

# Sourton Parish Council

## Minutes of the Sourton Parish Council meeting held at 7pm on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at Sourton Village Hall.

### Council Member Present:

Cllr Eberle (Chair)

Cllr D Firth

Cllr D Ford

Cllr Jefferies

Cllr Jewell

### In Attendance:

Mrs A Horn (Clerk) Cllrs Mott and Southcott WDBC,

- |             |  |  |
|-------------|--|--|
| <b>92</b>   | <b>Chair's Report</b>                                    | Cllr Eberle noted that the trees at Prewely were in the way of the pipeline and asked the clerk to check that they would be replaced.  |
| <b>93</b>   | <b>Apologies for Absence</b>                             | On the proposition of Cllr Eberle and seconded by Cllr Jefferies it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept Cllr S Firth's apology as he was completing a training course.   |
| <b>94</b>   | <b>Public Forum</b>                                      | None   |
| <b>95</b>   | <b>Declarations of Interest</b>                          | None   |
| <b>96</b>   | <b>WDBC, DCC, DNP and Sourton Hall Reports</b>           | WDBC report circulated by email<br>No report from DCC<br>DNP report circulated by email<br>Village Hall Committee having a meeting tonight.  |
| <b>97</b>   | <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 7 <sup>th</sup> November proposed by Cllr Jewell and seconded by Cllr Ford  |
| <b>98</b>   | <b><u>Planning</u></b>                                   |  |
| <b>98.1</b> | <b>APP/Q1153/D/23/33 20793: Southmoor, EX20 4NF</b>      | The appeal was noted and the council gave feedback via WDBC councillor that all relevant documents such as the Neighbourhood Plan had not been taken into consideration and they were disappointed,<br>Cllr Jewell commented that he felt WDBC didn't always follow their own policies regarding planning application. |
| <b>98.2</b> | <b>APP/Q1153/W/23/3 326151: Collaven Manor, EX20 4HH</b> | The Council agreed that their previous comments should stand. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• that they did not object to the gym</li><li>• but did object to the building as it did not fit in with the Grade II listed buildings around.</li></ul>   |
| <b>98.3</b> | <b>1442/23/FUL Rosemary Cottage</b>                      | On the proposition of Cllr Eberle and seconded by Cllr Ford it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to comment that the cumulative effect at Thorndon Cross   |

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with applications such as this, had stopped it being a small rural hamlet and had effectively doubled in size.

## 99 Finance

### 99.1 **Finance Report**

On the proposition of Cllr Jefferies, seconded Cllr Eberle it was **RESOLVED** to accept the finance report

### 99.2 **Payments**

On the proposition of Cllr Eberle and seconded by Cllr Jewell it was **resolved** to approve the schedule of payment.

### 99.3 **Budget**

On the proposition of Cllr Jefferies and seconded by Cllr D Firth it was resolved that v5 of the budget would be adopted at the January meeting once the tax base was known in case this was not as expected.

## 100 Policies

### 100.1 **Action Plan**

The Council agreed to add

- Fireworks night
- Christmas party and fair
- Childrens event
- Volunteer days
- Increasing parish assets.

### 100.2 **Policy Review**

On the proposition of Cllr Eberle and seconded by Cllr D Firth it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the policies.

### 100.3 **Communication Policy**

It was agreed for councillors to review the policy and let the clerk know of any changes needed before the January meeting.

### 100.4 **Neighbourhood plan**

It was agreed to publish a "Step by step guide" for accessing help to housing to website in both parishes of the neighbourhood plan and Facebook pages relevant to both parishes.  
This would be included in the BASE magazine.  
It was also agreed that when the Neighbourhood Plan was reviewed in 2025 it should include that new houses should be primary resident or affordable.

## 101 Projects

### 101.1 **Christmas Party and lights switch on**

Positive feedback was received from the parish about the event. The Dartmoor Stitchers raised £73 which would help with future hall hire and Boasley Primary School raised £76 towards their new playground. It was agreed to repeat this event next year if possible and expand on it.

### 101.2 **Martyn's Law**

The Clerk reported initial training suggests it will affect council meetings as well as events as it is based on capacity of the venue rather than expected attendance. She would be adding terrorism to risk assessments and review how best to mitigate the problem.

### 101.3 **20 is plenty**

The Ward members have secured 25 signs between their parishes. The Clerk would submit a localities application for £250 to the Ward

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Members and on the proposition of Cllr Jefferies and seconded by Cllr D Firth it was **RESOLVED** to make a donation of £20 towards the signs.

## 101.4 Let's Talk Consultation

The consultation was noted and it would be advertised on the parish website. The council would encourage as many residents to take part as possible.

WDBC left at 8pm

## 102. Clerk Update

Election closing date 4<sup>th</sup> December if no election called will advertise for a new councillor in the base and on the website and noticeboard looking to co-opt in February.

## 103. Councillor Reports

It was noted that the repairs to the Bungalow Bus stop would take place after Christmas due to weather and other commitments. The Green working group would clear the brambles around the base in preparation for this work. The Green Working Group were also looking into grant funding to help fund green projects in the future.

## Items Brought Forward

Parish Assets

### 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

## 104. WDBC

No update had been received

## Enforcement

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## 105 Grass Cutting Tenders

On the proposal of Cllr Eberle and seconded by Cllr Jewell it was **RESOLVED** to appoint Eddie Kingdom at £240 plus VAT per cut on the condition that the necessary insurance risk assessment and references are obtained.

106 On the proposition of Cllr Eberle and seconded by Cllr Jewell it was **RESOLVED** to exit part 2 of the meeting and ratify the decisions made.

## 107 Date of Next Meeting

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7pm**

The meeting closed at 9.12pm