



# **SALTFORD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held in the Avon Room at Salford Hall on Tuesday 4 February 2025 at 7.15pm**

## **PRESENT**

**Councillors:** David Halton (Vice Chair), Gary Graveling, Phil Harding (Chair of Planning Committee), Paul Smith, and Andy Rice.

**Officer:** Lottie Smith-Collins.

## **1. MINUTES**

The Council resolved to accept the draft minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 7 January 2025 at Salford Hall as final. The minutes were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair of the meeting.

## **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for inability to attend were received in advance of the meeting from Cllrs Jon Godfrey (Chair), Julie Austwick, Shayan Aziz, Dudley Bartlett and Emma Hughes and Sally Turner.

## **3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

None declared.

## **4. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cllr David Halton, Vice Chair of Salford Parish Council, stated that in the absence of Cllr Jon Godfrey (Chair) and in line with Standing Orders he would Chair the meeting.

Following the outcome of the B&NES Ward Councillor by-election, Cllr Halton welcomed the newly elected B&NES Council Salford Ward Councillor, Cllr Chris Warren, to the meeting.

## **5. PUBLIC TIME**

There were 10 members of the public present.

Two members of the public addressed the Council.

A resident spoke with regards to 'Item 17 – Snake Meadows, Bath Road, Salford BS31 3JS – Application for Licence for performance of live music (outdoors), performance of recorded music (outdoors) and sale of alcohol (licencing application reference 25/00176/LAPRE) including attendance of up to 2000 people per event. The resident spoke to express their strong concerns should the licence be granted, which included the impact of 12 hours of noise; the unsuitable nature of the location for the number of people; impact on the A4; limited number and concerning nature of

access/exit site points; site evacuation concerns; concerns about emergency access to the site; the impact of parking on residential streets; and litter concerns.

The second resident to speak expressed their full support of the first resident's comments with regards to 'Item 17 – Snake Meadows'. The second resident then spoke with regards to 'Item 18 – Letter to leader of B&NES Council regarding Liberal Democrat letter and petition to Saltford residents about A4 bus lanes on Keynsham Bypass'. The resident expressed their opposition to full length bus lanes unless additional carriageways were added, and stated that their understanding was that it was without consultation that B&NES Ward Cllrs had changed their position as indicated on the letter sent to residents in November 2024. The resident urged SPC to respond to the letter and to publicly re-state its resolved response and stance with regards to proposals in the WECA 'A4 Bath to Bristol Corridor' consultation.

## **6. CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Clerk shared that a report had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting, and summarised the following information:

- Cllrs Phil Harding and Paul Smith had attended the Holocaust Memorial Day special event held at the Guildhall in Bath on 27 January, and that Cllr Harding had been asked to light a candle on behalf of all those who were murdered in concentration camps as part of the evening's event.
- Saltford4Nature had expressed its thanks to SPC for a grant towards the costs of the Community Fruit Garden (located near Saltford Memorial Garden), and that Saltford4Nature had shared photos and an update with SPC which included that the majority of the garden had been planted, and that SPC's logo would be displayed.
- SPC had booked its Internal Audit to take place in May, to be carried out by Auditing Solutions.
- Cllr Duncan Hounsell, Saltford Ward Councillor, had stepped down from the Local River Side Working Group. SPC thanked Cllr Hounsell for his time on the group. It was shared that as the working group was open to Ward Councillors to attend, Cllr Chris Warren had agreed to join the Local River Side working group following his appointment as B&NES Ward Councillor.
- Cllr Andy Rice had represented SPC at the Saltford Santa Dash Charities Presentation, held at Saltford Sports Club on 17 January. SPC had awarded grant funding to the Saltford Santa Dash for its 2024 event.
- Following Saltford Parish Council having raised with B&NES Council (the Elections Authority) that it and other Parish Councils in Saltford Ward had not been informed by B&NES Council about the Saltford Ward Councillor vacancy or the notice for a by-election (marking the start of the pre-election period), the Elections Authority at B&NES Council had agreed to inform Parish Councils about B&NES Council Ward Councillor by-elections in the future.
- SPC intended to carry out a visual safety inspection of the closed churchyard at St Mary's Churchyard in March.
- SPC understood that the Thermal Road Repair due on Beech Road by B&NES Council had been postponed due to the Thermal Road Repair

machine being out of order. SPC would review the One.Network website for any future works listed at this location, which followed SPC's request to B&NES Council for road maintenance works due to safety concerns.

- Flourish at Glenavon Farm have been in touch to say that would replace their flowers on SPC's Norman Road phone box with bedding plants, likely in mid to late March when the weather conditions are suitable.

## **7. INFORMATION FROM B&NES COUNCIL SALTFORD WARD COUNCILLORS**

The Chair invited the Clerk to share information from a report as sent in advance of the meeting by B&NES Ward Cllr Duncan Hounsell.

Information shared on behalf of Cllr Hounsell included that:

- Cllr Hounsell had, for the second time, addressed the WECA Overview and Scrutiny panel and that he had spoken unequivocally against bus lanes on the Keynsham by-pass at any time of the day. Cllr Hounsell had also shared that he had sought a meeting with Dan Norris MP on this issue.
- With regards to the B&NES Council Local Plan process, a renewed 'call for sites' had commenced on 3 February 2025 and that it would end on 21 March 2025, and that the 'call for sites' was a period when anyone could put forward sites for possible development and that the law required this process to take place, and that all such sites would be examined for suitability
- Cllr Hounsell had attended the presentation of prizes on Friday 24 January at Saltford Primary School for a road safety competition organised by Volker Highways and the Road Safety team at B&NES. The three winners had their designs put onto metal signs which could be seen displayed on posts in Claverton Road and Manor Road.
- Cllr Hounsell had forwarded information from B&NES Council's Waste and Recycling Team about a 12-week trial of new sealed reusable recycling bags for plastics and cans, which would be carried out at a small selection of properties from across the district including at residences on the A4 Bath Road, Saltford (even numbers 392 – 472 and odd numbers 429 – 487).

Cllr Chris Warren, B&NES Ward Councillor for Saltford, was present at the meeting and was invited by the Chair of the meeting to address the Council.

- Cllr Warren introduced himself as the newly elected B&NES Councillor for Saltford Ward and made reference to the Saltford Ward by-election in January. Cllr Warren stated his awareness of current key issues in Saltford.
- Cllr Warren shared his intention to attend the B&NES Council Budget meeting in February, and that he would share information following.
- Cllr Warren expressed his willingness to support Saltford Parish Council, and his intention to assist SPC where possible and if requested. Cllr Warren added that he would be pleased to meet with the Council when required, and to facilitate the Parish Council's engagement with B&NES Council.

## **8. REPORTS FROM LINK MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

None reported.

## **9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Council agreed to review and resolve its policy with regards to a re-opened railway station in Saltford at a future meeting. This would be in consideration of recent information from the Chancellor of the Exchequer as shared by Cllr Phil Harding, including comments by the Chancellor of the Exchequer that there would be a new approach to planning decisions on land around railway stations, and that new transport infrastructure could act as a catalyst for new housing.

Following this item being resolved at a future meeting, it was agreed that SPC would subsequently review its Policy Overview, which currently included SPC's support of a re-opened Saltford Station, likely at its May meeting (the meeting when SPC's Policy Overview was usually reviewed).

**(ITEM 17 AND ITEM 18 WERE RESOLVED NEXT)**

## **10. PLANNING MATTERS**

### **a. Decisions and appeals**

**The Clerk reported that SPC had been informed that the following application had been PERMITTED (with conditions) by B&NES Council:**

24/04474/FUL - 16 Grange Road Saltford BS31 3AH. Proposed new detached double garage and ancillary works. Mr & Mrs David Jones.

### **b. Planning contraventions**

- i. No updates were received on matters that had been referred to B&NES Council regarding possible contraventions.
- ii. No reports of other new possible or reported planning contraventions were received.

### **c. Planning items of important or urgent information**

The Council noted, as under 'Information from B&NES Council Ward Councillors for Saltford – Item 7', that B&NES Council's Local Plan renewed process for 'call for sites' had started and that it would end on 21 March 2025.

- d. Planning applications (consultations) – As a statutory consultee, the Council considered and RESOLVED the following planning application in respect of which Bath & North East Somerset (B&NES) Council had invited comments (text taken directly from information supplied by B&NES Council):**

**25/00259/FUL - 20 Beresford Close Saltford BS31 3HU.** Erection of rear and side single storey extension. Mr and Mrs Hitchcock

It was resolved that B&NES Council be advised that this Council **COMMENTS ON** this application:

**COMMENT:** Saltford Parish Council is broadly supportive of the proposed extensions to this property. Following the submission of this planning application, the owners of the adjoining property, No. 18, have supplied BaNES Council with a SUPPORT comment. That states that they are looking to submit a similar application in the future, thus sharing the same party wall so that the two properties are in keeping with each other. In those circumstances, the Parish Council would SUPPORT the application. However, if the proposed future extension at No. 18 does not materialise, then at potentially considerable inconvenience to No.18, future access for maintenance or repair of the new rear extension will be required from No. 18 as the new extension's side wall for this planning application will be on the shared boundary line.

External rear garden access will become more constrained from its own land for No. 20 than the current situation due to the proposed increased development of the site. The proposed new side extension that will be next to No. 22 will also be on the boundary line with that property. That is the situation with the existing, smaller, extension except that the new extension, by extending further rearwards, will leave a much smaller gap between itself and No. 22's rear garden detached garage that is also on the boundary line for the two properties.

**25/00283/TCA - 36 High Street Saltford BS31 3EJ.** T1 Cotoneaster Cornubia - coppice to ground level. T2 Silver Birch, Betula Youngii - trim branches of 2.5m over the path. T3 Magnolia Grandiflora - trim by 750mm on both sides. Trim top by 750mm. Peter Philips

It was resolved that B&NES Council be advised that this Council **SUPPORTS** this application.

**25/00328/FUL - 77 Grange Road Saltford BS31 3AQ.** Erection of single storey rear infill extension and single storey partial side extension. Mr & Mrs Daniel & Sarah Thomas

It was resolved that B&NES Council be advised that this Council **SUPPORTS** this application.

e. **SPC's LETTER 'NEW HOUSING WITHOUT COMPROMISING FOOD SECURITY AND NATURE' TO DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER**

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the contents of SPC's draft open letter 'New housing without compromising food security and nature' as its official view.

The letter included the decision to raise SPC's concerns that the Government's planning policy for building 1.5 million new homes had the potential to cause considerable long-term harm to the nation's food security, economy and natural capital.

The Council agreed to request in its letter that the Government take action so that Green Belt and farmland could be protected from future development.

The letter also included a request by the Council that the Government make an unequivocal policy statement to overrule any interpretation of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, December 2024) and related planning policies that "*no undeveloped land in the Green Belt and/or farmland during the current Parliament shall be permitted planning permission, including on appeal to the Secretary of State, for building new homes to meet national or local housing targets set by HM Government or Local Planning Authorities*" and that existing planning permissions for new housing developments that remain unbuilt (one million according to [www.planningportal.co.uk](http://www.planningportal.co.uk), 5.12.2024), should be completed or well advanced by 2029, with steps taken by Government, as necessary, to make that happen.

Further to the letter, it was also agreed that some copy recipients of the letter would receive additional information to summarise why SPC was writing to the Deputy Prime Minister and to explain the situation in Saltford. Information included that the village had grown by 114% since 1951, as well as the cumulative effect of new housing in Keynsham and South Gloucestershire etc. causing serious traffic congestion locally and the risk to Saltford's rural village status from any further new developments.

It was RESOLVED that SPC would share its letter and in doing so make the case to local and central government and others that there is no need or justification to build new housing on the Green Belt or farmland. It was agreed that the letter would be sent to the following recipients:

- i. Deputy Prime Minister Angela Rayner via Dan Norris MP (NE Somerset & Hanham) with supporting information as appropriate, which would include a request that Dan Norris MP make representations on behalf of Saltford Parish Council to the Deputy Prime Minister and to Steve Reed MP, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, and other MPs as appropriate.
- ii. The Leader of B&NES Council (c.c. the B&NES Council Cabinet Member for Built Environment, Housing and Sustainable Development, and Saltford B&NES Ward Councillors) and to request that B&NES Council make a similar and supportive representation to the Deputy Prime Minister asking her to seriously consider supporting the request of Saltford Parish Council's letter.
- iii. The President of the National Farmers' Union (NFU), and/or the President of CPRE (c.c. Director of CPRE Avon and Bristol), including a request that the NFU and/or CPRE make a similar and supportive representation to the Deputy Prime Minister asking her to seriously consider supporting the request of Saltford Parish Council's letter.
- iv. Keynsham Town Council.

- v. National media (including, for example, The Times, Telegraph, Guardian, and the BBC including Countryfile, etc.).
- f. **VIEW ON SUB-REGIONAL APPROACH TO NEW HOUSING IN THE WEST OF ENGLAND COMBINED AUTHORITY (WECA) AREA**

Further to SPC's meeting with Dan Norris MP in November 2024 and his suggestion that there was a strong need for a sub-regional approach to identify where new housing in the West of England Combined Authority area should be located (Item 10.g, December 2024), the Council RESOLVED that there was a strong need for a sub-regional approach to identify where new housing in the WECA area should be located,

and

The Council RESOLVED to support the creation of a new town (or 'garden city') in the WECA area if statutory housing targets as set by the Government continued to require a significant new housing provision for the WECA area that could not be absorbed by existing brownfield land, and that any such new town include access to employment and services including transport or other means that would meet sustainable development criteria.

- g. **Planning Policy: SPC request for 'Saltford South of the A4' landscape designation (AGLV or LGS)**

The Council agreed to contact the B&NES Council Planning Policy team to arrange a meeting to progress SPC's bid for additional designated landscape protection at 'Saltford South of the A4'.

## **11. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- a. **Monthly Financial Report** – The Clerk presented the monthly financial report for January 2025, as recorded below. The report was considered and accepted by members.
- b. **Schedule of Expenditure** – The Council RESOLVED to authorise the expenditure listed in the schedule for February 2025 and the schedule was signed by the Chair of the meeting.
- c. For reference it was noted that resolution for spend was included under Items 12 & 13, and that spend under the Scheme of Emergency Delegation was included in Item 14.

## **12. CHURCHYARD GROUNDS MAINTENANCE MARCH 2025 TO FEBRUARY 2026 (INCLUDING TO RESOLVE SPEND)**

The Council RESOLVED to appoint Ambience Grounds Maintenance as its contractor to undertake the regular churchyard grounds maintenance for the year

starting on 1 March 2025 and according to the specification agreed in January.

The Council RESOLVED a spend of up to £2,300 p.a. inc VAT (Budget heading: Churchyard Grounds Maintenance).

### **13. ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD WALLS SURVEY (INCLUDING TO RESOLVE SPEND)**

The Council RESOLVED to accept a quote from Mann Williams and agreed to commission Mann Williams to undertake the survey of the closed churchyard walls at St Mary's Church, Saltford.

The Council RESOLVED a spend of up to £750 + VAT for the Churchyard walls survey (Budget heading: Special Churchyard Maintenance Projects).

### **14. USE OF SCHEME OF EMERGENCY DELEGATION - CHURCHYARD WALL MAINTENANCE WORKS (INCLUDING TO ACCEPT EMERGENCY SPEND ON URGENT CHURCHYARD WALL WORKS UNDER THE SCHEME OF EMERGENCY DELEGATION)**

The Council accepted use of SPC's Emergency Scheme of Delegation by the Clerk – and in consultation with the Chair and Councillors - to approve spend for urgent repairs at St Mary's Churchyard following the partial collapse of a section of historic wall (as reported at the January 2025 meeting under Item 21). The Council expressed its recognition that spend was required in consideration of SPC's Safety Maintenance responsibilities at St Mary's Churchyard, and with a view to prevent further maintenance requirements arising. The Council supported the agreed spend of £1750 (Budget: Churchyard Special Maintenance Projects) as quoted from Stonemason William Feay, with works to take place soon as reasonably possible.

The Council formally RESOLVED that spend on the 'Churchyard Special Maintenance Project' budget for the current financial year could be exceeded to accommodate the above spend for safety reasons, and should payment be made for both items 13 and 14 be required in the 2024/25 financial year.

### **15. USE OF SCHEME OF EMERGENCY DELEGATION – WESTERN GATEWAY DRAFT STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PLAN (SIP) CONSULTATION**

The Clerk shared that the Western Gateway was a sub-national transport body made up of a partnership of nine local and/or combined authorities, including B&NES Council, and that responsibility for the SIP was shared among these authorities.

The Council accepted use of SPC's Emergency Scheme of Delegation by the Clerk - in consultation with the Chair and Councillors - to resolve SPC's response to the Western Gateway Draft Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) consultation, in order for SPC to submit a view before the end date of 2 February 2025. The response specifically addressed priority 25 'Bus corridor package in Bath'.

The Clerk shared that SPC's response to the Western Gateway consultation had been in line with SPC's resolved response to the WECA 'A4 Bath to Bristol' consultation at its [September 2023 meeting \(Item 9\)](#).

In summary, SPC's response had strongly objected to the proposals for changes to the highway as outlined for Saltford and the Keynsham Bypass (bar the Esso garage crossing) and viewed that they provided no transport benefit to Saltford residents. The Clerk shared that an article which included a full copy of SPC's Western Gateway 'Bus corridor package in Bath' consultation response had been shared on its website under [News](#)'.

## **16. B&NES COUNCIL LICENSING CONSULTATION – REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003**

Saltford Parish Council RESOLVED to DISAGREE with the review and agreed to raise its valid concerns about B&NES Council's current approach to public awareness and participation in the Licensing process. It agreed to respond to the consultation to highlight an important gap in communication, mainly that the absence of proactive measures to inform residents and Parish Councils about ongoing Licensing applications limited opportunities for public engagement, which was crucial for ensuring transparency and accountability in local decision-making, and that this needed to be taken into account when B&NES Council reviewed its Licensing Policy.

The Council viewed that the approach it suggested – which included email notifications for Licencing application updates - would not only increase engagement by residents but also align with broader strategies for local development and governance. The Council also viewed that should B&NES Council choose to implement the Parish Council's recommended approach, it would likely enhance transparency and create a more informed public dialogue surrounding Licensing applications on the matters the consultation was looking to address.

It was agreed that the Council's response would be submitted by the consultation deadline of 5pm on 28 February 2025.

## **17. SNAKE MEADOWS, BATH ROAD, SALTFFORD BS31 3JS - APPLICATION FOR LICENCE FOR PERFORMANCE OF LIVE MUSIC (OUTDOORS), PERFORMANCE OF RECORDED MUSIC (OUTDOORS) AND SALE OF ALCOHOL (LICENCING APPLICATION REFERENCE 25/00176/LAPRE) INCLUDING ATTENDANCE OF UP TO 2000 PEOPLE PER EVENT**

It was RESOLVED that Saltford Parish Council in responding to the B&NES Council Licensing consultation for a New Premises Licence at 'Snake Meadows, Bath Road, Saltford BS31 3JS - Licensing Application Reference: 25/00176/LAPRE', would submit an OBJECT response by the 17 February end date via the [B&NES Council Licencing portal](#).

The Council resolved its OBJECT response based on information available on the Licensing Portal (application form and site plan as the only documents) for a License application for the following activities:

- Performance of Live Music (Outdoors) Saturday, 10:30 to 23:00
- Performance of Recorded Music (Outdoors) Saturday, 10:30 to 23:00
- Sale of Alcohol Saturday, 10:30 to 23:00

SPC noted that attendance at any events on Saturdays at the location was described in the application form as '*expected to be no more than 2,000 people per event*' and also '*intended to host an annual festival on two separate occasions per year*' as statements of intention and not as an absolute. The Council recognised the Licence sought was for outdoor performances of live music, recorded music and alcohol sales from 10:30am to 11pm every Saturday of the year, and agreed to resolve its response based on the Licence that had been applied for.

The Council also noted that although a Traffic Management Plan, Noise Management Plan, etc. might have been in development, no documents had been made available to view by the Parish Council on such matters nor made available on the Licensing portal prior to Council resolving its response.

The Council resolved to OBJECT for the following reasons and concerns:

- **Impact on traffic flow on the A4 Bath Road:** Concerns that the single entrance/exit for the site was insufficient to handle the expected volume of both vehicles and pedestrians throughout any event, which would likely result in severe traffic delays, long tailbacks, etc.; and that this would also impede quick access for emergency vehicles, both along the A4 and within the immediate vicinity of Saltford including to Snake Meadows.
- **Dangerous access to/from the site from the A4 by pedestrians or vehicles:** Concern that a high volume of people or vehicles suddenly entering or exiting the gateway and/or onto a narrow pedestrian path alongside a major road like the A4 could lead to accidents; Concern that the capacity to safely evacuate such a large number of people through the main narrow, single exit may not accommodate a quick and efficient evacuation; Concern due to the proximity of the site's main gate directly to the A4 (with only a narrow pedestrian path) posed a significant danger for pedestrians and vehicle traffic, especially if emergency evacuation was required; Concern that emergency response vehicles would struggle to access the site due to pedestrian and vehicle congestion at the main entrance/exit, particularly if the site's only access point was blocked by a large crowd and/or vehicles, and that this would especially hinder the ability to provide immediate assistance during critical situations (e.g. fire, major incident etc.).
- **Dangerous and hazardous parking on A4 Bath Road and Saltford's residential roads:** Concern as parking capacity was not stated on the site

plan (just locations for vehicle parking) that parking capacity looked likely to be inadequate for the nature and size of events planned e.g. music festival with c.2000 attendees; Concerns that existing parking infrastructure in the village was not sufficient to handle such numbers should there not be appropriate on-site parking capacity; Concerns that to permit a permanent Licence for up to 52 events per annum for c.2000 people without on-site parking capacity for all vehicles would exacerbate dangerous parking in the village at or close to areas with known hazardous parking issues (as both the Police and B&NES Parking Enforcement were aware of); Concern that dangerous or hazardous parking would be more likely due to the long wait times to access the site from the A4 Bath Road, which would result in drivers looking to find alternative parking options due to the delays and access issues that the site entrance presented; Concern that parking on the A4 and in residential roads would result in access issues and gridlock, as seen annually when high numbers of vehicles park in Saltford, particularly during the summer months, giving rise to serious safety implications.

- **Negative impact on the local community:** Concerns about noise disturbance, especially in a rural village setting like Saltford, due to the proposed license being for 12.5 hours of outdoor live music every Saturday, 12.5 hours of recorded music every Saturday, and the sale of alcohol for 12.5 hours every Saturday; Concerns that the level of noise disruption to residents would be excessive despite the development of any Noise Management Plan, due to the duration and frequency of events for which the licence has been sought e.g. the License would permit an outdoor event with music to occur every Saturday, 52 weeks a year – this could be viewed as the creation of an ongoing disturbance for residents, and that this regularity could make it difficult for residents impacted to find peace or to engage in daily activities; Concerns about post-event disruption, with the potential of c.2000+ people leaving the site after 11 p.m., both for residents near Snake Meadows and those on nearby residential roads where event attendees have parked and who may be disturbed; Concern about how the event could affect other local businesses (access to premises, noise disturbance etc.). Concerns that if large crowds converged on the area, there could be issues with congestion, safety, and the general atmosphere of the village.
- **Increase in Anti-social behaviour:** Concern that alcohol sales for extended hours at large events may contribute to increased anti-social behaviour impacting the local community, including that the license would permit any outdoor live and recorded music event with alcohol sales, not just 'family friendly' events, with the associated risk of attracting disruptive behaviour from individuals who may not adhere to community values, particularly with alcohol sales available throughout the day and continuing late into the evening; Concern about pressure on local resources and that the current infrastructure of Saltford was not equipped to handle the increased number of visitors likely to be drawn to such events, and that this could result in further strain on public

services, including: police presence, waste management, traffic control, parking enforcement etc., which would increase challenges the village already faced particularly in the summer months; Concerns that such a licence if permitted could significantly alter the character of Saltford on Saturdays due to anti-social behaviour, potentially causing regular and long-term disruption for residents and local businesses.

The Council viewed that if event organisers intended to hold one or two family-friendly events as claimed on the application form, it could be worth exploring alternative strategies and approaches to achieve this. These could include reviewing transport to the site for events, reducing numbers, limiting alcohol sales, implementing earlier closing times, and consideration of other methods to minimise the risk of the list of concerns expressed above.

The Council viewed that such Licensing permissions, if sought, could be done so by event organisers on an event-by-event basis (e.g. Temporary Event Notices or similar as appropriate) rather than Snake Meadows looking to gain permission for a blanket permanent Licence which would allow large scale events to occur at the Snake Meadows site on any Saturday of the year as applied for, e.g. c.2000 people at Performance of Live Music (Outdoors), Performance of Recorded Music (Outdoors) and Sale of Alcohol (between 10:30 and 23.00 each Saturday). The Council viewed that a 'per event' licence rather than a permanent site licence would allow, should concerns if they arise at e.g. the first event, these issues to be fully addressed by the event organisers prior to another licence at the site being applied for to the Licensing Authority.

It was also agreed that the B&NES Council's Licencing Team should proactively engage with the Parish Council and B&NES Ward Councillors to inform both the Council and Ward Councillors of any Licensing application for large-scale events in Saltford, and also to inform them of any future licences applied for at the Snake Meadows site in consideration of the concerns raised with regards to application ref. no. 25/00176/LAPRE.

## **18. LETTER TO LEADER OF B&NES COUNCIL REGARDING LIBERAL DEMOCRAT LETTER AND PETITION TO SALT FORD RESIDENTS ABOUT A4 BUS LANES ON KEYNSHAM BYPASS**

The Council RESOLVED to respond to the letter and petition to Saltford residents addressed from the Leader of B&NES Council as sent by the BathNES Liberal Democrats titled in November 'Say 'NO' to 24/7 bus lanes in Saltford'.

The letter sought Saltford resident support for the BathNES Liberal Democrat's proposal for peak-time only bus lanes on the A4 Keynsham Bypass, with 'local traffic' (e.g. all traffic) permitted to use the proposed bus lanes during off-peak periods.

The Council resolved to respond in line with its response to the WECA 'A4 Bath to Bristol' consultation at its [September 2023 meeting \(Item 9\)](#). It was agreed that SPC's letter would include mention of multiple issues associated with the proposed peak-time bus lanes should they replace existing all-traffic carriageway, and that SPC would provide detailed information on key points including: The reasons for SPC's strong opposition to full-length bus lanes; concerns about BathNES Liberal Democrats' proposal for peak-time only bus lanes which SPC viewed as deeply flawed; the negative impact of the given proposal (as stated on the letter and given as an example on the petition itself) on Saltford residents; the lack of clarity in the letter and petition leading to confusion as to intent; and the request for B&NES Council to engage with SPC prior to putting further proposals to WECA with regards to the 'A4 Bath to Bristol Corridor'.

It was agreed that a copy of SPC's would be sent to the Leader of B&NES Council who had signed the letter to residents on behalf of the BathNES Liberal Democrats, to Saltford's B&NES Council Ward Councillors, and for a copy to be made available on SPC's website.

## **19. ASSET CHECKING OUTCOMES**

The Council received reports following asset checking. All asset checks (bar the Badge of Office) had been completed.

It was raised that there was rust on the Youth Shelter, which the Council agreed to monitor and had noted for the next asset check.

It was shared that the two lower screws on the Memorial Garden Sign had been missing when checked and that they had since been replaced.

It was noted that the asset check of the Badge of Office was yet to take place, and that an update would be sought.

It was agreed that a discussion about the condition of one Fairtrade Village sign (Bath-side of the village) would take place at a future meeting.

It was confirmed that all other assets were reported as fine with no actions required.

## **20. NORMAN ROAD PHONE BOX – PROJECT UPDATE AND WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS**

As Cllr Jon Godfrey had sent apologies it was agreed to move this item to the next meeting. No further updates were received.

## **21. PUBLICITY**

The Council agreed the contents of SPC's upcoming SCAN page.

## **22. CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES**

The Clerk reported that contact had been received from the new EV Infrastructure Lead at B&NES Council, and that SPC was awaiting clarification from the B&NES Council Officer about the intended location for EV charging points throughout the district and specifically in Saltford. The Clerk shared that they and Cllr Jon Godfrey had responded to the B&NES Officer stating SPC's support of EV charging points in Saltford, and that they awaited a response.

## **23. DATA PROTECTION AND GDPR UPDATES**

No updates were received.

The meeting closed at 8.56pm.

Date confirmed ...../...../.....

Signed.....

### **Next SPC meeting:**

The next scheduled ordinary full council meeting will place at 7:15pm on Tuesday 4 March 2025 in the Avon Room at Saltford Hall. It is noted that extra ordinary meetings may be called at any point in the calendar year.

# SALTFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Schedule of regular expenditure during February 2025  
– for authorisation by the Council at its meeting on 4 February 2025.**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Method</b>	<b>Budget heading</b>
February staff costs total inc. salary, pension, HMRC tax and National Insurance	3000 estimate, 3200 maximum	Online BACS	Office staff
February SCA Hall hire	45 estimate 60 maximum	Online BACS	Hall hire
February inTouch Communications Ltd phone system	27 (+ VAT) estimate 35 (+ VAT) maximum	Direct Debit	General Administration
February Ambience Landscapes churchyard maintenance	180 (inc VAT) estimate 200 (inc VAT) maximum	Online BACS	Churchyard Maintenance
February monthly One Drive	2 (inc VAT) 3 max	Direct Debit	General Administration
February stationary, IT supplies, printing & postage + as appropriate for business continuity	20 estimate 200 max	Online BACS / Clerks expenses	General Administration
February monthly electronic payments banking fee	£0 estimated £10 maximum	Online BACS	General Administration

The following sums have been transferred from the Business Instant Deposit Account into the Current Account to cover outstanding invoices and expenditure:

**Date: 28/01/25                      Amount: £5,000**

I certify that the above payments made or to be made have been authorised at the meeting of the Parish Council on 4 February 2025.

SIGNED.....  
CHAIR / VICE-CHAIR

DATE:.....

# Saltford Parish Council

Monthly Financial Report for January 2025 - Month 10  
Quarter period 4

	Budget to date	Actual to date	Budget Year end position
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>			
Precept & any grant	£56,320	£56,320	£56,320
Interest on Investments	£667	£625	£800
Other Income: Allotments	£196	£218	£235
VAT Reimbursements	£1,600	£1,901	£1,600
Other	£0	£1,528	£0
<b>Subtotal without CIL</b>	<b>£58,782</b>	<b>£60,591.55</b>	<b>£58,955</b>
CIL Payments	£0.00	£0	£0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£58,782</b>	<b>£60,592</b>	<b>£58,955</b>

## PAYMENTS:

General Administration	£833	£488	£1,000
Office accommodation	£1,500	£1,500	£1,500
Office Staff	£30,958	£28,749	£37,150
Office Equipment	£833	£408	£1,000
Training	£1,125	£1,150	£1,350
Auditing	£650	£610	£650
Insurance	£650	£498	£650
Publicity	£917	£925	£1,100
Subscriptions	£83	£105	£100
Chairmans Honorarium	£250	£225	£300
Councillors' expenses	£83	£0	£100
Hall / Room Hire	£542	£443	£650
Maintenance: Church Yard Grounds	£2,083	£1,480	£2,500
Allotments	£125	£0	£150
Churchyard Special Maintenance Projects	£1,833	£900	£2,200
Allotment site rent	£83	£100	£100
Miscellaneous Grants	£833	£1,400	£1,000
Council led schemes	£1,250	£1,015	£1,500
Environment schemes - SPC	£417	£60	£500
Environment schemes - Misc	£417	£114	£500
VAT	£833	£1,187	£1,000
<b>Subtotal without CIL</b>	<b>£46,300.00</b>	<b>£41,356.34</b>	<b>£55,000.00</b>
CIL-related expenditure	£0	£1,222	£2,582
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£46,300</b>	<b>£42,578</b>	<b>£57,582</b>

## BALANCE AT END OF MONTH:

Current account £2,302

Business Instant Access account	£64,414
Cash	£0
<b>TOTAL CURRENT BALANCE</b>	<b>£66,716</b>

CIL-related cashflow	Balance at 31/03/24		CIL-income 24/25	CIL-expend 24/25	CIL balance
	£5,163		£0.00	£1,222	£3,941