

# SOULBURY MILLENNIUM GREEN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Registered Charity No 1070738

## Minutes of Meeting inc. AGM 15 July 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Those present:                      Nigel Kemal                      Chairman  
                                         Wendy Taylor                      Treasurer/Sec  
                                         Geoff Kiddle  
                                         Alan Stevens

Apologies:                              Carla Bennett

| 1 | Previous minutes and matters arising                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Action |
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|   | <p>Nigel welcomed everyone in the hall and thanked everyone for their time.</p> <p>Minutes of the last meeting on 10 June 2025 were agreed as correct, ratified and signed by Nigel.</p> <p>Matters arising: None</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |        |
| 2 | Chairman's Report                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |        |
|   | <p>Sadly, Richard Caplan resigned from serving on our committee earlier this year, although he has recently taken up a Sunday maintenance contract supervising the Sunday Community Payback Team with us. We thank Richard for all his past support on this committee.</p> <p>At June's SMG Committee Meeting, Wendy notified us that she intends to retire from the committee and consequently will stand down at July's AGM from her position as Secretary and Treasurer. Wendy will be a great loss to the SMG Committee and will be sadly missed for her insight on SMG and Treasurer matters. She currently feels she has a conflict of interest with her other role as Parish Clerk and now feels this is the right time to step down. We naturally wish to thank Wendy for all her past work in serving as Secretary and Treasurer and are very grateful for her devoted time and effort in maintaining our accounts in good order over ten years of service. <b>Thank You Wendy!</b></p> <p>Both the SMG Management and Soulfest Planning Committees now urgently need new members to join them helping serve our community with maintenance of the park and organising fund raising. If you can spare a couple hours a month in the evenings to serve on our committees and would like to help, please strongly consider joining us. We also need volunteers to join a rota on Sundays to help organise, plan and supervise the workload for the Community Payback Teams.</p> <p>Contact Nigel Kemal for further details or invitation to our next meetings. (Mobile No. 07398 825430).</p> <p><b>Work in progress:</b> Throughout the year work on maintaining the SMG remains ongoing with Richard supervising the Thames Valley Community Payback work teams on Sundays and occasionally with Nigel and Vic providing relief.</p> |        |

A new wood store and sheltered work area has been constructed at the rear of the crew room, all bridges have been repaired and new ones created where necessary, and a new wooden pergola constructed along a hedgerow to support and preserve the overhang of a white flowering tree in the meadow area. Grass cutting, strimming, coppicing and pruning orchard trees remains an ongoing seasonal maintenance activity, and additionally now watering orchard trees and plants during the unseasonably hot, dry weather. Plans are now being made to manufacture a wheelie bin storage facility just off the hard standing area near the roadway fencing.

**Pathway Extension Circuit:** We anticipate the cost of this work together with other ancillary project work will require around £50,000 to £60,000. Following a meeting with Andy Chapman, the manager of North Bucks Community Board, it was ascertained that obtaining funding opportunities would best be conducted through the Parish Council. Whilst there is £17,810 available in s106 monies via Bucks Council, we will still need to raise a further £40,000 from other funding sources. A separate pathway focus meeting was recently held to discuss, quantify requirements and drive this project forward. A second meeting is scheduled for 10:30 am on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> July at Carla's to continue this project work.

#### **EVENTS:**

**22/06/24 - Soulfest 2024** really set Soulbury on the map this year with great music, lovely food, quality tea and coffee provided by House of Coffee, a local coffee roasting business. A mobile licenced bar, fairground trampoline and bouncy slide completed our site offering to visitors. The highlight for the day was having BBC Three Counties Radio roving reporter, Luke, in attendance plugging Soulfest and conducting live interviews on site. The event was very well supported with around 500 people attending. The event raised a very respectful profit of £4227.89 towards our SMG funds

**21/06/25 - Soulfest 2025** Currently I am unable to report fully, as we are still endeavouring to finalise the figures for this event. I can, however, report that around 300 people attended and a good time was enjoyed by all, with the weather being warm and sunny. The full de-brief report will feature in next year's AGM Chairman's report.

**02/11/24 - Fireworks Night** was hugely successful again with 427 entrants attending the event. R & H Leisure provided fairground children entertainment rides, with the SMG committee providing our traditional barbecue fare of burgers and hotdogs. The Boot Inn provided a revolutionary inflatable bar which was hugely successful, donating an agreed site fee towards the event. The event raised £2385.00 profit towards SMG funds. Thanks to all who helped organise and assist with manning this event. Our thanks and appreciation also goes out to all those in our community who sponsored the event with monetary donations.

**19/04/25 - Easter Egg Hunt** was very well attended by local families with 18 children participating in the treasure hunt and an estimated 30 family members accompanying as well. Weather was good (dry and sunny) and a good time was had by all, with Easter Eggs presented to children on completion of the hunt. The community event raised £107.23 towards SMG funds through refreshment sales and our donations bucket. A big thank you to all who supported this community event including our lady bakers for providing some lovely cakes.

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|   | <p><b>FUTURE EVENTS:</b></p> <p><b>08/11/25 - Fireworks festival.</b></p> <p><b>FUND RAISING:</b> We generate funds for SMG through planned events, marquee hire, charitable donations, 100 Club and the Bucks Lottery.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |
| 3 | Treasurer's Report                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |
|   | <p>Current account balance: £14,952.40<br/> Balance at financial year end: £14,061.42<br/> Petty cash: £49.01<br/> Bucks Lottery:<br/> £11.50 in July 2025</p> <p><b>Income</b></p> <p>Up on last year from £7.2K to £16.1K due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• good attendance and spending at Soulfest 2024 and ditto the Fireworks display.</li> <li>• Parish Council donation of £600 per month = £3.6K (£1.2K already paid this financial with two more payments to make).</li> <li>• Several regular donations are made each month by residents and several make separate donations to the events both the cash and kind, and to those people I sincerely thank you.</li> <li>• 100 Club - 55 members this year so the prize stayed the same at 1 prize of £25.00 per monthly draw.</li> </ul> <p><b>Expenditure</b></p> <p>Up on last year from £7.1K to £11.3K due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance increased to due major repairs to the ride-on mower</li> <li>• Works on site relating to the crew room</li> <li>• General repairs</li> <li>• Improving the facilities</li> <li>• Fundraising costs up from £2.7K to £4.4K</li> <li>• Miscellaneous expenses includes the purchase of the new BBQ for £893</li> <li>• Sundry expenses up by £600 which includes costs of Richard Caplan of £300 for 3 weekends per every 4 weeks.</li> </ul> <p>Error spotted whilst creating report in that £78 was added to the fundraising expenditure which should have been put in the maintenance column.</p> <p>In general the SMG is in a very good financial position - a comment from the auditor backs this up. We had a very good year with regard to event income and the generosity of the Parish Council. However, event income is fickle and the Parish Council only offered the donation for a year so the committee, going forward, will have to bear this in mind.</p> |  |
| 4 | Election of officers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
|   | <p>Nigel agreed to stand for re-election as Chairman of the Committee. Alan proposed that he be re-elected, Geoff seconded this and the motion was unanimously carried.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |

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|   | <p>Due to Wendy standing down a new member to the committee, Jo Nicholas, agreed to stand for election in the role of Treasurer and Secretary. Alan proposed that she be elected, Nigel seconded this and the motion was unanimously carried.</p> <p>Two members of the public offered their services to the committee. They are Erica McDonald and Paul Cragg. Jo, Erica and Paul were subsequently welcomed to the committee.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                  |
| 5 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                  |
|   | <p>a: Pond: FJ Morris will be asked to look at pond to get the job done. Additionally, Karel Povolny met Alan on site, taken photos, etc has seen project - to put on Community Hub to start fund raising</p> <p>b: Path way - third price in - £26K. FJ Morris is most experienced in doing such a job. Meeting 27 June to discuss projects in more detail.</p> <p>c: The urinal in the EcoToilet needs work such a larger bore outlet pipe as it blocks easily and recent weather has shown it freezes solid as well. Nigel tried to deal with the issues, problem bigger than was imagined. New urinal to be procured. Still ongoing. Nigel to follow up and/or cancel order. Ongoing</p> <p>d: Carla emailed details of cameras to the committee who will look at the links provided and make final decision. Ongoing</p> | <p>Alan</p> <p>Geoff</p> <p>Nigel</p> <p>All</p> |
| 6 | Events                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                  |
|   | <p><b>21/6/25 - Soulfest 2025</b></p> <p>See Chairman's report. Final numbers are not in yet but at the moment there is a profit of around £1,698. Not all pitch fees have been paid and bands expenses are accounted for but not yet paid.</p> <p><b>8/11/25 - Firework Display</b></p> <p>Details and pricing to be decided at the next Committee meeting in September.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                  |
| 7 | 100 Club                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                  |
|   | <p>Draw for July carried out.</p> <p>Winner: Gilly Beach</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Wendy                                            |
| 8 | Public participation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                  |
|   | <p>MOP wanted clarity around supervising the Community Payback team. Nigel gave details of what is involved and timings.</p> <p>Vic suggested he would like people to contribute to the SMG either with time or cash. In terms of time it was suggested that a call for working party arrangement detailing the work is needed. If people do not feel they have the skills, Richard can teach them, ie pruning apple trees, cutting back hazel, etc.</p> <p>Jackie Ridley offered to look after the promotion via a dedicated SMG Facebook page which links to the Community Hub page as that already has 600+ followers.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                  |

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| 9  | Any other business                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |
|    | <p>Alan congratulated Nigel for getting an audience at the meeting. This is a first for many years and good discussion was held on how to go forward with the SMG so it is not left to the usual few to do all the work on both the SMG and the events which are run.</p> <p>The committee was asked if a tree celebrating the 50th anniversary of Soulbury WI could be planted on the SMG. The committee was happy for this to happen and suggested planting it in the annex.</p> <p>Open Gardens: planned for 13/14 June 2026. It was suggested using the SMG for the teas, coffees and cakes. Idea to be taken forward (or not ) by those who organise it but the offer is there.</p> |  |
| 10 | Date of next meeting                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
|    | The date of the next AGM is Tuesday 14 July, 2026 at 7:30pm. The date of the next meeting is 9 September 2025 as there will not be a meeting in August.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |

Meeting closed at 21:30 hrs

Distribution: Committee members