

# **SALTFORD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2026**

**Friday 13 March 2026, 7pm, Saltford Hall**

**DRAFT – to be agreed at next meeting:** Minutes of the Parish of Saltford Annual Parish Meeting held at the Main Hall at Saltford Hall, Wedmore Road, BS31 3BY, on Friday 13 March 2026. The meeting commenced at 7pm.

The Chair of the Parish Council, Cllr Jon Godfrey, was present and therefore chaired the meeting.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Cllr Godfrey welcomed those present, of which there were approximately 140 members of the public.

## **2. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the 2025 Saltford Annual Parish Meeting held on 7 March 2025 were confirmed as a correct record and were then signed by the Chair.

## **3. REPORT BY PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR**

The Chair of Saltford Parish Council, Cllr Jon Godfrey, welcomed those present to the Annual Parish Meeting.

Cllr Godfrey said it was a great pleasure and privilege to serve on the Parish Council, noting that he was currently in his third term as a councillor and his third year as Chair of SPC.

He highlighted that the village faced significant challenges, particularly the potential threat to Saltford's Green Belt from development, which he anticipated would be a key focus for the Parish Council in the period ahead.

Cllr Godfrey stated that SPC remained a financially prudent council. He referred to how the precept had been used in previous years to support the community. He then explained the precept increase for 2026/27 of 23.9% (approximately 65p per calendar month for an average Band D property). He noted that this increase was driven by three main factors: new election costs which parish councils would now be required to meet, rather than B&NES Council as previously; churchyard maintenance, including for the churchyard walls, for which SPC has a legal responsibility; and the creation of a small budget to obtain legal advice relating to the protection of the Green Belt.

He added that, despite this increase, Saltford continued to have one of the lowest parish precepts in the B&NES area. He attributed this in part to the important contribution made by the Saltford Community Association (SCA) and its volunteers in supporting village activities and Saltford Hall.

Finally, Cllr Godfrey noted that the 'Big Thank You' event following the Annual Parish Meeting would provide an opportunity for SPC – and SCA - to express its appreciation to members of the community and local groups for their contributions to village life.

**4. ANY OTHER QUESTIONS OR MATTERS RAISED BY THOSE PRESENT**

Cllr Jon Godfrey invited those present to raise any questions or matters. No questions or matters were raised.

Cllr Godfrey officially closed the Saltford Annual Parish Meeting 2026.

**The meeting closed at 7:05.**

Chair .....

Date confirmed and signed .....

DRAFT