

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

APOLOGIES: Cllrs: R Box, C Hewlett

- 291. APOLOGIES:** The reasons for the non attendance of those members who had sent their apologies were noted.
- 292. EVACUATION PROCEDURE:** The Chair drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure as set out in the Agenda
- 293. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Sims declared a personal interest as a member of the North Bristol Advice Centre Management Committee.
- 294. PRESENTATION:** Gary Wintle, from South Gloucestershire Citizens Advice Bureau gave a short presentation outlining the history behind the recent re-launch of the organisation and how his role as the new Chair of South Gloucestershire CAB had developed. Mr Wintle confirmed that Filton had been identified as a priority area and that CAB would like to be able to offer their services to Filton residents. It was noted that CAB currently has an outpost in Bradley Stoke which is supported through funding from Bradley Stoke Town Council and the use of a room for one half day every week. The Chair thanked Mr Wintle for his presentation and confirmed that the Council would be in touch at a later date.
- 295. MINUTES of the meeting held 24th February 2009:** *Arising from Minute 283 – South Gloucestershire Matters* – A correction to the wording of the second paragraph relating to the Council housing revenue account was agreed as follows “ Cllr Roger Hutchinson reported that South Gloucestershire Council had agreed to share the £1m left in the Housing Revenue Account, following the transfer of the housing stock to Merlin, amongst the wards where the Merlin houses are as the money was paid in rent by the tenants. The allocation is on a pro rata basis with the result that Filton Ward will receive £62,833. The allocation of the money will be by the South Gloucestershire Councillors in the ward, the hope being that they will agree collectively on how to allocate the full amount, or if agreement cannot be reached then each will be responsible for personally allocating one third of the full amount” *Arising From Minute 287c) – Bar Working Party* – Members debated how majority decisions should be recorded in the minutes. It was resolved by 6 votes to 4 (with one abstention) that majority votes in favour of a decision can be recorded as ‘Agreed’ in the minutes unless a recorded vote has been requested.

After noting the above corrections the minutes of the meeting held 24th February 2009 were approved as an accurate record.

- 296. MATTERS OF REPORT ARISING:** *Arising from Minute 280 – Presentation* – Members discussed whether the ‘Have Your Say’ event held on 4th March had been advertised as an open or public meeting. *Arising From Minute 282 – Hearing Loop* – Cllr Sims noted that the hearing loop did not appear to be working properly as it was

picking up outside interference. **Agreed:** To report the problem to Bristol Sounds Systems. **Agreed:** Cllr Sims to liaise with the Town Clerk regarding further advice on new legislation for the disabled.

Action: Town Clerk & Cllr Sims

Arising From Minute 282 – NBAC Management Committee- A general discussion took place on the incident. *Arising From Minute 284 - Conygre House* – It was noted that a petition is being put together. *Arising From Minute 285 a) Filton Festival* – Cllr Sims reported that it would be an ideal opportunity to tie in next year's BAC 100 celebrations with the Filton Festival. *Arising From Minute 288 – Southern Brooks Community Partnership* – Cllr Sims reported that he had attended the Conygre Festival and that it had been a very good event.

297. 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.

298. SUBMISSIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

a) Third Avenue Lane Gating Scheme: A spokesperson on behalf of the residents in Third Avenue (Millennium Field side) presented a letter to the Chair requesting the closure of the entrance to the Millennium Green. The resident confirmed that lane gates had already been ordered as requested by the majority of the residents. **Agreed:** Northville Ward Councillors to arrange a site visit and report back.

Action: Northville Ward Councillors & Town Clerk

b) Parish Precept: A member of the public asked why Filton's precept is always so high compared to neighbouring parishes. It was confirmed that the precept is used to fund local facilities such as Filton Sports & Leisure Centre.

c) Fieldworks: A resident queried the number of objections which had been received for the planning application. The Clerk confirmed that South Gloucestershire Council had only received four written objections during the consultation period.

299. SUBMISSIONS FROM MEMBERS:

a) Filton Local Produce Market: Councillor Blake took the opportunity to thank members of the Filton Food Group for all their valiant efforts and perseverance in trying to keep the scheme running for local residents. Unfortunately, due to a gradual decline in the number of traders and customers attending, the committee had decided that the market held on 26th March 2009 would be their last.

b) Redecoration of Pavilion: Cllr Sims recorded his approval for the recent redecoration of the Pavilion and suggested that adverts for the Centre's activities could be displayed on the walls.

c) Leisure Centre Car Park: Cllr Pomroy reported that he had received a number of complaints about a group of runners who had been using the Leisure Centre car park as a meeting point and were preventing regular customers from finding a parking space. The Clerk confirmed that it had originally started as a goodwill gesture to the runners but the club had now been told that they would need to make alternative arrangements.

d) Notice of Motion: The following notice of motion was proposed by Cllr Tink and seconded by Cllr Monk.

“The situation with the Churngold contract should be reviewed before any work starts, ensuring the supplier is financially stable and all risk have been assessed. Identify any changes and ensure that they are fully understood and agreed by all councillors. The contract should be reviewed in the current financial environment, in terms of value for money for the council.

A review group be set up to interview all interested parties and the capital programme members.

A full review of the consultation processes.

Review the plans and see if they meet the full aspiration of residents and members.

This is such an important project for Filton and the Town Council that this review group is set up and given all the help, and all information needed, to ensure a quick and robust report”.

A full debate on the motion took place by members. It was also noted that a meeting of the capital projects working party was due to take place on Thursday 2nd April 2009.

An amendment to shorten the content of the notice of motion by deleting the wording after the first paragraph was moved by Cllr R Hutchinson and seconded by Cllr Blake. The motion was defeated by 4 votes in favour (*Cllrs R Hutchinson, J Hutchinson, T Blake and S Sims*) to 6 votes against (*Cllrs B Freeguard, C Jenkins, A Tink, D Daniels, M Gaffey, A Monk*) with one abstention (*Cllr Pomroy*).

The original motion was then put to the vote and agreed with 6 votes in favour (*Cllrs B Freeguard, C Jenkins, A Tink, D Daniels, M Gaffey, A Monk*) to 4 against (*Cllrs R Hutchinson, J Hutchinson, T Blake and S Sims*) with one abstention (*Cllr Pomroy*)

300. URGENT ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR: There were none.

301. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES & THE TOWN CLERK:

a) Finance & General Purposes Committee: The minutes of a meeting held 10th March 2009 were received.

b) Planning Committee: The minutes of a meeting held 3rd March 2009 were received.

c) Bar Working Party: The notes from meetings held 17th and 9th March 2009 were received. Some members felt that as the notes are public documents it would be helpful to have for full names or a legend included against action points. A further discussion took place regarding the current colour scheme in the bar. **Agreed:** to investigate the cost of repainting.

Action: Town Clerk

A cheque for £19,581.22p made payable to Scottish & Newcastle was approved and signed in accordance with the decision taken at an extra- ordinary meeting held on 9th March 2009 to pay off the brewery loan.

d) Public Meeting: The notes from a meeting held 4th March 2009 were received.

e) Whistle Blowing Policy: Agreed: to clarify with the auditors whether or not this policy is required for Councillors as they already governed by the Code of Conduct.

Action: Town Clerk

302. REPORTS FROM OTHER ORGANISATIONS:

a) ALCA Newsletter: The contents were noted. Members were asked to contact the Clerk with any suggestions for Green Transport Week.

b) ALCA Minutes: The minutes of a meeting held 23rd October 2008 were received.

303. OTHER REPORTS/CONSULTATIONS:

a) South Gloucestershire Homeless Strategy 2009 – 2012: Members requested that the dates of any future consultation events should be circulated by e-mail in advance.

b) South Gloucestershire Adopted Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document: The contents were noted.

c) Cycle City Project: Agreed: To arrange for the newsletter ‘Creating a Cycling Culture for Greater Bristol’ to be forwarded to Cllr Sims.

304. ACCOUNTS: in the sum of £88,751.88 (copies in the minute book) were approved and signed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.50pm

CHAIR