



STONEHOUSE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes (subject to agreement at the next Committee meeting) of a meeting of the **Town Environment Committee on Monday 9th October, 7pm at Stonehouse Library, High Street, Stonehouse, GL10 2NG.**

Present:

Councillors: Rachel Armstrong, Deborah Curtis, Marcus Dixon, Neil Gibbs (Committee Chair), Carol Kambites (Chair/Town Mayor), Val Randell, Keith Terry (Committee Vice Chair) Theresa Watt.

Also present: Jacqui Sanders (Deputy Town Clerk), one member of the public.

Attendees are reminded that the Proceedings of this meeting may be filmed, photographed, or recorded.

One member of the public asked to speak concerning the parking of vehicles on the main High Street, making visibility poor when emerging from junctions.

The member of the public thanked the committee for listening, then left the meeting.

E/679 To receive apologies.

No apologies received.

E/680 Declarations of Interest

There was a declaration of interest by Cllr Curtis in relation to item E/688, planning application S.23/1821/FUL.

E/681 To approve the minutes of the Town Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 11th September.

Committee **APPROVED** the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

E/682 To receive the latest updated Environment Budget.

Committee **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** the latest Budget position.

Total Actual Net Income £1,150.00

Total Actual Net Expenditure £30,789.44

Total Reserve £5,119.78



STONEHOUSE

TOWN COUNCIL

E/683 To agree arrangements for the 2023/24 budget setting process.

Committee AGREED with the Officers recommendation for:

‘Committee Clerks to liaise directly with the Chairs and Vice Chairs to review budgets and report on their findings and recommendations to their respective committees for discussion and agreement.’

In addition, the following was agreed:

‘Council to receive budget setting updates ahead of its final decision in January - this would allow a more cohesive input from the council’s Working groups’.

E/684 To retrospectively approve an application fee payment of £231 to submit the Stagholt application to SDC.

Committee APPROVED the retrospective payment of £231 to submit the Stagholt application to SDC.

E/685 To receive an update regarding the play areas.

Committee RECEIVED the update regarding the play areas.

E/686 To appoint a new member to the Bristol Road Station Working Group to replace Cllr Brine.

To agree that the council should request a meeting with Siobhan Baille to discuss how we encourage progress to the next stage.

Cllr Curtis AGREED to become the new member of the Bristol Road Station Working Group.

Council AGREED that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor request a meeting with Siobhan Baille.

E/687 To approve recommendations in relation to the council’s future grounds maintenance.

The main area of concern was in relation to the wildflower/hayfield areas in Laburnum. These need to be cut and collected once per year. It was felt that any increase in contracting should only be done as a last resort.

The following Officer recommendations were **RECOMMENDED** for approval by full council subject to possible revision to the service recommendation:

1. Use of the Tender process in line with clause 11b of the council's Financial Regulations and Public Procurement Regulations
2. Increase the length of contract to a period of five years with a break clause on year three
3. Apply indexation to the contract price ensuring inflation is accommodated throughout the period of the contract - this is usually through the application of the RPI or successor index
4. Minor changes to the current service specification to allow for the cut and removal of grass in the wildflower/hayfield areas.
5. Add provisional items to the contract to allow for new elements to be added to the contracted works - Provisional items covering three key areas namely, Play areas, Town Greens and Court View within the contract would allow the town council to agree on an annual basis with the successful grounds maintenance contractor whether to add or remove one or more of the provisional items at a price agreed at the tendering stage. Any changes would need to be agreed on an annual basis prior to the commencement of the financial year. Committee to note that the town's play areas and town greens are currently maintained by its 'In House' team - provisional items would only be used as a fall-back measure in cases of urgent need.
6. The application of weightings to Tenders to support their evaluation.
 - 50% Cost and 50% Quality.
 - The quality element is further broken down to the following weightings:
 - Environment - 40%
 - Health and Safety - 30%
 - Resource and maintenance support arrangements - 30%

E/688 To comment on planning applications.

S.23/1881/TCA Uni 10, Ryeford Industrial Estate, Ryeford, Stonehouse
Reduce (T1) group 3x alder trees by 4m in height. Fell (T2) group 2x alder trees.
Comment: Council objects to the felling of the alder trees (T2) and suggest they are trimmed with guidance from a qualified tree specialist.

Cllr Curtis left the meeting at 7.50pm.

S.23/1821/FUL 8 Queens Road, Stonehouse
Demolition of former Comrades Club and garage blocks, erection of 4 detached houses. Re-submission of S.20/0769/FUL.
Comment: No objections provided the list of conditions set by the Environment Officer are adhered to.

Cllr Curtis returned to the meeting at 7.55pm.

S.23/1775/ADV 5 High Street, Stonehouse

Replacement of X1 fascia sign.

Comment: No objections.

S.23/1693/VAR Land adjoining Station Road, Bristol Road, Stonehouse

Variation of condition 15 of permitted application S.21/1712/VAR - various alterations to house types (change 2 house types from 2 - 2.5 storey) and design. Changes to fenestration, materials, footprint, elevations, frontages and additional formers. Small changes to the ridge heights and to regularise the building form to flat block and balconettes to flats.

Comment: No comment.

S.23/1765/HHOLD 82 Woodcock Lane, Stonehouse

Erection of a replacement shed (Retrospective)

Comment: No objections.

S.22/2653/OUT Brunsdons Yard, Ryeford Road South, Ryeford

Hybrid planning application for outline planning permission for an extension to existing warehouse unit (class B8) and erection of an ancillary office building (all matters reserved) and full planning permission for provision of landscaping, parking, drainage & vehicular access to A419.

Comment: This council objects to the planning application, please refer to the council's previous comments in which none of the points have been suitably addressed. Plus, there should be no extra water pumped into the river Frome in almost the same place that Severn Trent will be doing so, as it could cause flooding problems further downstream.

E/689 To receive an update regarding 23/1900/NEWTPO, land adjacent to 162 Arrowsmith Drive, Stonehouse.

There will be a meeting of the Development Control Committee on Tuesday 17th October. Cllr Watt AGREED to attend.

E/690 To receive Working Groups updates. Members may wish to note any reports from the following:

Comms - Not met, meeting to be arranged.

Stroudwater (Bristol Road) Station - As discussed in the meeting, a meeting is to be arranged with Siobhan Baille.

Canal Rejuvenation - Following the news that Stroud District Council's Strategy & Resources Committee gave a green light to the people of Stonehouse to enable the former Ship Inn site to become a community space, the working group are trying to arrange a meeting with Cotswold Canals Connected.

Transport and Highways - Not met, meeting to be arranged.



STONEHOUSE

TOWN COUNCIL

Public Rights of Way - Following reports that the stile is being demolished on MST28, a report has been made to the GCC PROW to inform them.

Recreation - Not met, a meeting to be arranged.

E/691 To receive a report on planning decisions received from Stroud District Council.

S.23/1735/TCA 8 Barlow Close, Stonehouse

Coppice trees within 2m of property boundary wall, crown lift over garage by 3m and fell 2 maples to rear.

NO OBJECTION.

E/692 Date of next Environment Committee meeting: Monday 6th November 2023
