

# Stonehouse Town Council



**MINUTES (subject to agreement at the next Committee meeting)**  
**of a meeting of THE AMENITIES, RECREATION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE HELD ON**  
**MONDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2016 AT 7PM IN THE TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET,**  
**STONEHOUSE.**

**Present:**

Neil Gibbs (Convenor of Committee)  
Theresa Watt (Chair/Town Mayor)  
Pam Swain (Vice Chair/Town Mayor)  
Gwen Atkinson  
Deborah Curtis

**Also Present:**

Gill Jennings Town Clerk

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*Attendees are reminded that the Proceedings of this meeting may be filmed, photographed or recorded but anyone wishing to make a record should first inform the Chairman*

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**K3/363 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES**

Councillor Powell was absent

**K3/364 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members are reminded of their obligation within the requirements of the adopted Model Code of Conduct to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests where applicable.

There were no declarations of interest

**K3/365 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2016**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> January were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**K3/366 PUBLIC ADJOURNMENT (15 minutes)**

No adjournment required.

**K3/367 ALLOTMENTS – HANDOVER TO ASSOCIATION**

1. To receive a report from Cllrs Gibbs and Atkinson, consider letter to tenants and agree proposal for resolution – Cllr Gibbs had advised the clerk that the Association had fulfilled the requirement to have a dedicated bank account, an elected committee, and were now members of the National Association. The Committee considered the content of the letter and agreed 12 months notice required which would probably mean an handover in April 2017. Cllr Swain proposed/Cllr Atkinson seconded a motion to consult with tenants with a view to transferring management of the allotments to the Stonehouse Allotment Tenants Association. This motion was agreed by unanimous vote. For Resolution

2. To consider an allotment inspection report

The Deputy Clerk reported that an inspection had not been carried out but there were 3 small plots available with only 1 person on the waiting list.

### **K3/368 PROGRESS WITH MEADOW ROAD PLAYING FIELD IMPROVEMENTS**

To agree costs of street furniture, trees and scheme of tree planting

The Committee considered 2 styles of seat and agreed on 2 Malvern seats in green at £1124 and 2 Topsy Jubilee bins at £581.54. 4 ornamental fruit trees would be ordered at a cost of £105 each plus stakes. (2015-16 budget) Cllr Swain to meet with Recreation Working Group and agree grouping of this street furniture.

### **K3/369 OLDENDS LANE PAVILION**

1. To receive a progress report on the works and agree any additional costs – The Committee agreed the cost of decoration at £2052. The Clerk advised that the reserve balance would meet the additional costs.
2. To consider the report by Recreation Working Group and to agree the phasing of exploratory work and further redevelopment – The Committee considered reports of meetings held on 22 and 27 January. The Committee agreed that ideally the pavilion would be on mains drainage and have an economical heating system. Any new system should be capable of maintaining a larger building. Following suggestions from members of the Council it was proposed by the Recreation Working Group that the Council proceed with replacing the Magpies skittle alley within a larger community room with bar as an extension to the pavilion. This could be achieved in the short term. Plans should also be drawn up for a larger extension for future use and housing to support the expenditure. The Committee agreed to recommend to Council that an architect be appointed to draw up plans for the required redevelopment. Clerk to obtain costs. For Resolution The Committee agreed to appoint Mike Hughes at a cost of £565 to carry out survey work and obtain tenders for heating and drainage. (2015-16 budget)
3. To agree Rules of Use for the pavilion – The Committee considered Rules of Use drawn up by the Clerk and agreed the wording adding that there should be a £50 fine for non compliance. The Committee also agreed that a sign should be purchased to affix to the exterior wall banning boots from the inside of the building.
4. To agree match funding for goalposts – The Committee agreed to accept match-funding for 2 new sets of senior goal posts in the sum of £500 from Fields in Trust. This would leave a balance of approximately £700. The Committee agreed this would come from the play equipment maintenance budget (2015-16) and Clerk is to place an order with Stadia Sports for £655 each set but will check that this meets the grant criteria. The Football Club are required to make repairs to the goalmouth at the same time. Photographs before and after are required.

### **K3/370 FINANCE**

1. To check and agree Committee expenditure/receipts against budget January – Expenditure at £7462.78 and income at £20180.25 was agreed as correct.
2. To agree outstanding payments and expenditure under delegated powers - The Committee agreed with the expenditure at £30677.55.
3. Update on dispute with EON – The Clerk reported that there had been nothing wrong with the meter. EON had failed to give a comprehensive statement of the Kwh used but working on meter readings it appeared that the overall cost of over £3000 for the year was probably correct and the problem lay with the incorrect use of the heating timer. The water heating system was inefficient and needed replacement. £1200 was outstanding for payment and would take the Council over budget.

### **K3/370 Finance** (continued)

4. Year End – To agree updated Fixed Asset Register - **The Committee considered the fixed asset register. This had been updated with title numbers and cost of pavilion extension with a total asset value of £1463829.**
5. Update on Waste contract – agree action – **The Clerk would meet with Ubico on the 11<sup>th</sup> March and obtain a quotation for the new waste contract. The Committee agreed that the alternative of employing someone direct with the additional cost of waste disposal units was not ideal but would be explored if necessary.**

### **K3/371 DOVEROW HILL**

1. To receive quotations for works to trees and discuss funding bid – **The Committee considered the only quotation received and agreed to await the outcome of the funding bid to Gloucestershire Environmental Trust before proceeding as the tree surgeon had advised the work is to be carried out within 1 year.**
2. To consider response to Verney Fields survey and further action – **The Clerk reported that there had been 50 responses to Monkey Survey and further responses captured on Facebook. Support for the fields as a Key Wildlife Site and Area of Tranquility had been confirmed. Awaiting support of Ward/County Councillors for resubmission of the Nomination.**
3. Consider further bid to Cotswold Conservation Board – **The Committee agreed that a bid should be made to include new kissing gates to replace stiles and signposts to the town centre.**

### **K3/372 BURIAL SPACE IN STONEHOUSE**

To consider parishioner rights – The Committee considered the rights of parishioners to be buried within the parish. St Cyrs had confirmed that there was sufficient space for another 20 years at the current take-up. The Committee were reminded of the failure by Stroud District Council to secure land for the Town Council opposite Avenue Terrace and that there was now a lack of suitable land for future burials or other amenity within the parish.

### **K3/373 MAGPIES SOCIAL CLUB**

To consider report on condition of building – The Clerk advised that the social club were behind by one month with their rent due to the closure of the club following a leaking roof. Due to the wet weather they had also suffered reduced patronage. **The Committee were content to allow this lapse on the understanding that the debt would be covered in the near future.**

### **K3/374 COMMUNITY PAYBACK SCHEME**

To consider any works which might be carried out under the scheme – Committee members relayed a small list of works but given that ownership of the land was outside town council control Cllr Watt would respond to the scheme with suggestions only. There might be use of the workforce in repainting street furniture – Meadow Road.

### **K3/375 STAGHOLT**

1. Nomination of the Athletics Field as a Community Asset. The Council's nomination has been accepted. Progress by County Councillor on possible transfer of asset or transfer of management still outstanding – **The Committee agreed to pursue this matter.**

**K3/375 Stagholt** (continued)

2. To receive a report on the condition of the brook – The Clerk advised that following unauthorised works by the Internal Drainage Board the water flow had been changed so that it was wearing away the bank. **The Committee agreed that the IDB should be approached for a solution at their own cost.**
3. To review plans for redevelopment – A suggestion had been made that the Council keeps part of the car park land for allotment parking. The Clerk advised that this would make the site unviable. **The Committee considered the Clerk's advice and agreed to engage with GRCC's rural housing enabler with the aim of producing a viable scheme.**

**K3/376 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**11<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

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