Draft Minutes of the Meeting of St Boswells Parish Community Council

held on 7 November 2024 at 7pm in the Lesser Village Hall

1 Welcome and Introductions
Councillor Sandy Scott, as Returning Officer, chaired the meeting.

2 Apologies for Absence
Present: Councillor Sandy Scott (in the Chair), Wilma Burns, Charles Strang, Craig Emond, Mike Barrie, James Knox, Chris Cameron, Sylvia Grundy and Anne Stormont.

There were apologies from John Bathgate and Scott Hamilton.

3 Order of Business
Councillor Scott explained the procedures

4 Declarations of Interest
There were none

5 Membership of Community Council
The following had been successfully nominated:

Mike Barrie
Wilma Burns
Chris Cameron
Craig Emond
Sylvia Grundy
James Knox
Anne Stormont
Charles Strang

6 Appointment of Chairman
Craig Emond was elected chairman, nominated by Wilma Burns, seconded by Mike Barrie.

7 Appointment of Vice-Chairman
Charles Strang was elected vice-chairman, nominated by Mike Barrie, seconded by James Knox.

8 Appointment of Secretary
Charles Strang was elected secretary, nominated by Mike Barrie, seconded by James Knox.

9 Appointment of Treasurer
Wilma Burns was elected treasurer, nominated by Charles Strang, seconded by Anne Stormont.

At this point, Craig Emond took the chair and thanked Sandy Scott for his efforts.

10 Code of Conduct

The Community Council Code of Conduct had been circulated, and all agreed to adhere to this.

11 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Thursday 29 August 2024).

These were agreed, as proposed by Craig Emond, seconded by Wilma Burns

12 Matters Arising from those Minutes

a Hedge cutting within the village:

Craig tabled maps of village paths which purported to show locations of maintenance by various parties. At present the Community Council got a grant from SBC of approximately £500 for path clearance. This was insufficient for the extent of paths which appeared to be the responsibility of the Community Council. Wilma suggested that a meeting be held with Susan Gray to discuss how paths could be allocated for maintenance purposes, and how these costs might be met. Wilma has the application form for pathway grants, and with Mike Barrie agreed to meet with Susan Gray.

b Christmas lights

The Area Partnership had rejected a grant proposal to underground the electric cable between the two sides of the Avenue, so it would be necessary to cable across from the trees at present. In future it might be possible to underground with the help of the Small Schemes Grant which might be available: Sandy Scott will follow up.

The tree holder was now in place, and pigtails had been applied.

13 Treasurer's Report *(Wilma Burns)*

a Accounts

Wilma talked us through the accounts. No October statement had been received from the bank.

b Tree

The Christmas tree had been ordered at the cost of approximately £400. The Christmas lights will be switched on on Thursday 28 November. The erection of the tree would take place on the Friday/the weekend before. The switch on would be helpfully announced by Tony's including a note with delivered newspapers.

c Insurance

Charles Strang was to forward details of a quote received to Greg Campbell, the Council's insurer, to make sure that the cover was adequate and and there was no undue duplication. It was likely that a second quote would be required. Sandy Scott advised that Scott Hamilton was now working part time for NFUS and could agree to seek a quote through NFUS Mutual Insurance.

14 Any Other Competent Business

a *Use of the Green:*

Craig Emond wondered whether it might be possible to get the Green used for something like a classic car Meet. It was agreed that Car Boot Sales would be reintroduced in 2025

b *War Memorial*

There had been a cleanup round the War Memorial by a work party, including Green St Boswells, John Pollock and Bob Renton. Thanks were expressed to those stalwarts. Mike Barrie would lay the wreath on behalf of the Community Council. Chris Cameron would fix the wreaths by cable ties after the ceremonies.

c *Green Saint Boswells*

Green Saint Boswells have applied for a Pollinators Award.

d *Bus Shelter*

There has been more graffiti at the bus shelter.

e *Facebook Page*

Gavin Tweddle and Angela Farnish are to be asked to pass Facebook controls to Wilma Burns in the first instance, who would then subsequently share them with Anne Stormont.

f *51 Bus*

There has been no further feedback on the adverse changes made to the 51 bus timetable following the public meeting some time ago.

g *Pavement Alterations*

Sandy Scott agreed to find out on whose instruction pavement changes had been made between the bus station and Main Street. While a more direct line of access had been constructed, there was concern that the less able were being drawn to cross the road at a point where vehicular traffic was already very tricky (at the junction of Jennie Moore's Road and Main Street).

15 Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that as far as possible our meetings would alternate between the Village and Church Halls. Meetings should not necessarily take place on Thursdays.

A programme for 2025 should be drawn up following discussion at the next meeting. Subject to availability the next meeting would be held on **Wednesday 4 December from 7:15 pm in the Church Hall. PLEASE NOTE THIS CHANGE OF PATTERN!**

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