

Minutes (subject to agreement at the next Committee meeting) of a meeting of the Town Environment Committee on Monday 4th December, 7pm at Stonehouse Library, High Street, Stonehouse, GL10 2NG.

Present:

Councillors: Marcus Dixon, Debbie Curtis, Neil Gibbs (Committee Chair), Carol Kambites (Chair/Town Mayor), Val Randell, Keith Terry (Committee Vice Chair).

<u>Also present:</u> Carlos Novoth (Town Clerk), Town Councillor John Callinan and several members of the public.

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

The attending members of the public were invited to address the Committee - no one wished to speak. The Chair continued to the agenda

E/709 To receive apologies.

Committee received apologies from Cllr Rachel Armstrong and Theresa Watt

E/710 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

<u>E/711</u> To approve the minutes of the Town Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 6th November.

Committee APPROVED the minutes as a true and accurate records of the meeting

In light of the number of attending members of the public, the Chair brought forward agenda item

E/714 To receive an update on Verney Fields and discuss follow up actions

Committee was updated about what was initially a rumour about a felling licence application put forward to the Forestry Commission for land owned by the same person/s that currently own Verney Fields. The rumour was followed up with the Forestry Commission who confirmed that an application had been made; a more detailed response is being awaited. In the meantime, an enquiry had been raised with Stroud District Council on the issue; the Forestry Commission consulted with SDC's tree officer who objected to the application and asked that the matter be referred to them to deal with under TPO legislation. SDC's Principal planner, John Chaplin updated the town council with this information providing the following application details: *The Forestry Commission reference number for the application*



is 018/2208/2023 Felling licence and the Forestry Commission Officer dealing with the application is David Rowe.

This information came as a complete surprise in light of the statement made by the owner's of Verney Fields solicitor/spokesperson in support of their argument to Stroud District Council's Development Control Committee in November '23, that there was no intention of harming the trees on the land in question and hence there was no need of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) for the site.

A town councillor had raised a Freedom of Information (FOI) request prior to the meeting asking the following questions: who the applicant was, the extent of the application and when the application was submitted; he has yet to receive a response.

Committee **RESOLVED** to write to the Forestry Commission requesting further information and to make clear that the town council was writing on behalf of the community to try and preserve the trees on site and to highlight the importance of the site and fervent wish for its continued use by the community.

E/712To receive the latest updated Environment Budget.

Officers were unable to provide the latest budget update in time for the meeting. The matter was therefore not discussed.

E/713 To discuss the 2024/25 budgets.

Committee agreed the following adjustments to the supporting information provided:

- 1190/5 Tree and Hedge boundary maintenance reduce budget from £6,500 to £3,500
- 2000 Christmas lights reduce budget from £5,000 to £2,000 (£3,000 to be set aside as a new 'Earmarked Reserve')
- 2005 Climate change reduce budget from £2,000 to £0 (£2,000 to be set aside as a new 'Earmarked Reserve')
- 2010/2 Non contract planting maintain existing budget of £3,000
- 2010/3 Watering Services reduce budget from £3,000 to £0
- 2010/4 Other reduce budget from £1,000 to £0
- 2050/4 Communications reduce budget from £1,000 to £0

Total budget saving £11,500 - this information to be fed into FTC discussions

E/714 To receive an update on Verney Fields and discuss follow up actions

Agenda item brought forward - see above.

<u>E/715</u> To approve the annual tree inspection.



Committee **APPROVED** the award of the contract to 'Glendale Services' at a cost of £813.78 plus vat

<u>E/716</u> To approve the purchase of replacement swings for Laburnum Park.

Councillors remember the swings that had previously occupied the site and were keen to provide a similar replacement but repositioned at 90 degrees to its original position.

Committee **APPROVED** the award of the contract to provide and install a new 4 seater 10 feet high swing including ground resurfacing to 'GB Leisure' for the total cost of £15,581 plus vat

<u>E/717</u> To comment on planning applications.

Erection of an outbuilding. (Retrospective). 🗏

24 Oldends Lane Stonehouse Gloucestershire GL10 2DG Ref. No: S.23/2321/HHOLD | Validated: Mon 04 Dec 2023 | STC Response: No objections as long as none from neighbours

<u>Erection of a front canopy and a replacement single storey rear</u>

<u>extension, alterations to fenestration. 쿠</u>

1 Arrowsmith Drive Stonehouse Gloucestershire GL10 2QS Ref. No: S.23/2304/HHOLD | Validated: Wed 22 Nov 2023 | STC Response: No objection as long as none from neighbours

• <u>Works to 16 trees.</u> 투

Double Lock Cottage Ryeford Road North Ryeford Stonehouse Gloucestershire GL10 2LG

Ref. No: S.23/2297/TCA | Validated: Tue 21 Nov 2023 |

STC Response: Council is keen to ensure that the works detailed in the application have been determined as necessary by a certified arborist as it is particularly concerned with the number of fellings. No such report has been provided as part of the application and so the town council would wish to see such a report.

Erection of single storey rear extension. **F**

48 Ryelands Road Stonehouse Gloucestershire GL10 2PQ Ref. No: S.23/2221/HHOLD | Validated: Thu 09 Nov 2023 | STC Response: No objections as long as none from neighbours

Erection of a single storey rear extension and garage conversion.



37 Rosedale Avenue Stonehouse Gloucestershire GL10 2QH Ref. No: S.23/2108/HHOLD | Validated: Wed 25 Oct 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision

<u>Discharge of Condition 4 (landscaping timetable), condition 12 (cycle Storage), Condition 13 (car park road management), condition 14 (EV charging points), condition 15 (Delivery, servicing and car park management) and condition 20 (canal moorings) of S.22/1595/VAR (Variation of Condition 10 (Fire Hydrants) of S.22/0789/VAR (planning permission S.19/1905/FUL) for the Auction Showroom to remove the new fire hydrant requirement)
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The Stroud Auction Saleroom Ebley Road Stonehouse Gloucestershire GL10 2LN Ref. No: S.23/2076/DISCON | Validated: Thu 19 Oct 2023 |

STC Response: No Objection

<u>E/718</u> To receive Working Groups updates.

Members may wish to note

any reports from the following:

Comms - Stonehouse Newsletter to be distributed - Cllrs Keith Terry, Debbie Curtis, Carol Kambites and Gary Powell offered their help

Stroudwater (Bristol Road) Station - Met with the MP who has offered to follow the matter up with the Minister for Transport requesting that he comes to Stonehouse Canal Rejuvenation - The new Anchor Group have now met for the second time - a separate project group has been formed to look at the detailed business plan for bringing the SHIP Inn site into community use. 'Meanwhile use of the site is being sought as early as possible - currently working through problem issues

Transport and Highways - Meeting to take place with the local highways manager this week - all current highway issues to be discussed

Public Rights of Way - a progress update was asked for from GCC

Recreation - meeting to be arranged in the new year - good progress is being made with the Stagholt field.

<u>E/719</u> To receive a report on planning decisions received from Stroud District

Council.

S.23/1603/FUL 64 Midland Road, Stonehouse
Erection of a dwelling.
PERMITTED
S.23/1985/DISCON Unit 2, Parcel E4, Land West of Stonehouse
Discharge of condition 2 (pairs mitigation) of planning norminal

Discharge of condition 3 (noise mitigation) of planning permission S.21/2759/REM - Reserved Matters application for a proposed employment development (Class



E(g), B2/B8) pursuant to outline planning permission S.14/0810/OUT including details of landscaping, design, scale, and appearance. (description updated 13/04 to reflect outline permission). **PERMITTED**

S.23/2099/LBC Stonehouse Court Hotel, Bristol Road, Stonehouse Re-roofing of the Caroline Suite and the addition of PV Panels to this roof. APPLICATION NOT REQUIRED

S.23/2150/T5DAY Unit 1200 Stonehouse Park Sperry Way Stonehouse Gloucestershire GL10 3UT Decayed Lime Tree (1604) - fell. APPROVED

S.23/1765/HHOLD 82 Woodcock Lane Stonehouse Gloucestershire GL10 2ER Erection of a replacement shed. (Retrospective). PERMITTED

S.23/1821/FUL 8 Queens Road Stonehouse Gloucestershire GL10 2QA Demolition of former Comrades Club and garage blocks; erection of 4 detached houses and a car port. Re-submission of S.20/0769/FUL PERMITTED

E/720 Date of next Environment Committee meeting: Monday 8th January 2023.

Committee NOTED the date of the next meeting