Salford Parish Council

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Minutes of the Meeting of Salford Parish Council held at Salford Village Hall on Tuesday, Tuesday, 14th January 2025, at 6.30pm at Salford Village Hall

Present:

Parish Councillors: Hilary McGlynn, Oliver Colston, Darren Lake, Rachel Caldin, Steve McBride

County Councillors: Geoff Saul

District Councillors: Andrew Beaney, Alex Wilson

Parish Clerk: Katie Mildenhall

1. To note apologies for absence – None received

2. To receive Declarations of Interest – None received

3. To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday, on Tuesday, 12th November 2024

4. To note the matters arising from the last meeting.

(a) Flashing 50mph Sign on A44 – Cllr Saul was working with Highways Officers to acquire a flashing 50MPH sign

(b) Village Defibrillator update – The Clerk had been negligent in organising a plaque and training for the Defibrillator. The council agreed to delegate the choice of plaque to Cllr McGlynn. Cllr Lake would add the training to the village Facebook site. The Clerk would arrange wording

5. To discuss Highways issues and decide next steps for complaint-

(i) Golden Lane - Golden Lane - Oxfordshire county Council Highways had resurfaced Golden Lane using recycled road scalping. The bottom of Golden Lane was now covered in c 50tonne of scalpings due to the road surface being washed down the hill. The drainage at the bottom of the slope was now in danger of being engulfed. It was felt that the work completed was done at an unnecessary public expense.

(ii) Village Drainage – Roses Lane drains were completely full and no longer working – The clerk had reported every full drain c18 months ago.

A parishioner had reported the issue of drainage from Golden Lane to New House Yard 3 years ago and was still awaiting aa satisfactory response. The parishioner had been forced to undergo additional drainage work to their property to try and alleviate flooding.

(iii) A44 Footpath – Cllr Saul would try to ascertain if the footpath could be cleared and widened from grass overgrowth.

(iv) A44 White Lines – The Clerk had reported the lack of white lines on the 10 January 2024 via fix my street. Initially the Highways department advised they would be repainted. A response via fix my street was received in July 2024 stating “Thank you for your report. Based on our assessment, the highlighted area does not currently meet the criteria for immediate intervention under our Highway Safety Inspection Policy. However, rest assured that we will continue to monitor this location during our routine statutory inspections”

The Clerk had emailed the Highways Team in December and still had not received a response. It was agreed to allow them until the February meeting to reply before making a formal complaint.

6. To note the current state of the playground – The playground was looking tired and will be assessed in greater detail in the spring. There were currently no faults with equipment.

7. Finance

(a) To approve the following payments:

(i) Clerk’s Salary December & January – Authorised for payment

8. To discuss any other business.

CC Geoff Saul updated members on the proposed White Paper regarding Devolution and plans for the reorganisation of Local Government to free up resources and place more responsibility on Local Government. A potential scenario could be the proposal for one Mayor and the introduction of a combined Authority i.e. the current two-tier system with District & County Councils would be replaced by this. There would only be one Councillor within the Unitary Authority liaising with Parish & Town Councils.

Cllr Saul reported that the budget would now be balanced. Council Tax would increase for the 2025/2026 financial year totals 4.99 % with 2.99 % and 2 % for social care needs. £2 million has been earmarked for flooding measures, £1 million towards rail transport, £300,000 to improve Banbury’s Town Centre and £400,000 to keep current car parking fees the same.

Cllr Beaney reported that the District Council’s part of the council tax will be increased for a Band D property by £5.00 for the 2025/2026 financial year. Green Bin Waste Licenses will cost £52.50. Cllr Beaney apologised that bins and Christmas Trees had not been collected as advertised. However, the waste team were working on this.

A parishioner advised that they had encountered dog walkers on their property rather than the public footpath. The Clerk would add the definitive maps to the notice boards.

A parishioner advised that the Parish Council website was in need of an update

9. To note the dates of 2025 meetings:

11th February

11th March

8th April – Annual Village Meeting

13th May – Annual Parish Council Meeting

10th June

8th July

August – Break

9th September

14th October

11th November

9th December