

PRESENT: Cllrs: T Pomroy (Chair), S Sims (Vice Chair), T Blake,
D Daniels, B Freeguard, M Gaffey, C Hewlett, J Hutchinson, R Hutchinson,
A Monk, A Tink

APOLOGIES: Cllrs: R Box, C Jenkins

264. APOLOGIES: The reasons for the non attendance of those members who had sent their apologies were noted.

265. EVACUATION PROCEDURE: The Chair drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure as set out in the Agenda

266. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were none.

Cllr J Hutchinson arrived at this point

267. MINUTES: of the meeting held 9th December 2008: *Minute 254 – Arising from Minute 246e) -Bar Working Party – Cllr R Hutchinson proposed a motion to add an extra sentence immediately following the word ‘intentionally’ to minute 254. The proposed sentence to read as follows. “He added that whilst he was accepting that he had played a part in causing the Clerk to believe that the debate had been intimidating, he did not take full or sole responsibility himself as others had contributed to the exchange”. The motion was seconded by Cllr Blake and put to the vote. The result of the vote was a tie with four votes in favour and four against. The Chair used his casting vote to agree the amendment. Minute 254 – Arising From Minute 246e) – Bar Working Party – Cllr Blake proposed a motion to amend the sentence beginning with “Cllr Blake asked whether” by replacing the word ‘whether’ with ‘that’. The motion was seconded by Cllr J Hutchinson and agreed by a majority vote.*

Arising from Minute 261 – Reports from other Organisations – It was noted that the correct wording of the minute should read “ Cllr Sims to be nominated as the Council’s representative for the Heritage Forum”. The Clerk agreed to investigate whether the Council’s membership is still valid.

Action: Town Clerk

Following agreement of the above amendments, the minutes of the meeting were approved as a true and accurate record.

268. MATTERS OF REPORT ARISING: *Arising from Minute 257a) – Regeneration Scheme in Filton Avenue - It was confirmed that there are no further developments to report. Arising From Minute 257e) South Gloucestershire Youth Strategy – Cllr J Hutchinson and Cllr Blake were thanked for their efforts in compiling a response on behalf of the Council. Arising from Minute257c) – Hearing Loop – It was confirmed that the trial use of the temporary loop system had helped to identify what is needed. Arising From Minute257d) – Parking on Pavements – It was noted that the issue had been raised at a meeting of the safer and stronger community group and that the police are taking action by issuing tickets etc.. Arising from Minute 258b) – Conygre House – There was no update to report. Arising From Minute 260b i) – It was confirmed that*

the deputy steward referred to in the recommendation was in fact the 'acting' deputy steward. *Arising from Minute 260 b iii) – Bar Working Party* – It was noted that the details for the advertising flyer are currently being updated. *Arising from Minute 260c) – Application from Circus* – It was reported that the Circus would be coming to Elm Park playing fields on 13th February 2009 and staying for 1 week.

- 269. SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE MATTERS:** Reports were received from both Cllr Freeguard and Cllr R Hutchinson (copies are available from the Town Council office). No report had been received from Cllr Bell.

Cllr R Hutchinson also updated members on the latest situation regarding government funding for free swims in South Gloucestershire. It was confirmed that although South Gloucestershire Council had included Filton Sports and Leisure Centre as part of their bid, the funding they had received would only be sufficient to cover pools within their Leisure Trust. The latest offer from South Gloucestershire Council was to fund 50% of the loss incurred by Filton Town Council which would equate to around £5,000. It was noted that the scheme was due to start on 1st April 2009. Cllr R Hutchinson confirmed that he would continue to pursue the matter with South Gloucestershire Council. **Agreed:** To refer the matter to the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee for further discussion.

Action: Town Clerk

- 270. SUBMISSIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

a) Conygre House: A member of the public asked whether members would have any objection to local residents organising a campaign to help raise funds for the purchase of Conygre House. Members confirmed that they would support the campaign and asked the resident to keep the Clerk informed of any developments.

b) Planning application - 19 Bude Road: A local resident expressed his concerns about the application and was advised to contact the planning officer at South Gloucestershire Council.

- 271. SUBMISSIONS FROM MEMBERS:**

a) Bar Working Party: Cllr Monk presented the notes from the meetings held on 9th and 16th January 2009. He reported that discussions had recently taken place with Scottish & Newcastle regarding the Council's current contract. It was noted that a number of other companies had also been approached for price lists to be used for comparison purposes. Cllr Monk confirmed that the Council is still contractually tied to its current supplier, Scottish & Newcastle. Scottish & Newcastle had agreed to report back with options and costings regarding possible repayment of the loan. A further debate took place on how the notes of the working party should be presented. A request was made for the notes to be numbered for easier identification. Some members expressed concern that actions were being carried out before the recommendations had been approved by full Council. The Clerk advised that in her opinion the bar working party was the best she had ever worked with, it had a good cross section of members and they were doing a thorough job. Cllr Sims confirmed that he had resigned from the working party, therefore his name should not be included in the apologies.

Cllr Monk left the meeting at this point

Cllr Blake requested that a detailed financial report for New Year's Eve and the Comedy night event be available at the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

Action: Town Clerk

b) North West Advice Centre: Cllr Sims reported that the Centre had become a lot busier due to the recent 'credit crunch' situation. Cllr Freeguard expressed his concern regarding a member of the North West Advice Centre who had recently revealed a client's personal details in public. Cllr Sims agreed to report the incident at the next meeting of the NWAC.

c) Sure Start : Cllr Sims gave an update on the scheme and confirmed that it was very popular..

d) Cycling Improvements in Filton: Cllr Sims reported that he had recently joined the Cycling Forum on a cycling tour around the A38 and surrounding area to look at how facilities could be improved. Cllr Sims confirmed that he had found it a very positive experience.

e) Filton Roundabout: Cllr Daniels reported on the tailbacks being experienced at the roundabout and suggested that phasing of the lights could help the situation. It was agreed that this was a matter for South Gloucestershire Councillors to pursue.

Cllr J Hutchinson left the meeting at this point

272. URGENT ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR:

a) The Chair reported that a number of special offers were currently available on Christmas Lights. The Clerk confirmed that she had also received a number of phone calls from various companies, but was awaiting confirmation on the replacement lamp columns before placing an order.

273. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES & THE TOWN CLERK:

a) To ratify the November Finance Committee's decision to approve the 2009/2010 precept requirement of £525,680 (an increase of 3.95% per band D property): Members discussed whether the potential loss of income resulting from the free swims should be incorporated into next year's budget figures. As the final funding arrangements with South Gloucestershire Council had not yet been finalised, it was agreed to deal with any financial implications as they occur. **Agreed:** To ratify the November Finance & General Purposes Committee's decision to approve the 2009/10 precept requirement of £52,680 (an increase of 3.95% per band D property).

Action: Town Clerk

b) Finance Committee: The minutes of the meeting held 13th January 2009 were received.

c) Planning Committee: The minutes of the meetings held 6th & 20th January 2009 were received.

d) Meeting Dates 2009: Agreed: the date of the September Town Council meeting to be moved from 29th September to 22nd September 2009. **Agreed:** to confirm a date for the next meeting of the Capital Projects working party. Cllr R Hutchinson to contact the Clerk with a selection of times and dates.

Action: Cllr R Hutchinson

274. REPORTS FROM OTHER ORGANISATIONS:

a) Four Towns Parishes Joint Forum: The notes of a meeting held 8th January 2009 were received. Members were asked to contact the Clerk with any issues that they would like to see discussed at the next meeting. (Due to take place at 10am on 23rd March 2009)

b) Four Towns/Five Alive Play: The minutes of a meeting held 15th January 2009 were received.

c) Local Council Review: The contents were noted

d) **ALCA Newsletter:** The contents were noted.

275. OTHER REPORTS/CONSULTATIONS:

a) **Joint Core Strategy for West of England: Agreed:** to defer to the next meeting of full Council in February.

b) **South Gloucestershire Cultural Strategy Consultation: Agreed:** to defer to the next meeting of full Council in February.

c) **Rural and Parish Matters – Free Events:** Members were asked to contact the Clerk if they were interested in attending any of the events.

d) **Tree Preservation Order (Gayner Road, Filton):** The Chair thanked all those concerned for their efforts.

276. ACCOUNTS: in the sum of **£142,344.77** (copies in the minute book) were approved and signed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:30pm

CHAIR