

TORMARTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the Meeting of Tormarton Parish Council held on Monday 5th February 2023 at 18:30 at Tormarton Parish Hall.

Councillors: Cllr Simon Stevens (Chairman), Cllr Katy Pool, Cllr Janet Wells, Cllr Rebecca Derry-Evans and Cllr Sue Giles.

In Attendance: J Turner (Locum Parish Clerk) and Cllr B Stokes.

Absent: None.

Members of the Public: None.

05/02/2024– No 1. To receive any questions from the members of public present.

The Parish Council welcomed PCSO Lawrence to the meeting from Avon and Somerset Police.

Lawrence talked through the latest crime statistics for the Boyd Valley area, spoke about the issues of speed awareness and issues with parking in the Parish.

Cllr Rebecca Derry-Evans raised concerns over the burnt-out vehicle in West Littleton Lane and was pleased that it had been removed. PCSO Lawrence confirmed that this was a police matter and was be dealing with.

Lawrence spoke about the issues of shed/tool theft in the local area and the Parish Council will circulate this to residents to make them aware.

Cllr S Stevens raised issues with parking on the A46 and the fact that the parking restriction cones keep being moved. PCSO Lawrence confirmed that this was an offence that could be fined.

PCSO Lawrence provided an update on the car park on the A46 whereby there were people exposing themselves to members of the public. The police are doing proactive controls to reduce the risk of this.

05/02/2024 – No 2. To consider the apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr M Palmer.

05/02/2024 – No 3. Declaration of Interest.

The Chairman stated that any member having a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed should declare it during the meeting as specified in the Code of Conduct required by the Localism Act 2011 Section 27 and should leave the room while the matter was discussed.

05/02/2024 – No 4. To approve the minutes of the Meeting of Tormarton Parish Council held on Monday 4th December 2023 and to note any issues.

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record.

05/02/2024 – No 5. To receive any reports from South Gloucestershire Council Councillors.

Cllr B Stokes provided an update on the tree initiative that started today which was a positive scheme. Cllr B Stokes provided an update on the parking charges being consulted on for South Gloucestershire Council owned car parks. Cllr B Stokes provided an update on the increase by 50% in charges to green bin recycling. It was noted that the WestLink service had been very positive for the Parish. Cllr B Stokes asked Parish Councillors to send him any details of any gateways that haven't been maintained and he will point the landowner in the right direction. Cllr B Stokes advised the Parish Council to ensure that when planning application comments are submitted that it is very clear

TORMARTON PARISH COUNCIL

on who they are on behalf of. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council's account is attributed to the Parish Council however in the name of the Clerk as the person writing the comment.

Cllr J Wells asked if that a resident wanted to raise a question anonymously and whether the Clerk could upload comments on their behalf. It was confirmed that this would come before the Parish Council and would only be uploaded in extremely exceptional circumstances.

05/02/2024 – No 6. To consider any planning applications received:

a) Any planning applications received after the agenda had been issued.

None received.

05/02/2024 – No 7. To receive the bank reconciliation, bank statements, income, expenditure and monthly accounts reports for December 2023 and January 2024.

The Councillors noted the reports for December 2023 and January 2024.

05/02/2024 – No 8. To consider Tormarton Parish Council's response to South Gloucestershire Council's consultation on 'The Local Plan'.

The Parish Council considered the plan in detail especially around the housing demand for the South Gloucestershire area and the consequences of building on any greenbelt. It was noted that the Parish was not subjected to any mass development from this plan.

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to respond to the consultation with a prepared statement drafted via email and the Parish Council will encourage residents to respond

05/02/2024 – No 9. To receive updates from members on ongoing Parish issues:

a) Traffic and road issues within the Parish, including the A46 Car Park.

Cllr K Pool stated that the £5000 grant had been received from Avon and Somerset Police which would need to be spent by November 2024 on making the VAS signs more energy efficient.

The Clerk will chase South Gloucestershire Council for the data from the signs for the last few months. Cllr R Derry-Evans will write to the company who provided the signs to see what they can provide to enhance the signs and making them more energy efficient. The Clerk will provide the detail.

Cllr S Giles spoke about Norley Lane and the closures that have been impacting the residents. Dave Jones from South Gloucestershire Council will come with his team to maintain some more of Norley Lane, when he is able to attend. Cllr S Giles spoke on a sign that appears out of place however Dave Jones confirmed that this could not be moved and the lead engineer has stated that it should stay where it is. Cllr S Giles will see if Rob Wiltshire from South Gloucestershire Council can attend to view from a road safety point of view.

Cllr J Wells and Cllr K Pool stated that there was some signage that still has not been fixed and both identify sharp corners on a bend. The Clerk will send the case reference number to Cllr Ben Stokes to investigate.

TORMARTON PARISH COUNCIL

b) Planning issues within the Parish.

No issues raised.

c) Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish.

A positive response has been given to the plan and both West Littleton and Tormarton residents and the plan was going to move forward. A working group meeting had been held and a request for the Parish to be designated for the Neighbourhood Plan has been made to SGC from the Parish Council. The Parish Council will be a watching brief on the plan and able to advise the working group.

d) Local Nature Action Plan.

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

e) Parish Event for D-Day in June 2024.

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

f) Parish Council Website.

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

g) South Gloucestershire Council Cleaning and Maintenance.

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

h) Any items considered urgent as directed by the Chairman or the Clerk.

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

05/02/2024 – No 10. To receive an update from the following committees:

a) Village Hall Committee.

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

b) Village Pond Committee.

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

c) Playing Field Committee.

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

05/02/2024 – No 11. To note that the date of the next meeting of Tormarton Parish Council will be held on Monday 4th March 2024 at 6:30pm.

It was agreed to hold the meeting on Monday 18th March 2024.

05/02/2024– No 12. To resolve in accordance with the provision of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, Section 5 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to information) (England) regulations, the public and press be excluded during consideration of the following agenda item.

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to exclude the public and press from the below item.

TORMARTON PARISH COUNCIL

05/02/2024 – No 13. To consider any applications received for the role of ‘Town Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer’.

Cllr K Pool and Cllr S Giles interviewed one applicant and it was confirmed that he was a suitable candidate.

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to appoint the candidate to the role of Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer on the NALC standard contract at the rate of £13.73 (SCP 12) for 18 hours per month.

The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 20:33.