



# **Pilning & Severn Beach Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024. Emmaus Church Centre, Gorse Cover Road Severn Beach BS35 4NP at 7pm**

## **BRISTOL ENERGY NETWORK PRESENTATION**

A presentation was given by David Tudgy from Bristol Energy Network regarding the successful installation of a £6.5 million turbine at Lawrence Weston. Bristol Energy Network are looking for potential sites in and around Pilning & Severn Beach for a second turbine. The major difference with this project is the turbine would be built and run for community benefit, giving back to communities and not for the profit of multinational companies. Alongside the big-ticket items such as the wind turbine, the trust also has a range of smaller schemes aimed at making homes warmer and cheaper to heat.

**Resolved to have an agenda item for the September meeting**

**Action JE**

## **POLICE UPDATE**

The Parish Council were pleased to have a visit from Avon & Somerset Police, namely Paula Perry and Will Price. They were able to give a qualified update on issues in the Parish including motor bikes on the Binn wall, tipping at Pilning station, car drifting on Western approaches and recent incidents on Bank Road and Northwick Road. The Parish Council would be notified immediately if there was anything that it could help with or need to know. It is not always appropriate for the Police to report on issues publicly due to ongoing investigations as well as the additional workload of reporting incidents.

The overwhelming message that Will and Paula wanted to get across is that residents are encouraged to call 999, that way, even if a police response is not required, issues get logged and can be followed up.

## **COUNCILLORS:**

Ian S Roberts (ISR); Jet O'Neill (JO); Mike Pruett (MP); Nick Davies (ND) Chairman; Olga Taylor (OT); Peter Tyzack (PT) and Stephen Graham (SKG)

Also attending Jonathan Edwardes (JE) Parish Clerk and Richard Edwards (RE) Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, Simon Johnson District Councillor (SJ) and five members of the public

**DEATHS:** The meeting held a silence in remembrance of those who had recently died  
Mervyn Jacobs of Pilning  
Des Edwards formerly of Pilning

## **1 Apologies for absence**

Victoria Bywater

The Parish Council were sorry to receive the resignation of Alison Dark

**Resolved to write a letter of thanks**

**Action JE**

## **2a Co-option of Councillors**

None

## 2b Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of interest under the Localism Act 2011 – being any pecuniary interest in agenda items not previously recorded on Members' Register of Interests.

PT Severn Beach Village Hall Committee representative

## 3 Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting

The minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024 after a minor amendment were unanimously approved as a true record.

## 4 Matters arising

Foot crossing at Chittening – this item needs to be chased up pointing out the inadequacy of the crossing provision. Work in progress

**Action JE**

Recent conflict memorial – work now underway but looking for volunteers to help

Sea wall signage – The Clerk has written to South Gloucestershire Council as requested and submitted a "Report It" for the item. Work in progress

**Action JE**

South Glos spot cleaning – The Clerk has submitted a list to South Gloucestershire Council for consideration. Councillors are reminded to let the Clerk know of any other issues.

**Action ALL**

Replacement Flower Show Cup – The Clerk has purchased the item and given it to the Flower Show Committee

Wildflower area – South Gloucestershire Council were informed of the resolution to cut the wildflower area.

Grant application to St Peter's Hospice – The Clerk has processed this grant application and received an email of thanks for the grant.

Online form for performances on Frances Barr Walk – The Clerk has not yet seen the draft form

**Action VB & ND**

## 5 Correspondence

See appendix A

Suggestion was made to the Clerk that a fuller explanation should be given in the description of the correspondence.

**Action JE**

PT had been contacted by a resident regarding a missing letter box on Ableton Lane and a request for a defibrillator at the Severnwood Gardens / Abbot Road area of Severn Beach.

## 6 Accounts for Payment

See appendix B

BRM Treework – Pilning Playing Field tree clearance	s111	£100.00
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Aford Awards – Flower show trophy	s137	£72.94
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Gallagher Insurance – Parish Council Insurance	s111	£4610.61
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Planit Gardens – General Maintenance		£137.75
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<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>£4921.30</b>
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<b>Revised grand total</b>		<b>£11581.96</b>
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**Accounts were approved.**

**Action JE**

**.1 Bank reconciliation for the previous month see appendix C**

To comply with Parish Council Financial Regulation 3. viii the Chairman was presented with the bank reconciliation.

**Resolved that the bank reconciliation report for May 2024 be approved.**

**7a Public Participation**

Additional bin at Cross Hands – concern was expressed about the length of time it is taking to get a second bin at Cross Hands.

**Action JE**

**7b Report from District Councillor Simon Johnson**

See appendix D

**8 AGENDA ITEMS**

**.1 To decide on a grant application for Severn Beach Village Hall hearing loop**

The Clerk circulated the grant application previously.

No proposal put forward to agree the full amount. Councillors wishing to see Severn Beach Village Hall match funding the grant request.

**Proposal for 50% of the amount to be granted – Agreed unanimously, excepting PT - see the declaration of interest section 2b.**

Noted that if Severn Beach Village Hall cannot find any matching funding a second application would be considered.

**Action JE**

**.2 To decide on a course of action regarding Pilning Station**

Great concern was expressed at the disgraceful state of Pilning Station.

**a) Environment agency involvement**

SJ has been in contact with South Glos Officers and with the Environment Agency. South Gloucestershire Council have served notices on the two sites at Pilning station that are operating without licenses, ergo they do not have permission for the activities that are being carried out.

Local water courses are being polluted with diesel containers and other detritus.

**b) Planning enforcement update**

The enforcement notices have now expired; SJ wants an update from the South Gloucestershire Council Enforcement team. South Glos is aware of the change of ownership of the site surrounding the station. SJ is keen to get the enforcement action underway as soon as possible. Because of the lack of enforcement OT noted that the pile of rubbish is growing all the time. A resident reported that around five skips of rubbish a day are being taken onto the station site.

Regular fires, with acrid smoke at the site are making it impossible for local residents to enjoy their own surroundings. It was noted that the site operator has been ringing the fire service in advance to warn them that they are undertaking a controlled fire. Consequently, anyone ringing to complain about the fires is told there is nothing to be concerned about. Importantly, the operator is not permitted to burn the sorts of waste that they do. Fires should still be reported, and this will be picked up by the local beat officers.

The operators of the site have been told to put the land back to its original agricultural purpose.

**Resolved for the Clerk to check if the carrier has a licence**

**Action JE**

**Resolved for the Clerk to send the Environment agency a Freedom of Information request regarding land surrounding Pilning station and for the log for each skip load issued to the Environment Agency.**

**Action JE**

Noted that there is now an occupied mobile home on the station site, this has already been notified to South Gloucestershire Council Enforcement a week before the meeting.

**c) Issues with opening of the new gate**

Network Rail were regularly paying huge amounts of money to get the station site cleared of fly tipping. Their solution was to install a gate at the bottom of the incline at the boundary with the adopted highway. A delegation of Councillors and the Clerk had a site meeting where they were informed that the gate would be opened for passenger use on Saturdays. The first Saturday after the gate was installed both the road and passenger access gates were locked, preventing any access to the station at all. In subsequent weeks the gate has been opened but an unmarked van has been parked at the top of the incline making passengers feel intimidated for being there.

**Resolved that the Parish Council asks GWR for a key to the gate.**

**Action JE**

**Resolved to write to Network Rail to explain concerns that the station has been closed without the statutory closure process being applied**

**Action JE**

**Resolved to get a meeting with the new MP once elected regarding Pilning Station.**

**Action JE**

**d) Car park uneven surface, parking space markings and disability access**

There has been a significant worsening in disabled access to Pilning station by the installation of the gate. Passengers are now often expected to walk or use a wheelchair from the access gate to and from the platform via a badly maintained car park and incline road.

Requests to mark out the car park with designated spaces has been refused by GWR.

The car park needs to be resurfaced for those with mobility issues and for the benefit of all legitimate users of the car park.

**e) CCTV compliance with GDPR**

Cameras are being pointed at the platform area that do not belong to either Network Rail or GWR.

**Resolved for a Freedom of Information request to ICO regarding any licenses for CCTV at Pilning Station**

**Action JE**

**.3 To consider entering into a lease of Promenade Gardens**

ND explained that South Gloucestershire Council has appointed an asset manager to deal with the request. Regrettably the process is moving extremely slowly.

**Action ND**

**.4 To receive a report on progress with Local Climate & Nature Action Plan**

The Clerk gave an update regarding progress with the LCNAP, an event will be held to coincide with the Social Hub at Severn Beach Village Hall on 19<sup>th</sup> June. 12:30pm to 2:30pm. Everyone is welcome to take part.

**Action JE**

**.5 To decide on quotes for the broad-gauge display**

The Clerk presented three quotes for constructing the concrete base. After discussion the Council accepted the quote from AWC Groundworks Ltd for £710.

**Action JE**

**.6 To agree the cost of the basketball hoop for Severn Beach MUGA**

After discussion, the quote from Fitness Sports for £960.40 + VAT was accepted. This also means the generous gift given for sports equipment in Severn Beach by Mr John Sellick can be used against this purchase.

**Action JE**

**9 Neighbourhood Plan report on progress**

See appendix C

**10 PLANNING**

**.1 Items from the public relating to planning matters.**

None

**.2 To decide undelegated applications for consideration.**

None

**.3 South Gloucestershire Council planning decisions.**

Refusal

P23/03155/RVC Opex Logistics Limited Severn View Industrial Park Central Avenue Hallen Bristol Variation of condition 5 (soft landscaping) attached to permission P21/00285/F, to allow the soft landscape works to be carried out by the end of the second planting season. Erection of a warehouse (Class B8) with associated service yard, loading bay and parking. P23/03287/F 77 Redwick Road Pilning Bristol South Gloucestershire BS35 4LU Alteration of existing garage to form 1no. dwelling with associated works.

**.4 To receive an update on outstanding enforcement issues.**

Staircase at Pilning Shop – as previously reported still under investigation by South Gloucestershire Council Enforcement. The Clerk has asked how long South Gloucestershire Council will wait for a new planning application to be made.

Land adjacent to Station Road Pilning – land opposite the Pump house. Land rented out where a track and containers have been installed. South Gloucestershire Council have decided not to pursue any enforcement action. The land should be in agricultural use and not being used as a dwelling.

**Resolved to ask South Gloucestershire Council to reopen the case. (Work in progress)**

**Action JE**

**.5 To decide on professional legal advice.**

Nothing further to report currently

**11 PARISH EVENTS**

- D Day 80<sup>th</sup> Commemoration at St Peter's Church 9pm on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024.
- Severnside Festival Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July Promenade Gardens
- Classic Car Show Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July Promenade Gardens
- Charity Dog show Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July Pilning Street
- Pilning Flower Show Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August St Peter's School

## **12 POLICY REVIEW**

- .1 Memorial Bench**
- .2 Mobile Phone**
- .3 Internal Audit policy**

The Clerk gave details that the Internal Audit Policy was a new requirement under changes in Financial Regulation governing Parish Council finances.

**Proposed the above policies be adopted en-bloc Agreed unanimously.**

**Action JE**

## **13. UPDATES & REPORTS**

### **.1 Severn Beach Village Hall**

Minutes of the last meeting circulated previously.

### **.2 Pilning Village Hall**

VB attended the last meeting of the Village Hall Committee  
Minutes for this meeting have not yet been sent to the Clerk

### **.3 Pilning Playing Field**

- Dead tree cleared from the basketball court, see BRM Treework in Accounts for payment
- Clerk getting quotes for a grab lorry for clearing debris near to Pilning Village Hall
- Contractor had an equipment breakdown so has had to return to finish the strimming of the rhine embankment.

- Concern was raised over the condition of the tennis court net

**Resolved to be put on July's agenda**

**Action JE**

### **.4 Severn Beach Allotments**

Many plots are not being successfully worked this year. Clerk to undertake an inspection. The skip lorry got into difficulty collecting the rubbish skip on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May. Vehicle recovered the day after, the firm are returning to repair the damage to the allotment grass.

### **.5 Pilning Allotments**

Looking very good overall, one tenant has given up and the Clerk is in the process of reletting.

### **.6 To receive a report from the Cemetery Clerk**

No report

### **.7 Pilning Station**

See agenda item

### **.8 Severn Beach Station**

Drivers overall are turning off the diesel engines during the layover at the station  
Bike shelter lights are being turned off when not required.

### **.9 Update on "Report it" reference numbers**

None

### **.10 Report from external meetings**

ASEA have completed their work on the drainage system at Northwick but have inexplicably strimmed their own hedge planting areas from Aust down to Pilning wetlands. Note at least twenty skylark nests were disturbed. Police were called to stop the work and investigate. PT reported that the SevernNet business meeting at Severn Beach Village Hall was well attended.

PT circulated the report from the Community Conversations meeting, including a video presentation.

## **14 Communication**

### **.1 To suggest content for the next edition of In View**

Clerk to note

### **Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024 at St Peter's Church, Cross Hands Road Pilning BS35 4JB. There being no other business the meeting was closed at 21:29.

### **Pilning & Severn Beach Parish Council – Full Council meeting 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024**

Minutes approved as a true and accurate record and signed as so by the Chairman presiding.

## APPENDIX A – CORRESPONDENCE

<b>Date</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Action</b>
01/05/2024	Email	Invitation: Community Conversations launch event Monday 20 May	Circulated
01/05/2024	Email	Draft Minutes from 25 April T&Parish Council meeting	Circulated
02/05/2024	Email	Follow up - Town and Parish Council Pop-up meetings - ABCD Framework for South Gloucestershire	Circulated
02/05/2024	Email	Ditches at Severn Beach Promenade Gardens	JE replied
02/05/2024	Email	Access to Pilning Station	Noted
02/05/2024	Email	Masterplan roundabout proposals	Noted
02/05/2024	Email	SARA donation	JE replied
03/05/2024	Email	Thanks for meeting - Love your place Southern Brooks	Noted
03/05/2024	Email	CiLCA survey	JE replied
03/05/2024	Email	Streeting cleaning and maintenance work for Parish/Town Council	Circulated
03/05/2024	Email	Confirmation of Report fly tipping	Noted
03/05/2024	Email	Pilning Village Hall	JE replied
03/05/2024	Email	Volunteer News: Volunteer Updates and Ways to get Involved!	Circulated
04/05/2024	Email	Access to Pilning Station	Noted
06/05/2024	Email	End of Grant Return	JE replied
06/05/2024	Email	Parish report for PC	JE replied
06/05/2024	Email	Parish Council Report   May 2024	Circulated
07/05/2024	Email	Request for assistance	WERN agent
07/05/2024	Phone	Telephone call, swimming at Severn Beach	Correspondence
07/05/2024	Email	NALC Model Financial Regulations (2024)	Noted
08/05/2024	Email	Northwick Road / Bank Road fire complaint	JE replied
08/05/2024	Email	Fly tipping Little Green Lane	JE replied
08/05/2024	Website	History / family tree question	JE replied
08/05/2024	Email	Trust and Charity Law Training (Tuesday 11th & 18th June, 10:00-11:30)	Noted
08/05/2024	Email	Recycled plastic	Circulated
09/05/2024	Email	Northwick Tower Restoration - 3D survey	JE replied
09/05/2024	Email	Cyber Security Awareness - courses for Clerks available	Noted
09/05/2024	Email	Touching Base   Salhouse Farm Park	Noted
09/05/2024	Email	Salhouse Farm Letter	JE replied
09/05/2024	Email	Updated notification of works - M48 NO2 Reduction Signage	Noted
09/05/2024	Email	Planning Application Traveller site MCR	Circulated



09/05/2024	Email	Land at Station Road	Noted
10/05/2024	Email	'New' link road	Noted
10/05/2024	Email	Upcoming Roadworks: M4 Prince of Wales Bridge Re-surfacing	Noted
10/05/2024	Email	ALCA Webinar - Introduction to the Local Councils Award Scheme: Laying the foundation for success	Noted
10/05/2024	Email	Posters seen in Severn Beach and on social media	Circulated
10/05/2024	Email	GWR - Idling Trains	Noted
11/05/2024	Email	PC & PVH hire	JE replied
12/05/2024	Email	SouthGlos Forward Plan	Noted
13/05/2024	Email	Grant application form	Agenda
13/05/2024	Email	Southern Brookes offer of help with LNAP	JE replied
13/05/2024	Email	Complaint about pile driving noise	JE replied
13/05/2024	Email	Parish defibs	JE replied
14/05/2024	Email	WESTlink Service	Circulated
14/05/2024	Email	Northwick Tower Restoration - 3D survey, further information	Circulated
15/05/2024	Email	Community Engagement Newsletter May 2024	Circulated
15/05/2024	Email	Local Partnership Opportunities - May Business Breakfast - Th. May 23rd 07:30	Circulated
15/05/2024	Email	ENQ - 30492: Promenade Gardens, Severn Beach - subject to contract	JE replied
15/05/2024	Website	Complaint about the state of a private wall	JE replied
15/05/2024	Email	Wording on the Best front garden cup	JE replied
15/05/2024	Email	Salthouse Farm Park	Noted
15/05/2024	Email	Pilning Station Enforcement	Noted
16/05/2024	Email	Inquiry about nature and conservation activities around Pilning (Balsam Bash)	Circulated
16/05/2024	Email	Elmtree's Insurance 2024 - 2025	Filed
16/05/2024	Email	Wildflower area at Promenade Gardens	Noted
16/05/2024	Email	Orchard Pools. next stage	Noted
16/05/2024	Email	Active Travel Grants	Circulated
16/05/2024	Email	The Environment Agency   training & support for local people	Circulated
16/05/2024	Email	Local Industrial Decarbonisation Plan Survey	JE replied
17/05/2024	Email	NEW PUBLICATION 2024 Good Councillor Guide	Circulated
17/05/2024	Email	Severnfest	Forwarded
17/05/2024	Email	M48 Eastbound Resurfacing Notification of Work	Noted
17/05/2024	Email	Work plan for Pilning & Severn Beach LNAP	JE replied
17/05/2024	Email	Reply from Severnfest	Noted
20/05/2024	Email	Oscar / Jonathan - LNAP work plan	JE replied

20/05/2024	Email	Local Partnership Opportunities and M49J Update - May Business Breakfast - Th. May 23rd 07:30	Noted
20/05/2024	Email	Proposal to lease SGC flood plain land	Agenda
20/05/2024	Email	Clerks Network 4th September 2024	JE replied
20/05/2024	Email	D Day 80	JE replied
20/05/2024	Email	Safety of Lithium-ion Batteries and e-bikes and scooters	Circulated
21/05/2024	Email	Bank Road   Pilning   Traveller site disturbance	Noted
21/05/2024	Email	Cranmoor Green Caravan	Noted
21/05/2024	Email	NALC Councillor Allowances Survey	Circulated
21/05/2024	Email	New Councillor for Pilning & Severn Beach Parish Council	Noted
21/05/2024	Email	Advance notice of Severn Tunnel rail closure this summer	Circulated
22/05/2024	Email	URGENT: (POSTPONED): ALCA Clerks & Officers Network	Noted
22/05/2024	Email	COM/23/0939/OD - Post Office	Circulated
22/05/2024	Email	Himalayan Balsam	Noted
22/05/2024	Email	Planning application changes	Published
22/05/2024	Email	Additional enforcement issue at Pilning Station	JE replied
22/05/2024	Website	Complaint over the state of the Tea Cottage steps during memorial construction works	Forwarded
23/05/2024	Email	Sea wall signage	JE replied
24/05/2024	Email	Severn Beach Social hub - LCNAP engagement	Noted
24/05/2024	Email	Community Conversations social media awareness and reminder to consent to share your email address	Circulated
26/05/2024	Email	Communication From South Gloucestershire Libraries	Circulated
28/05/2024	Email	Pilning Basketball Court	JE replied
28/05/2024	Email	National Highways – M48 Awkley Interchange to junction 1 resurfacing	Noted

## APPENDIX B – ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	LEGAL REF	NET VAT	VAT	TOTAL
02/05/2024	SMITHS	Skip for Severn Beach allotment	SHA 1908 s23, s25	£326.40	£54.40	£272.00
03/05/2024	ELMTREE GARDEN	Grass Cutting	s111	£1,583.30	£263.88	£741.00
03/05/2024	ELMTREE GARDEN	Northwick Cemetery	s214			£231.00
03/05/2024	ELMTREE GARDEN	Pilning Cemetery	s214			£347.42
08/05/2024	PLANIT GARDENS	Cemetery Bins	PHA 1875 s164	£142.50		£38.00
08/05/2024	PLANIT GARDENS	Pilning Playing Field Litter Pick	s214			£19.00
08/05/2024	PLANIT GARDENS	Pilning Cemetery	SHA 1908 s23, s25			£85.50
08/05/2024	MIKE ARCHER-SMITH	Internal Audit and AGAR preparation	s111	£150.00		£150.00
08/05/2024	GOOGLE	Email and data storage	s111	£132.00		£120.00
08/05/2024	GOOGLE	Email and data storage	LA 2011, NP 2017			£12.00
08/05/2024	PETER TYZACK	Expenses	s111	£14.40		£14.40
08/05/2024	PILNING CHURCH COUNCIL	Room hire	s111	£31.50		£31.50
08/05/2024	GROUNDWORKS	Return of NSPG grant	LA 2011, NP 2017	£483.50		£483.50
15/05/2024	O2	Mobile phone	s111	£16.84	£2.81	£14.03
16/05/2024	SEVERN BEACH VILLAGE HALL	Library Internet	LG (MP) 1976 s19	£209.64		£209.64
17/05/2024	BT	Telephone	s111	£71.72	£11.95	£59.77
20/05/2024	NOW PENSIONS	Pension Contribution	s111	£173.72		£173.72
21/05/2024	ICO	ICO licence	s111	£35.00		£35.00
21/05/2024	DUNKLEY'S	Payroll preparation	s111	£144.00	£24.00	£120.00
23/05/2024	ST PETER'S HOSPICE	Grant application	s137	£200.00		£200.00
31/05/2024	J EDWARDES	Wages Office & Broadband	s111	£1,731.39		£1,731.39
31/05/2024	ODILE MCINTOSH	Wages	s111	£24.00		£24.00
04/06/2024	THINKLOGIC	Defibrillator Monitoring	PHA 1936 s234	£720.00	£120.00	£600.00
04/06/2024	HMRC	Tax & NI	s111	£470.75		£470.75
			<b>Total</b>	<b>£6,660.66</b>	<b>£477.04</b>	<b>£6,183.62</b>

## **Appendix C NPSG Report**

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG) Report to Parish Council 3rd June 2024 – delivered by Richard Edwards

The NPSG meeting since last PC meeting was on 21st May. Matters discussed and arising since are as follows:

### **Flooding**

As reported at the last three PC meetings, the Steering Group has been waiting for the re-modelled 100-year flood risk data, which was due to be available at the end of February. Our most recent request for an update from the EA was made on 30th May. They responded immediately to say that they still haven't received the updated model run files from Mott MacDonald. These were expected 'in the next few days', which was similar to what we were told when we'd asked 3 weeks earlier. They clarified these will be the defended scenarios representing the new sea defences in the present day, 2083, 2098 and 2123. Once received the EA will review these and then the breach scenarios will be run after that. They also clarified that Mott MacDonald are working on behalf of the ASEA project partners; South Gloucestershire Council, Environment Agency and Bristol City Council.

Therefore, the NP essentially remains on hold, and at the current rate, may continue to do so for several months.

### **Neighbourhood Development Plan**

With this delay, we continue to take the opportunity to review and update the draft NDP and will have a sub-group meeting specifically for that purpose later this week.

### **Evaluation of Sites**

Land adjacent to Severn Beach Railway Station: We'd received Network Rail's study results for how 3 trains per hour service could be best accommodated. Their conclusion is to make the existing platform double sided and to build an additional track on the east side of it. The SG has written to ask whether they had considered shortening the track a little using the south end of the platform, to allow better land availability at the north end.

Land at Gypsies Platt: Having been contacted by the developer regarding access road, the Steering Group has written to SGC to request a meeting. A reminder is being passed to the Village Hall Trust for them to consider any options for their participation.

Land for parking at New Passage and Shaft Road: Further to the approach by a resident at New Passage to provide a car park in connection with a possible future commercial/residential planning application, the SG had looked into potential flood depths and concluded that, although supportive of a car park, property designs would need to go beyond the established design codes and additionally exceptional circumstances for green belt would be challenging.

The SG met with the owners of another possible site in New Passage, who wish this to be considered on a lease basis. The SG has written to SGC to ask how they might support this and another option to buy some land at Shaft Road. Initial responses have indicated they would not normally get involved in purchasing or leasing new pieces of land. There was some confusion from the Officer with the separate leasing request made by the PC for Promenade Gardens and they wanted to stress that intention to change use of any land permanently to car parking would require planning permission.

## **Planning Applications**

For the application for two new traveller pitches on Marsh Common Road (P24/00813/F), the SG agreed to submit neutral comments highlighting the issues of flooding, green belt and access, which may apply and should be considered by the planners in their assessments.

For the application for removal of conditions 1 and 2 allowing siting of 10 traveller pitches at the existing site on Meadow View, Bank Road, it was agreed the Group would leave this with the Parish Council, to submit comments with regard to enforcement on the site and the issue of this being flood zone 3. In the past the SG had been unable to get a response from landowners to requests for whether this land could be available for future development in the NP. It was agreed to make an approach to the named agent in the application who was acting on behalf of the owners.

There were no other new planning applications thought to be relevant to the NP to discuss at the time of the meeting.

## **Meetings with Political Parties**

We met with Luke Hall on Friday, 10th May to brief him on the NP. This was arranged and took place well before any general election announcement. We have previously met with and briefed Claire Young. The SG is happy to brief any other candidates in the election to ensure they understand the objectives of the NP as and when need arises.

## **Financial Report**

The return of end of year grant money of £483.50 has been made to Locality.

**Next SG meeting:** 18th June, Emmaus Church (7pm).

## Appendix D Unitary Councillor Report

Key updates for Parish Council colleagues in June 2024;

- Following residents attending the last Parish Council and subsequent Full South Glos Council meeting last month, I have met with Officers in the Council. We discussed the three areas of concern; the license, planning history of the site, and the tree feeling last year and follow up. Officers updated on all areas of concern raised with me, and I'll be liaising with the residents as further information becomes available. Officers have visited the site since the last Parish meeting, liaised and met with the owner, and following discussion are satisfied the license conditions are being met. I'm sharing a copy of the conditions with the Parish Council.
- Pilning Station enforcement is progressing. I'm aware that both previous notices on the site have expired, and SGC now need to follow up and take action which I have made clear. What's taking place on site is unacceptable and whilst it does require a multi-agency approach, it cannot be beyond these agencies to collaborate and bring this situation to a conclusion.
- Following enforcement and visits from SGC Officers, the Cross hands Pub site does appear to be in much better condition, and I've heard anecdotally from local people that the site looks much better.
- I have liaised with SGC Officers in relation to the number of visitors and tourists to the Severn Beach area. This is mainly driven due to the completion of the sea defences and the opening of the coastal path. Visitors are of course welcome, and contribute to the local economy, but we need to review parking, signage and information sharing to ensure a good relationship is in place with residents.
- At the last Full Council meeting, the Council Plan was approved. The wider Local Plan process is progressing and an update will be available soon as part of the process, consultation and adoption.
- I have remained in contact with the SGC Traveler Unit following concerns from local people relating to two incidents in the last month. These cause worry and concern locally and where possible I'll always aim to share information. The local police do appear to have given reassurance following the events.
- Kelvin Packer, leading on the motorway junction development has updated that the work on the new motorway connection is progressing towards a start on site.
- Finally, we have welcomed Ofsted this month to review Children's Services at SGC. This long awaited visit is being supported by colleagues in the Council and lead Officers.

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