

Sourton Parish Council

Minutes of the Sourton Parish Council meeting held at 7pm on Monday 7th November 2023 at Sourton Village Hall.

Council Member Present:

Cllr Eberle (Chair)

Cllr D Firth

Cllr S Firth

Cllr Jefferies

Cllr Jewell

In Attendance:

Mrs A Horn (Clerk) Cllr Southcott WDBC,

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| 92 | Chair's Report | Cllr Eberle noted the resignation of Cllr Stone, and the Clerk would contact the Election team |
| 78 | Apologies for Absence | On the proposition of Cllr Eberle and seconded by Cllr S Firth was RESOLVED to accept Councillor Fords apologies for sickness. |
| 79 | Public Forum | None |
| 80 | Declarations of Interest | Cllr Jewell declared an interest in min ref 83.1 as he was a friend of the applicant. |
| 81 | WDBC, DCC, DNP and Sourton Hall Reports | The Village Hall Committee were waiting for a new water boiler and were working on options to improve the acoustics of the hall |
| 82.1 | Minutes of the previous meeting | It was resolved to approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9 th October proposed by Cllr S Firth and seconded by Cllr Eberle |
| 82.2 | Register of interests | Councillors were asked to check that their register of interest was up to date. |
| 83 | <u>Planning</u> | |
| 83.1 | 3173/23/FUL Land Adjacent to Catsmoor Cross Bridestowe | On the proposition of Cllr Eberle and seconded by Cllr S Firth it was Resolved to not be able to comment as the application appears to have 3 different buildings and the council is unsure which version we were meant to be commenting on |
| 83.2 | 3490/23/FUL West Cleeve Sourton | On the proposition of Cllr Jewell and seconded by Cllr Jefferies it was resolved to object to the application as it was felt that the application was not eligible under TTV26. |
| 84 | <u>Finance</u> | |
| 84.1 | Finance Report | On the proposition of Cllr Jewell, seconded Cllr S Firth, it was RESOLVED to approve the pay agreement in accordance with the |

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pay scales published by NALC for employees (pro-rata) to be backdated to 1st April 2023

- 84.2 Payments** On the proposition of Cllr Jefferies and seconded by Cllr D Firth it was **resolved** to approve the schedule of payment.
- 84.3 Budget** The Council's reserves were reviewed as per the financial risk assessment, these are for elections, tree surveys, asset maintenance as well as the DALC recommended reserve (9 to 12 months of the precept). Grass cutting was the only line that has not been finalised and the advert for tenders will go out shortly.
- 85 Projects**
- 85.1 Firework Night** The night was very successful and well supported by the parish. £207.05 was raised in donations and the council had received great feedback from the parish including that it brought the community together. It was lovely to see lots of children at the event and the council hopes to repeat the event in 2024. The Chair would write and thank the owner of the field for its use.
- 85.2 Christmas Party** It was agreed to hold the event on the 2nd December at 4pm in the Village Hall. There would be food and drink available, and the Christmas lights would be switched on at 6pm. Donations from the Firework event and the last of the warm spaces grant would be used to fund the event.
- 85.3 Martyn's Law** This is not yet law but is likely to be brought in and is about acts of terrorism at events in the wake of the Manchester Arena Tragedy. The Clerk had signed up to training and would report back to the Council on how it impacted their events.
- 85.4 Green Working Group** The Volunteers had cleaned up the village green weeded collecting leaves and generally making it look tidy for winter. They also did a litter pick and tidy of the field where the fireworks event took place. The draft of the Grass Cutting Tender was reviewed, and the Clerk would send it out during the coming week. It was agreed to invite the Vicar of Sourton to the next meeting when hopefully the quotes for grass cutting would be available.
- 86. Councillor reports** Cllr Eberle reported that the PCC asked if the Parish Council would like to organise a games afternoon
- 87. Items Brought Forward** Communication policy
Cllr Southcott WDBC left at 8:15pm

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EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted to consider that the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting for the following items of business.

(**CONFIDENTIAL** by virtue of relating to legal and/or commercial matters, staffing and/or the financial or business affairs of a person or persons other than the Council)

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS CIRCULATED FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- 88. WDBC** An update was noted

Enforcement

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- 89 Field beside village Hall and Green** The council agreed that it would always work to protect assets for the parish.

- 90** On the proposition of Cllr Eberle and seconded by Cllr S Firth it was **RESOLVED** to exit part 2 of the meeting and ratify the decisions made.

- 91 Date of Next Meeting** **Monday 4th December**

The meeting closed at 8.40pm