the Clerk asked for this to remain with him for the timebeing.

**Cllr Banister** confirmed the Tourist Information Centre had closed a week early, mainly due the cold spell and increased heating costs. It would re-open in March.

**595 Next Full Council Meeting: 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023 – Charter Suite, Chipping Sodbury Town Hall**

The meeting closed at 19:56 hrs

Dated .....

Signed .....

DRAFT