

PRESENT: Cllrs: D Collins (Chair), A Kenyon, I Scott, B Scott, K Briffett, J Tucker, A Tink, J Ward

ALSO PRESENT: Matt Reynolds, Tasha Gould (Town Council Support Officers)

APOLOGIES: Cllrs: A Monk, B Mead

1507. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies from Cllrs A Monk and B Mead. Cllr A Kenyon would be attending but would be late due to other commitments.

1508. EVACUATION PROCEDURE: The Chair highlighted the emergency exits for the Council and the public.

1509. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were none.

Councillor Kenyon arrived at 19:40

1510. SUBMISSIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: Complaints were raised about the banners on the roundabout adjacent to Elm Park and the Community Garden. Concerns were raised about the distraction these caused to drivers approaching the roundabout, and residents were unhappy about the obstruction of view to the community garden. The public were notified that the banners were hired out advertising space which generated some income. It was proposed, seconded and approved that this issue will be placed on the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting agenda in two weeks, and the Town Council office will provide a report on the amount of income and the dates the banners are paid up until. It was also requested to enquire with South Gloucestershire to advertise on the roundabout railings, rather than the community garden border. The Town Council office agreed to feedback to Mr Shelper, the initial resident who raised the concern to inform him of progress.

A member of the public queried why the previous meetings minutes did not include reference of the status of William Moore's position of councillor. It was clarified that the agenda item in question (1503) was to announce the resignation of Cllr Stan Sims, and as the status of Cllr Moore was not on the agenda, it was therefore not minuted.

It was confirmed that Cllr William Moore has been legally disqualified through non-attendance. William Moore expressed his dissatisfaction with how his disqualification was handled.

Photos were presented to the Council of the new owl carving in the Community Garden. It was noted that Filton Town Council proudly supported the installation of this work.

1511. PRESENTATION FROM ASHELY RIGG FROM BRISTOL PROPERTY PARTNERSHIP REGARDING CONYGRE HOUSE:

A presentation was given by Ashely Rigg from Bristol Property Partnership on the latest plans for the development of Conygre House. The aim is to convert the building and some of the land to 21 serviced apartments to provide alternative short stay accommodation for the local businesses in Filton. In order to insulate the building they plan to restore the buildings rendering from the 1940's. There was strong opposition to this idea as it does not adhere to the character of the building. Mr Rigg agreed to consult his architect and surveyor to explore alternative options

but stressed that he was unable to promise to change the plan as rendering would be the most economically viable option.

An alternative suggestion for the use of the building was also raised by Bristol Property Partnership, to convert the building for a mixed use purpose. This would involve providing both serviced apartments and a series of flats. It was noted by Councillors that it would be a shame to lose actual housing in a housing shortage and the prospect of mixed use accommodation would be more agreeable.

- 1512. MINUTES:** The minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 28th February were approved as an accurate record.
- 1513. MATTERS OF REPORT ARISING:** 1500 – The public were informed that the meeting with the South Gloucestershire officer regarding the King George Junction has taken place prior to tonight’s meeting. An update was given to the public surrounding the potential plans to improve the junction however there was no solution to opening up the existing bus lane as the lane was not funded by South Gloucestershire Council.
- 1514. FILTON BEAT TEAM:** The Beat Team extended their apologies as they were unable to attend tonight’s meeting.
- 1515. SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE REPORTS:** The reports from South Gloucestershire Councillors were noted.
- 1516. SUBMISSIONS FROM MEMBERS:**
- a) Motion proposed by Cllr Collins and seconded by Cllr Ward;**
“We are proud to live in a diverse and tolerant society. Racism, xenophobia and hate crimes have no place in our country. Our council condemns racism, xenophobia and hate crimes unequivocally. We will not allow hate to become acceptable. We will work to ensure that local bodies and programmes have the support and resources they need to fight and prevent racism and xenophobia. We reassure all people living in this area that they are valued members of our community.”
- Amendment:** Cllr Mead (not in attendance) asked via email prior to the meeting to amend the above statement to include homophobia. Moved by Cllr I Scott and seconded by Cllr B Scott.
- Voted 7 in favour of the amendment 0 against.
- b) Councillor Vacancy Northville –** It was announced that Cllr Moore has been legally disqualified through non-attendance for 6 months. The legal process will be to advertise the vacancy. If Cllr Moore wishes to regain his seat he can stand in the by-election, should one be called. If no by-election is called then Cllr Moore can be considered for co-option along with any other interested parties. It was also noted that Cllr Moore can stand in the by-election for the existing vacant seat, vacated by Cllr Sims in the previous meeting.
- 1517. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, WORKING GROUPS AND THE TOWN CLERK:**
- i) Finance Committee 14th March Minutes –** The minutes for the meeting were noted.
- ii) Vacancy Northville –** The Council were notified that a valid request for election had been called for Cllr Sims vacated seat. The council voted unanimously for South Gloucestershire Council to print and distribute polling cards at a cost of £700. There is £5400 budgeted this year in Election Costs (802/4028)

1518. OTHER REPORTS/CONSULTATIONS:

i) Representatives on outside bodies – Councillors reviewed and filled the empty committee places vacated by Cllr Sims. Cllr J Ward requested to join Splatts Abbey Wood and Parish Tree Wardens.

1519. PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL – March 2017 . All payments were approved.

**This meeting closed at 9:30pm.
CHAIR**