

# Sourton Parish Council

## Minutes of the Sourton Parish Council meeting held at 7pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at Sourton Village Hall.

### Council Member Present:

Cllr D Firth  
Cllr S Firth  
Cllr D Ford  
Cllr Jefferies  
Cllr Jewell

### In Attendance:

Mrs A Horn (Clerk) Cllrs Mott and Southcott WDBC, 2 members of the public

In the absence of Cllr Eberle Council Chair the meeting was chaired by the Vice Chair Cllr S Firth

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|-------|--|---|
| 144   | <b>Chair's Report</b>                          | No report   |
| 145   | <b>Apologies for Absence</b>                   | On the proposition of Cllr S Firth and seconded by Cllr Jefferies it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept Cllr Eberle apologies for personal reasons.  |
| 146   | <b>Public Forum</b>                            | none  |
| 147   | <b>Declarations of Interest</b>                | Cllr Jewell declared an interest in min ref 153.1 due to being a neighbour of the applicant.  |
| 148   | <b>WDBC, DCC, DNP and Sourton Hall Reports</b> | Sourton hall – the quiz was a success and total raised is awaited.<br>WDBC- No report<br>DCC- No report<br>DNP- No report   |
| 149   | <b>Co Option</b>                               | On the proposition of Cllr Jefferies and seconded by Cllr D Firth, 3 for and 2 abstentions, it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to co-opt Sally Gibson to the council. Cllr Gibson signed the acceptance of office and joined the meeting. |
| 150   | <b>Minutes of the previous meeting</b>         | It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5 <sup>th</sup> February proposed by Cllr Jewell and seconded by Cllr D Firth  |
| 151.  | <b><u>Policy Review</u></b>                    | On the proposition of Cllr S Firth and seconded by Cllr Jefferies it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to adopt the Response policy. The Scheme of delegation was deferred until April.   |
| 152.  | <b><u>Finance</u></b>                          |   |
| 152.1 | <b>Finance Report</b>                          | On the proposition of Cllr S Firth seconded Cllr D Firth it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept the finance report and budget update.   |
| 152.2 | <b>Payments</b>                                | On the proposition of Cllr Jefferies and seconded by Cllr S Firth it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the schedule of payment.  |
| 152.3 | <b>Bank Signatories</b>                        | On the proposition of Cllr Jefferies and seconded by Cllr D Firth it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to add Cllr Ford to Unity Bank.  |

# Sourton Parish Council

- 152.4 Budget** On the proposition of Cllr Jefferies and seconded by Cllr S Firth it was **RESOLVED** to vire the remaining training budget from 2023-34 into the 2024-25 training budget.
- 153 Planning**
- 153.1 0381/24/FUL** Full planning application to permit the retention of garden area  
East Bowerland Farm Okehampton EX20 4LZ  
On the proposition of Cllr D Firth and seconded by Cllr Jefferies was **RESOLVED** to support this application
- 154 Green Issues**
- 154.1 Walking the footpaths** Cllr Jefferies and Cllr Gibson volunteered to walk to footpaths. The Clerk would provide an up-to-date map of the paths. It was agreed that they would not walk the section that crosses the A30.
- 154.2 Village Green track** Cllr Jewell reported he had spoken to the Chairman of Sourton Commoners about the track. The Commoners were concerned about liability if they repaired it. The clerk was asked to send them the minutes where it detailed, they last did repairs as well as the map showing the track is included in the Common.
- 154.3 Big Green Week** The Green working group agreed to meet and discuss arranging an event during the Big Green Week.
- 155 Clerk Update**
- The Council were successful in their application to the National Lottery for a grant for D Day and warm spaces events. They have been granted £1900.
  - The Council have received a grant from the commoners council towards grass cutting.
  - The Council were not successful in their application for free defibrillator for the village hall.
  - The clerk had received an email from the Highways officer about the speed watch signs, 20 is plenty signs and why the speed limit in Sourton could not be lowered.
- 156. Councillor Reports** Cllr Ford reported that Lloyds bank have changed their policy on donating staff hours so she would not be able to do that to help with the repair to the bus stop bungalow.
- 157 Items Brought Forward** Field next to the Village Hall

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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**

- 158. WDBC Enforcement** An update was noted
- 159** On the proposition of Cllr S Firth and seconded by Cllr Jewell it was **RESOLVED** to exit part 2 of the meeting and ratify the decisions made.
- 160 Date of Next Meeting** **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7pm**

The meeting closed at 8.05pm