

AUST PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Tuesday 10th September 2024 @ 7:30pm at Elberton Village Hall

Present: Councillors Steve Meredith (chairman), Ian Jenkins, David Spratt, Jeremy Warren

In attendance: None

Clerk: Emma Pattullo

Approved at the subsequent meeting held on 8th October 2024.

Signed copy held by the Clerk.

1 To receive apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Heather Bayston, Julian Cooper and Anne Wiseman.

Ward Councillors Matthew Riddle & Tony Williams (SGC) also sent apologies.

2 To receive declarations of Interest and requests for dispensations

There were no declarations of interest or dispensation requests.

3 Public Forum

No members of the public were present.

4 To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 9th July 2024

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 9th July 2024 be approved as a correct record. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

5 To review ongoing matters and agree action required, if any:

5.1 Woodwell Meadows volunteer group

5.1.1 To note receipt of grant funding and approve future spending for the group

It was NOTED that member awarded funding of £300 has been granted. The council expressed thanks to SGC ward councillors Matthew Riddle and Tony Williams for providing this funding.

It was RESOLVED that, providing the tree popper is found to be suitable at the first volunteer session, it should be purchased using the grant funding, at a cost of £272 plus VAT. The remaining funds may be used to purchase equipment or refreshments for the volunteer sessions.

5.1.2 To review arrangements for the coming work sessions

Cllr Warren reported that four dates have been set, the first session being planned for 17th September. Several volunteers have come forward, mainly residents of Littleton. Cllrs Warren or Bayston will be at each session.

5.2 Streetcare parish works team – to note completion of work

It was NOTED that most of the requested tasks on the Streetcare parish works team list have been completed.

It was also NOTED that residents have carried out some clearance work; the council expressed their thanks for these actions.

6 New items of business

6.1 To consider residents' concerns re: private sewage discharges into Littleton pond

Residents have expressed concerns about a planned discharge from a new domestic package plant into Littleton pond. The clerk explained that there are circumstances in which domestic discharges of sewage can be made to surface water, but that it is unclear whether these "general binding rules" would be applicable in this case. The rules require that any receiving water must be flowing, which seems unlikely to apply to the pond.

It was RESOLVED that the clerk should contact the Environment Agency for advice.

6.2 To consider request from Pilning & Severn Beach PC for joint call for flood preparedness event

Pilning and Severn Beach PC are planning to ask South Glos. Council to hold an event to educate residents in flood preparedness, and have asked other local councils including Aust PC to support this call.

It was RESOLVED that Aust PC will support their request.

7 Planning

7.1 To note applications received and resolve response

It was NOTED that no applications received since the last council meeting.

7.2 To note the following SGC planning decisions

The following South Glos. planning decisions were NOTED:

- i. P23/02510/HH - Old Butchers Shop Elberton Road Olveston - Erection of single storey and two storey side/rear extension to provide additional living accommodation. *Refused.*
- ii. P24/01459/HH - Woodrise Village Road Littleton-upon-Severn - Erection of single storey rear extension and front porch to provide additional living accommodation. *Approved with conditions.*

8 Council administration

8.1 To note asset inspection & current asset register

The latest asset register was reviewed. It was RESOLVED that the parish council's portable skittle alley should be added to the register, and that the register should be re-adopted subject to this addition.

The clerk reported that an asset inspection was carried out earlier this month. All assets were found to be in good condition except the Aust noticeboard, which requires renewal of the wood treatment. It was RESOLVED that this should be arranged next spring.

8.2 To determine arrangements for the clerk's annual review

It was RESOLVED that the chairman should meet with the clerk to carry out her annual review.

9 Finance

9.1 To note payments made under prior approval

The following payments, made under the given prior approval, were NOTED. It was further noted that there were no additional items due for payment.

Item	Amount	Minute (where applicable)
Clerk's salary & home working allowance for month to 16 th July 2024	£285.86	May '24 item 9.9
Clerk's salary & home working allowance for month to 16 th August 2024	£285.86	May '24 item 9.9
South Glos. Council – Litter bin emptying Q1	£57.24	May '24 item 9.9

9.2 To note revised payment arrangements for Unity Trust bank charges

It was NOTED that Unity Trust bank charges will now be applied to the account monthly rather than quarterly. There is no change to the overall amount payable.

10 To review correspondence received and determine response

10.1 ALCA – Notice of AGM Sat 5th October

No councillor wishes to attend.

10.2 Sally Pattinson, SGC – introduction to “Linking the Levels” wildlife project and request for contacts

It was RESOLVED that Ms Pattinson should be invited to attend a future council meeting to inform council about the project.

10.3 Police – Severnside beat team newsletter August 2024

NOTED.

11 To consider responses to consultations received

11.1 Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Gov^t – Proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework

RESOLVED: no response.

12 Any other minor matters for discussion (no decision required) or items for next agenda

Several matters were noted:

- Tree protection order at Whale Wharf. The previously proposed blanket TPO has not been confirmed, but a revised TPO covering specific groups of trees on the site is understood to be under consideration;
- Ward Cllr Riddle and Cllr Meredith have recently been contacted by EDF Energy regarding a proposal to create a new saltmarsh area, as compensation for habitat lost during the construction of Hinkley Point C power station. One of the possible areas under consideration is in Littleton. Cllr Riddle is meeting with EDF soon and will feed back to the next council meeting.
- Cllr Riddle has logged several issues with Streetcare, including potholes in Elberton Road, litter along the B4461, broken road sign at Sweetwater Lane and the damaged salt bin near Elberton Court;
- Cllr Riddle has also requested that the speed monitoring equipment be put in place on the B4461 at Elberton; it should be there for one or two weeks. Residents are requested to send details of any suspected overweight lorries using this road to Cllr Riddle;
- Cllr Warren will attend the coming Severn Estuary Forum on 8th October and will feed back any relevant issues to the council;
- There have been several instances of vans staying overnight in Aust village and at Aust Wharf, but these do not seem to be causing any problems.

13 Meeting closure

The meeting closed at 8:30pm.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 8th October 2024.

Items for the agenda should be with the Clerk by 1st October

Signed on approval:(Chairman)