



# SALTFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Tuesday 4 March 2025, 7:15pm**  
**Avon Room, Saltford Hall**

## AGENDA

### 1. MINUTES

To receive, update if required, and confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 4 February 2025 (draft copy available on the [website](#) and on the screen).

### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To report any apologies received by the Clerk for inability to attend this meeting.

### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of Members' interests in any item on the agenda. *The Council's Code of Conduct defines where a Member has a declarable interest and the effects of declarable interests on participation.*

(Items 1-3: 5 minutes)

### 4. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive any announcements from the Chair of Saltford Parish Council.

(3 minutes)

### 5. PUBLIC TIME

In accordance with Standing Orders, to receive any addresses or statements by members of the public on an item (or items) on the Parish Council agenda. Members of the public may address the Council on items that include 'TO RESOLVE' only. Speakers are limited to three minutes per person.

(Up to 15 minutes, at Chair's discretion)

### 6. CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive a summary of announcements and information from the Clerk.

(3 minutes)

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

For the Council to receive information from B&NES Council's Saltford Ward Councillors.

If present, for Ward Councillors to have the opportunity to comment to the Council on any 'TO RESOLVE' items on the agenda.

If present, Parish Councillors may ask B&NES Ward Councillors questions relating to the information shared or ask for comment on or information about item(s) on SPC's agenda.

(Should members of the public wish to ask questions of Ward Councillors this must be done outside of the meeting. To request information from B&NES Council Salford Ward Councillor/s, including information shared at the meeting, please contact B&NES Council Salford Ward Councillor/s directly - information available on the [B&NES Council website](#)).

(Up to 10 minutes i.e. 5 minutes per Ward Cllr, at Chair's discretion)

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

To receive reports from Link Members about external organisations.

(3 minutes)

## **9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Further to items proposed outside of the meeting by Councillors, to receive any suggestions for item(s), including associated actions and information, proposed for future agendas by Councillors.

(3 minutes)

## **10. PLANNING MATTERS**

### **a. Decisions and Appeals:**

To note any decisions by B&NES Council and any appeals to the Planning Inspector made in respect of Salford planning applications.

### **b. Planning contraventions:**

- i. To receive updates on matters which have been referred to B&NES Council, the Planning Authority, regarding possible contraventions of planning controls in Salford (if any).
- ii. To receive any reports of other new possible or reported planning contraventions, and to share information with the planning authority or to agree to discuss at a future meeting information relating to possible or reported planning contraventions, including:
  - TO RESOLVE whether to raise to the awareness of B&NES Council (the responsible authority for Planning, including matters relating to Planning Enforcement) a possible planning contravention at the front of a property on Grange Road (close to the junction with A4 Bath Road).

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

Further to above, to receive any reports of important or urgent information related to planning matters (including planning policy).

To share, if received, important or urgent information received from B&NES Council (the Planning Authority).

**d. Planning applications:**

TO RESOLVE as a statutory consultee responses to the following planning applications in respect of which B&NES Council has invited comments (Further information is [available online](#) on the B&NES Council planning portal):

**25/00520/FUL - 18 Manor Road Saltford BS31 3DN.** Erection of single-storey rear extension, garage conversion and creation of new openings on side elevations. Mr Michael Franklin

**25/00549/TCA - Woodland Belt To South Of 6 Mill Cottages The Shallows Saltford.** Silver Birch - fell. Mandy Mabbs

**25/00537/FUL - 49 Manor Road Saltford BS31 3AB.** Raise existing north facing boundary wall fronting Manor Road (Retrospective). Mr and Mrs Condon

**25/00742/FUL - 23 Grange Road Saltford BS31 3AH.** Erection of a double storey side extension, single storey rear extension and front porch following demolition of existing garage and single storey extensions. Mrs Jasmin Grant

**e. SPC PAPER: GREY BELT ASSESSMENT OF SALTFORD'S GREEN BELT AREA OF GREAT LANDSCAPE VALUE (AGLV)**

Further to the Council resolving that none of Saltford's Green Belt met the Government's definition of 'Grey Belt' ([Item 11.e, January 2025](#)) and in line with the decision made at the January meeting, to resolve to adopt SPC's paper 'Grey Belt Assessment of Saltford's Green Belt (AGLV)' (Draft available on Cllrs SharePoint).

**f. B&NES COUNCIL 'CALL FOR SITES' AS PART OF RESET LOCAL PLAN PROCESS: INFORMATION FOR B&NES COUNCIL PLANNING POLICY TEAM (NOT TO RESPOND TO THE 'CALL TO SITES' CONSULTATION)**

B&NES Council is running another [call for sites](#) as part of the reset Local Plan process, to ask for suggestions of potential sites that could be considered for development for housing and economic uses. TO RESOLVE to inform the B&NES Council Planning Policy team at B&NES Council, by email, of the following information:

- [SPC's Local Plan Options Consultation response](#) from 2024, specifically sections 'New settlement' and 'Bath and elsewhere' under 'Keynsham, and Saltford: Area overview' (p.4 on the document linked)

- SPC's public letter '[New Housing without compromising food security and nature](#)' to the Deputy Prime Minister Angela Rayner MP .
- SPC's resolution at its [January 2025 meeting Item 11.e](#) that Saltford Parish Council views that none of Saltford's Green Belt meets the Government's definition of 'Grey Belt', as supported by SPC's papers titled 'Grey Belt assessment of Saltford's Green Belt AGLV' (only if resolved to adopt under item 10.e, above), 'Landscape and Heritage Sensitivity Assessment of Saltford South of the A4' (July 2024) and 'Landscape and Heritage Sensitivity Assessment of Saltford North of the A4' (August 2024).

To agree to submit to the Planning Policy team the above documents (or sections of documents) as they consider new 'Call for sites' as part of the B&NES Council Local Plan process. It is noted that SPC will not respond directly to B&NES Council's 'Call for Sites' consultation as on the on the [B&NES Council Call for site proposals for development \(HELAA\)](#) page (end date 24 March).

**g. UPDATE FOLLOWING SPC PUBLIC LETTER 'NEW HOUSING WITHOUT COMPROMISING FOOD SECURITY AND NATURE' TO THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ANGELA RAYNER MP**

To receive any information following SPC's public letter to Angela Rayner MP, and as raised to the attention of the Leader of B&NES Council, and others as listed under February 2025 Item 10.e.

TO RESOLVE any further actions with relation to SPC's [open \(public\) letter to Angela Rayner MP](#) as resolved and sent to Dan Norris MP.

**h. PLANNING POLICY: SPC REQUEST FOR 'SALTFORD SOUTH OF THE A4' LANDSCAPE DESIGNATION BY B&NES COUNCIL (AGLV OR LOCAL GREEN SPACE)**

To receive an update from members of the Planning Policy Working Group about SPC's bid for landscape designation protection for 'Saltford South of the A4'.

To update on any future planned meetings to progress SPC's bid for additional designated landscape protection at 'Saltford South of the A4'.

To consider relevant information related to SPC's request to gain additional protection for Saltford's Green Belt (if any) and associated actions to be considered by the Planning Policy Working Group.

(Planning Matters - 25 minutes)

**11. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- Monthly Financial Report** – To receive the monthly financial report for February 2025 (report is also available on the [Meetings – Agendas and Minutes](#) page of the website).
- Schedule of Expenditure** – TO RESOLVE to authorise all regular payments made or to be made during March 2025 as listed on the schedule of expenditure (the schedule is also on the [Meetings – Agendas](#)

[and Minutes](#) page of the website).

(Financial Matters - 5 minutes)

## **12. SPC POLICY ON RE-OPENING SALTFORD STATION IN CONSIDERATION OF THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER'S ECONOMIC GROWTH STATEMENT IN JANUARY 2025**

To consider the economic growth statement made on 29th January 2025 by the Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves, which included the following policy statement on planning decisions on land around stations:- "*New transport infrastructure can also act as a catalyst for new housing. We have already seen the benefits that unlocking untapped land around stations can deliver... new housing and wider commercial opportunities. We will introduce a new approach to planning decisions on land around stations, changing the default answer to yes.*"

TO RESOLVE, following the statement, whether Saltford Parish Council remains in favour of reopening Saltford railway station on the existing site only on the basis that a new Saltford station would be accompanied with incontestable planning safeguards to ensure that any reopened station would not lead to development in Saltford's Green Belt (as recognised by SPC as an Area of Great Landscape Value).

To note that SPC will review its Policy Overview, which currently includes mention of a re-opened Saltford Station, at its May 2025 meeting (at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council).

(5 minutes)

## **13. DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS (DEFRA): LAND USE CONSULTATION**

The Government is consulting on its vision for land use in England and how to deliver it. DEFRA's Land Use Consultation will inform the development of a Land Use Framework.

TO RESOLVE SPC's response to the Government's [Land Use Consultation](#) (some or all questions, as relevant / applicable), likely by postal submission, by the 25 April end date. (Consultation information as linked and draft response available on Cllrs SharePoint).

(5 minutes)

## **14. WEST OF ENGLAND TRAVEL TO WORK SURVEY AS FUNDED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT**

SPC registered to respond to the DoT's West of England Travel to Work survey (information on the [TravelWest website](#)). SPC understands, based on information from B&NES Council, that this annual survey 'is essential in understanding commuting patterns and improving transport services across our region' and that feedback will help shape future transport policies and infrastructure. SPC had been informed that the survey will open on 3 March and close on 16th March 2025.

TO RESOLVE SPC's response to the survey, if applicable and relevant for SPC to

do so, following information about the contents of the survey being received.

(5 minutes)

## **15. WEST OF ENGLAND COMBINED AUTHORITY (WECA) ELECTRIC BUSES**

TO RESOLVE to congratulate WECA following their [publicity about WECA's spend of £6.6 million on Electric Buses](#) (74 fully electric First Bus buses by the end of 2025).

TO RESOLVE SPC's view that the faster acceleration of electric buses would reduce journey time objectives on the A4 Bath to Bristol Corridor and also that electric buses offer an improved user experience and would encourage greater bus use, and to agree to share this view with WECA.

As 74 electric buses equal c.13% of First Bus's West of England fleet, TO RESOLVE to request information from WECA about future plans to achieve 100% electric buses in the region, ahead of the Climate Emergency deadline, and how electric buses may be funded. Further, TO RESOLVE (if possible according to the terms of funding to WECA) that WECA redirect funds awarded as part of its 'A4 Bath to Bristol' project and associated initiatives in the region to purchase more electric buses (e.g. further to the 74 to be added to First Bus's West of England fleet).

(5 minutes)

## **16. UPDATES TO SPC SOCIAL MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS POLICY**

To discuss and TO RESOLVE to update and make any relevant changes to SPC's Social Media and Communications Policy (draft copy on Cllrs SharePoint).

(5 minutes)

## **17. NEW 'SALTFORD VILLAGE' SIGNS ON THE HIGHWAY**

As resolved at the September 2024 meeting (Item 20) TO RESOLVE initial ideas or views for the 'Saltford' signs on the Highway following the damage and deterioration of a 'Fairtrade' sign and risk to the 'Saltford' sign above, likely caused by passing traffic. To agree a view on whether to replace the Fairtrade sign, look to replace all the signs collectively (including the use of the newer SPC logo), or to take no action.

If potential future action is agreed, to discuss previous engagement with B&NES Council's Highways team with regards to previous requests for similar, potential costs of replacing either one or both signs, consideration of costs and whether there is a requirement to discuss at draft budget setting (December) as a significant potential SPC project for 2026/2027, the need for a Working Group to achieve the project, and when to have as a future item to resolve action and spend, and/or to create a Working Group.

(5 minutes)

## **18. ASSET CHECKING OUTCOMES (UPDATE)**

Further to item 19 at the February 2025 meeting, to receive any outstanding reports with regards to asset checking.

To receive and TO RESOLVE any actions arising from asset checking, including whether there is a requirement to seek quotes for any works required.

Spend (if required) to be agreed at a future meeting.

(5 minutes)

### **19. UPDATE ON WORKS AND SURVEYS ON WALLS AT ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD AND DATE FOR CHURCHYARD INSPECTION**

To receive an update with regards to any works or surveys (if any) at St Mary's Churchyard as commissioned by Salford Parish Council.

To agree members of the Churchyard Working Group to carry out the next biannual inspection of St Mary's closed Churchyard for which SPC has safety management responsibility. To agree to carry out the inspection in March (if possible, pending weather conditions and availability), with the intention for a report to be given at the April meeting.

(3 minutes)

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

To receive a report from the Working Group with regards to Phase 2 of the Norman Road phone box project to install a battery powered defibrillator, as funded and maintained by a private donor.

(5 minutes)

### **21. CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES INC. INTERNATIONAL DARK SKIES MONTH SUPPORT**

To receive any updates and information about environmental initiatives in Salford.

TO RESOLVE to raise awareness of and support International Dark Skies Week as at <https://idsw.darksky.org/> which takes place 21 - 28 April 2025, specifically in consideration of the benefit of the crucial role of 'Dark Skies' in protecting healthy wildlife ecosystem.

(3 minutes)

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

To receive an update with regards to data management and GDPR compliance.

(3 minutes)

**[CLOSE OF MEETING]**