

# **SMITH'S WOOD PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Action Plan 2024 / 2025**

The Parish Council takes its responsibility very seriously and strives continually to improve Smith's Wood to make it a pleasant area where people are proud to be part of our community.

When we set our budget for the next financial year, members try and think about what the Council can do to achieve our aspirations in the next year and beyond.

These may include ensuring there is a small financial provision to enable the improvements / events to be made and in addition often applications can be made to both local and national funding bodies to provide those facilities which otherwise would not have been possible.

Our Plan includes 3 sections:

- Administering the Council
- The Local Environment
- Community Engagement and Events

Please have a look at our action plan and if you feel you can help or become involved in any way then please contact us.

[smithswoodpc@hotmail.com](mailto:smithswoodpc@hotmail.com) / 0121 770 8846 / c/o Smith's Wood Primary Academy, Burton's Way, Smith's Wood, Solihull, B36 0SZ

## **ACTION PLAN 2024 / 2025**

| <b>Administering the Council</b>                                                            |                                                                                      |                                                                                                           |                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Aims</b>                                                                                 | <b>Objectives</b>                                                                    | <b>Implication</b>                                                                                        | <b>Timescale</b> |
| To ensure all SWPC policies and protocols are adhered to and updated as and when necessary. | To continue operating to Standing Orders & Financial Regulations.                    | Already included in working practices.                                                                    | Ongoing.         |
| Implement an action plan.                                                                   | To implement action plan.                                                            | Ensure ongoing transparency.                                                                              | TBC              |
| To adhere to all new legislation.                                                           | To continue monitoring new / updated legislation.                                    | The Clerk to ensure compliance. Signed up to government updates.                                          | Ongoing.         |
| To continue monitoring estimates and budgets.                                               | To continue to review on a monthly basis.                                            | Ensure ongoing transparency.                                                                              | Ongoing.         |
| To maximise grant opportunities.                                                            | To continue to seek all relevant grant opportunities.                                | Successful applications will provide additional capital schemes which otherwise would not be possible.    | Ongoing.         |
| Insurance.                                                                                  | To obtain new quotes and accept as appropriate.                                      | The Clerk to undertake.                                                                                   | March yearly.    |
| Planning.                                                                                   | Continue and improve participation in planning matters.                              | Ensure local feelings are taken into account.                                                             | Ongoing.         |
| Transparency Code.                                                                          | To ensure compliance.                                                                | Statutory requirement.                                                                                    | Ongoing.         |
| To keep under review legal powers and opportunities.                                        | To ensure compliance.                                                                | Statutory requirement.                                                                                    | Ongoing          |
| Contingency Plan.                                                                           | To create.                                                                           | Ensure arrangements if need arises.                                                                       | TBC              |
| Councillor Training.                                                                        | To encourage all councillors to take advantage of all training available.            | To ensure Councillors are fully knowledgeable. Training budget.                                           | Ongoing          |
| Clerk Training.                                                                             | To encourage the Clerk to take advantage of all training available.                  | To ensure the Clerk is fully knowledgeable and up to date with all relevant information. Training budget. | Ongoing.         |
| Protecting the Parish.                                                                      | The Council will continue to have close liaison with the Police and BC Ward members. | To ensure communication both ways                                                                         | Ongoing.         |

### The Local Environment

| <b>Aims</b>                                            | <b>Objectives</b>                                                                                                                                                 | <b>Implication</b>         | <b>Timescale</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Playing field.                                         | To continue to ensure the playing field is well cared for.                                                                                                        | In budgets.                | Ongoing.         |
| Carbon reduction.                                      | Encourage use of the Community Gym.<br>Encourage use of local facilities saving on travel.                                                                        | In budget. Marketing plan. | Ongoing.         |
| Plastic reduction.                                     | Wherever possible use alternatives to plastic and use only recyclable products.<br>Litter pick events.                                                            | In budget.                 | Ongoing.         |
| Other waste reduction.                                 | Work with Solihull MBC to ensure recycling bins are made available at events.                                                                                     | No financial implications. | Ongoing.         |
| Biodiversity and trees.                                | Encourage residents to increase biodiversity in their back gardens through wildlife friendly gardening / tree planting / alternatives to weedkillers / rewilding. | Clerk hours.               | Ongoing.         |
| Climate change and readiness for community engagement. | Create a 'Sustainable Smith's Wood' Facebook page.                                                                                                                | Clerk hours.               | Ongoing.         |

| Community Engagement and Events                      |                                                                                                                                                                 |                               |           |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Aims                                                 | Objectives                                                                                                                                                      | Implication                   | Timescale |
| To improve communication.                            | To continue to develop all means of consultation / communication                                                                                                | Possible budget implications. | Ongoing   |
| To ensure all residents are fully informed.          | To assess current notice boards are fit for purpose. (Could include e-newsletter, Parish Magazine)                                                              | Possible budget implications. | Ongoing   |
| To provide additional positive activities.           | (Could include youth club, HAF, sports clubs)                                                                                                                   | Possible budget implications. | Ongoing   |
| To build a thriving Smith's Wood business community. | (Could include 'Buy in Smith's Wood Campaign, improve access to support and training, build a strong business voice in the community)                           | Possible budget implications. | Ongoing   |
| To provide community events.                         | (Could include: community picnic, community litter picks, wander trail around Smith's Wood, Remembrance Day Parade, Christmas Mini Market, Summer Fun Day, etc) | Possible budget implications. | Ongoing   |