



Southam Parish Council



MINUTES (subject to agreement at the next Council meeting) of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 11th February 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Councillors: Joyce Calam, Pam Sissons, Rob Torrington, Steve Lennon (Jt Chair), Rebecca Prince (Jt Chair)

Also Present: Clerk/RFO, 9 members of the public, County Councillor David Gray

278. To receive apologies

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Harris

279. To receive declarations of interest/requests for dispensation

There were no declarations or requests

280. To receive and agree the minutes of the meetings held on 14th January 2025

The Minutes were agreed as a true record

281. Receive reports from Parish Councillors/Speed Watch Team/Clerk

Traffic Data – Community Speed Watch Team – A report was circulated confirming an increase in traffic volumes in 2024

Staffing Committee – Cllr Prince, Lennon, Torrington reported they were drawing up new staff contract

Village Hall – Cllr Prince reported the Gold Cup Café will go ahead this March and volunteers welcome

Footpath Warden – Cllr Sissons – reported trees down on footpaths being dealt with.

Cotswold Wardens trying to track down landowner between Haymes and Gambles Lane to clear footpaths.

Cleeve Common Trust – Cllr Torrington/Harris – meeting due in March

282. Receive and request reports from the County/Borough Councillors

County Councillor David Gray reported that Gloucestershire was not chosen in the first round of devolved councils, but a decision on the make-up of the devolved authority needed by the end of March. 5 local MPs are keen on splitting the county. The County Council elections will go ahead but members will only sit for 2 years. The problem of utility companies careless use of road closed signs was being addressed. Cllr. Gray still trying to find solution to overnight vehicle stopovers in the laybys. He advised that TBC have given their councillors increases in their allowances. Discussions are taking place regarding CIL balances held by respective Borough Councils in the interim before devolution.

283. Adjournment for public participation on items on the agenda (if about another subject residents should write to the clerk clerk@southamtoday.org.uk)

Cllr Sissons advised that members of the public have challenged the licence arrangements for events at the racecourse. Cheltenham Borough have consulted their residents with a closing date for comments by the 5th March. Southam Parish Council/residents not included in the consultation.

A member of the public advised he and a resident of Prestbury had been invited to take part in a Zoom conference call with the Wychwood Festival organisation. He asked that they review the way in which they monitor sound in Southam. They had indicated they were making changes to the location of the sound system (speakers). It was apparent in the discussion that a plan was always submitted to Cheltenham Borough Council but that this did not include any sound measurements taken from Southam.

A resident reported an unkempt willow fence on the path Ratcliff Lawns to the Church.

284. Planning Consultations

25/00024/FUL Removal/variation of conditions 7,9 and 10, planning permission

22/01100/FUL Land Between Noverton Lane And Mill Lane, Noverton Lane – **No Objection**

25/00066/FUL The erection of a single storey side extension and addition of a single storey porch to a detached two storey property 1 Ratcliff Lawns, Southam – **No Objection**

Update from Planning Inquiry (Kayte Lane) – Cllr Sissons advised that the Appellant had submitted an addendum available to view via the Council's planning website from Friday 14 February. TBC has requested an extension to the 4th March and the statement of common ground will not be available as a basis for response by the Parish Council. The Council decided to assess the new information when available.

285. Planning Decisions by Tewkesbury Borough Council

Appeal Ref: APP/G1630/W/24/3348852 Adderstone House, Spring Lane, Cleeve Hill, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL52 3PY • The appeal is made under section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) against a refusal to grant planning permission. The application Ref is 23/00523/FUL. • The development proposed is Provision of new low energy infill dwelling. **Decision 1. The appeal is dismissed.**

24/01024/FUL Removal/variation of condition 2, planning permission 21/01422/FUL The Fold New Road **Permit**

24/00681/FUL Erection of a detached garage The Fold New Road Southam Cheltenham **Permit**

286. Finance & Governance

1. To approve payments in February – The following payments were agreed:

Payments February	Total	Net	Vat
Washington Printing Newsletter	130	130	0
Names & Co (email accounts)	214.66	178.88	35.78
Administration	419.46	419.46	0
HMRC PAYE	104.8	104.8	0
Office Expenses	60.9	60.9	0

Interim payments were also approved: Wix.com for website £201.60, Rymans for ink cartridge £90.43

2. To approve the January bank reconciliation and January budget report
Cllr Torrington proposed the bank reconciliation of the current account £3121.18, and joint **balances at the end of December were £38726.99, this was agreed by unanimous vote. The budget report was circulated. Expenditure to date £13398.01 and Income £14725 was noted to be within budget.**

3. Agree expenditure on a new website/email accounts in April 25 and appoint supplier – **The Council agreed unanimously to appoint Parishes Online at £350 per annum, new domain £150.**
4. Review the Action Plan for 25-26
– add changing domain name and improving website accessibility – this amendment was agreed
5. Receive updated risk assessments/register – the risk assessment was noted. No changes to the risk register
4. Arrangements for Annual Parish Meeting – Will be held alongside the general meeting in April. Foodbank to be invited to give a presentation.

287. Date of Next Meeting

11th March 2025