



## NOTICE OF FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

This virtual 'Zoom' meeting is on Monday April 19th 2021 at 7pm  
(This was postponed from April 12<sup>th</sup> due to the Period of Mourning for HRH Prince Philip)

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82434282824?pwd=OUZIMmVDNDJGNEpCM3gzUzRQTjRKZz09>

Meeting ID: 824 3428 2824 Passcode: 097050

**Members of the public wishing to join the meeting should join before 7pm, activate their video camera and remain 'on mute' unless they have made prior arrangements with the Parish Clerk to speak.**

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.

## AGENDA

1. Welcome by the Chairman
2. Apologies for absence
3. Declarations of Interest under the Localism Act 2011
4. Reports from South Gloucestershire Councillors on matters relating to the Parish

### **Luke Hall's Statement on the Ending of Remote Local Authority Meetings**

Luke Hall MP, Minister of State for Regional Growth and Local Government, has published an open letter to local government (Local authority meetings ([publishing.service.gov.uk](http://publishing.service.gov.uk))) stating that the Conservative government does not plan to introduce further emergency legislation to allow local government, at both district and parish level, to hold their meetings remotely after May 6<sup>th</sup>. The government's position is that it would require primary legislation to give local authorities the power to hold their regular meetings online and at present there is insufficient parliamentary time to debate this further. Instead the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has opened a consultation on this topic - <https://consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government-stewardship/local-authority-remote-meetings-call-for-evidence/>.

There is an understandable desire among some to return to face-to-face public meetings but across local government many have objected that the decision to let the emergency legislation lapse is a premature and short sighted. Parish councils have a limited number of venues open to them for public meetings and holding socially distanced meetings, where any number of parishioners could turn up on the night demanding entrance, is a logistical headache they could do without. Public pressure on the Minister of State for Regional Growth and Local Government may cause him to rethink his plans but, as it stands, after May 6<sup>th</sup> any parish council wanting to hold a formal meeting will have to do so at a socially distanced, face-to-face event rather than online. Lawyers in Local Government, the Association of Democratic Services Officers and Hertfordshire County Council have asked the High Court to make a declaration on whether they can continue to hold remote meetings after 6<sup>th</sup> May. This hearing will take place on 21<sup>st</sup> April.

### **Major Investment to Prevent Flooding on Local Roads**

Work has now started on a project to improve the flood resilience of key roads in South Gloucestershire. South Gloucestershire Council has successfully secured £3.2 million from central government under the Department for Transport's Local Highway Maintenance Challenge Fund scheme. The council is contributing an additional £500,000 to the scheme from its existing maintenance budgets.

Drainage infrastructure is to be upgraded at seven locations to help prevent future flooding, improving the road network for local communities and the traveling public. These roads have been identified as issues with flooding during extreme weather. The work will also reduce the need for reactive maintenance works and ultimately result in a cost saving for the Council.

The roads where work will be carried out include:

- Perrinpit Road & Old Gloucester Road, Frampton Cotterell/Gaunt's Earthcott
- B4058/B4059 Yate Road, Iron Acton
- Stover Road at Frome bridge, Yate

These dates and timeframes may be subject to change and the council will keep the local community informed as the work progresses. Residents can find further information at <https://www.southglos.gov.uk/environment/drainage-and-flood-risk-management/highway-drainage-improvement-works/challenge-fund-bid-highway-drainage-resilience-improvements/>. Alternatively, they can contact officers from the project team by emailing [FloodResilienceProject@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:FloodResilienceProject@southglos.gov.uk) or call 01454 868000.

### **Covid Vaccination for Residents with Learning Disabilities**

Residents with a learning disability are being offered a Covid-19 vaccination at the Ashton Gate vaccination centre. They will be available from a clinic designed specifically for people with learning disabilities with staff from the local Community Learning Disability Team on hand to ensure individuals are best supported. Easy read guides are also available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-easy-read-resources>. Unpaid carers needing to attend to support a resident can also get vaccinated at the same time. If parishioners or those they support are eligible (aged 18 or above and on the GP Learning Disability Register) they can contact the local Community Learning Disability Team to arrange an appointment. That number in South Gloucestershire is 0300 1245 888.

### **Lifting of Covid Restrictions Enters its Next Phase**

The following became permissible on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March:

- residents can meet outdoors either in a group of 6 (from any number of households), or in a group of any size from up to 2 households (each household can include existing support bubbles)
- residents can take part in formally organised outdoor sports with any number of people (outdoor sports venues and facilities will be able to reopen)
- childcare and supervised activities will be allowed outdoors for all children
- formally organised parent and child groups will be able to take place outdoors for up to 15 attendees (children under 5 will not be counted in this number)

From Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April the following are also now permissible:

- non-essential retail stores can reopen
- pubs and restaurants can serve food and drink outdoors
- personal care premises can reopen
- libraries and community centres can reopen

### **Community Resilience Fund**

South Gloucestershire Council has launched a Community Resilience Fund. This £1 million fund is designed to help meet the needs of those whose income or outgoings have been impacted by Covid-19. They particularly want to hear from people who have not already had government financial support during the pandemic. More details about the eligibility criteria for this fund can be found at <https://beta.southglos.gov.uk/community-resilience-fund>.

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#### **5- Pre-arranged items from members of Public**

~~The applicant of P21/01970/F – to answer any questions arising in agenda item 10~~ The application has been withdrawn prior to an amended application.

#### **6. Parish Councillor Reports – written submissions, taken as read with questions taken as necessary** **Climate change Community Engagement Forum – Cllr Taylor**

I attended this Zoom meeting on 17 March It was moderated by Lucy Rees of SGC and was attended by about 15 – 20 people including Cllr Claire Young.

There were 3 presentations:

1. Fusion energy, by Jamie Townes of Bristol University.

The growth in electricity demand is expected to quadruple by 2050, driven by the move away from fossil fuels, and all but one of the current nuclear plants will have closed.

We shall be relying on renewables, “clean” hydrogen, and nuclear.

The next generation of nuclear energy, although the term “nuclear” is avoided, is seen to be nuclear fusion. The energy is generated from the fusion of light atoms (isotopes of hydrogen). There is no possibility of a catastrophic chain-reaction, and no long-lasting nuclear waste, with helium as a by-product.

The relevance to this area is the mix of suitable sites – Berkeley and Oldbury, relevant skills and technology, with the bonus of use of Cornish lithium in the reactors.

The projected timescales are construction of R & D facilities from 2026.

2. Zero Carbon Travel, by Emilia Melville of the Greater Bristol Zero Carbon Travel Campaign.

The group has been funded (how much and by whom?) to do research and produce a manifesto (complete but not formatted)., which will be sent via Lucy Rees to the attendees. It is for a very ambitious multi-mode transport plan, including trams, rail, reopened stations and orbital bus routes.

Overall it was a quite unclear presentation. A subsequent web search on the title of the campaign group provided no hits, but led me to Zero West and the Transport for Greater Bristol Alliance. These appear to be campaign / lobby groups, but the relationship to each other and the speaker's group remain unclear.

Rob, Sue and I attended a WECA presentation on a similar subject last week, but I couldn't see that the "Zero Carbon Travel" proposals had been accepted by WECA. It may become clearer when we see the promised manifesto.

3. Food waste by Lucy Rees

Overall South Glos Council is recycling 60% of waste; the UK average is about 50%. However, 42% of black bin contents could be recycled and 14% is food.

Food waste, globally accounts for 8% of CO2 emissions, which is why SGC is pushing for further waste food reductions.

Various initiatives were outlined, including community fridges at Stoke Lodge, Mangotsfield and Cadbury Heath, "Fareshare" and "Love Food Hate Waste".

The next meeting is on 16 June.

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## **Cllr Taylor has also circulated the notes from "The Art of The Possible" – a Community Led Housing presentation**

7. Council to Approve Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on March 8<sup>th</sup> 2021

8. Matters Arising from March 8<sup>th</sup> Minutes

(a) COMPLAINTS - Beech Hill Farm soil moving activities

(b) Area opposite Manor Hall

9. Council to receive information on matters relating to End of Year Finance & Accounts

End of March Bank reconciliation;

Progress with Internal Audit & External Audit - Annual Governance & Accountability Return

Update on amounts being carried forward to 2021/211

Annual VAT claim for 2020/21

NB Feb & March lists of payments will be added to Minutes as an Appendix

10. Council to consider Planning Applications (other than those dealt with under COVID-19 Standing orders)

Applications & comments are listed on: <http://www.westerleighparishcouncil.org.uk/parishioners-planning/>  
To be discussed:

~~[P21/01970/F Conversion and addition of mezzanine floor to existing workshop to form self-contained annexe/work space ancillary to main dwelling. Petherton House 7 South Avenue Yate BS37 5JA](#)~~

The application has been withdrawn prior to an amended application.

[P21/02368/F Demolition of existing scout hut and erection of replacement hut \(Use Class F2\) as defined in the Town and Country Planning \(Use Classes\) Order 1987 \(as amended\). Mafeking Hall Ram Hill Coalpit Heath South Gloucestershire BS36 2UF](#)

11. Council to receive Clerk report regarding ongoing matters and approvals where required

Items arising from meeting with resident at Newman Field

Update on War Memorial works

Comparison of Insurance quotations and decision on provider

Annual Parish meeting arrangements

Community Governance Review

Feedback from Sports Days organised during school holidays

12. Correspondence/Communication with Westerleigh Parish Council

From SGC

Notification of TPO at Kendleshire Farm

Extension of Blackberry Drive footpath closure

Other

Thank you email from the Chair of Coalpit Heath CC on completion of new nets, partly funded by WPC

Applications for one-day use of Westerleigh Playing Field: 25<sup>th</sup> June & 24<sup>th</sup> July

Avon Pension Fund – Funding strategy consultation

Report & Accounts from Henfield Hall

13. Council to consider RESOLUTION to continue with COVID-19 Delegated Powers to the Clerk and to continue dealing with Grant Applications & Planning Applications by email
14. Items considered urgent or exempt by the Chairman
15. Dates of future Parish Council meetings/Committee meetings  
Annual Parish Meeting April 26<sup>th</sup> 7pm Zoom  
Zoom Parish Council meeting Thursday May 6<sup>th</sup> 7pm  
First face to face meeting – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May 7pm at Westerleigh Village Hall Environment & Leisure Committee