

Minutes (subject to agreement at the next Committee meeting) of a meeting of the Town Environment Committee on Monday 29th January, 7pm at Stonehouse Library, High Street, Stonehouse, GL10 2NG.

Present:

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

Also present: Jacqui Sanders (Deputy Clerk)

Two members of the public

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

The meeting started promptly at 7pm.

The two members of the public were invited to speak. They were the owner and planning consultant for the former Severn Plywood site, who shared their vision for an alternative use of the site with committee members. The committee provided feedback that related to the town's current needs as a helpful guide.

E/734 To receive apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Armstrong and Watts.

E/735 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

E/736 To approve the minutes of the Town Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 8th January.

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

E/737 To receive the latest updated Environment Budget.

Committee RECEIVED and NOTED the latest Budget position.

Total Actual Net Income £1,894.64

Total Actual Net Expenditure £49,034.67

Total Reserve £5,191.70

E/738 To recommend for town council approval the award of the Council's Grounds Maintenance contract





STONEHOUSE

TOWN COUNCIL

The town clerk attended the meeting to present this item with a detailed support paper. The original contract put out to Tender had a significant error - this error had only come to the officer's attention very late into the tender process. The Clerk's proposal was to stop the tender process and move forward with the recommendations detailed in the support paper. It was highlighted that this course of action was necessary both to ensure that the town council received value for money during a long-term contract and that the successful contractor would not be financially disadvantaged. Councillors raised some clarification questions about the tender process itself which were answered by the Clerk. Council RESOLVED to accept the Clerk's recommendations:

- Stop the current tender process
- Notify existing bidders of the position and the reason for it.
- Seek agreement with incumbent contractor to secure 'service as usual' for the month of April '24 at an agreed rate in case required
- Amend the contract document to reflect the necessary service change with a view to publishing on 'Contracts Finder' by the 2nd February '24.

E/739 To consider taking over the management of the grass verge opposite the horse trough on the Ebley Road, as a wildflower meadow.
Committee recommended to Full Council for approval.

E/740 To comment on planning applications.

S.24/0006/FUL Units 1/3/7 Button Mills Estate, Lower Mills, Bridgend
Fire damage reinstatement work to three industrial buildings - replacement roof structure and new metal coverings over. External repairs to fire damaged brickwork and new roller shutters.

Comment: No objections but suggest some Environmental improvements such as solar panels and/or improved insulation.

S.23/2401/HHOLD 16 Laburnum Walk, Stonehouse
Erection of a dormer extension and loft conversion.

Comment: No objections, however council is aware that some work has already started on site.

S.24/0003/HHOLD 8A Gloucester Road, Stonehouse.

Erection of rear extensions, replacement garage with a 2 storey side extension and installation of solar panels.

Comment: Application has been withdrawn by applicant.

S.24/0096/TCA Unit 5, Brunel Way, Stonehouse

Oak tree - cut back the two secondary limbs hanging over the building by circa 50%. Balance the whole crown all around. Removal of all dead wood.

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Comment: No objections as long as work undertaken by a qualified tree surgeon.

E/741 To receive Working Groups updates.

Members may wish to note any reports from the following:

Comms - There have been no recent meetings.

Stroudwater (Bristol Road) Station - This is ongoing and the working group are hopeful of some wider publicity shortly.

Canal Rejuvenation - Ongoing.

Transport and Highways - Not met.

Public Rights of Way - Meeting scheduled for Friday 2nd February.

Recreation - In regards to Stagholt, a planning application will be submitted for an extension to the allotments.

E/742 To receive a report on planning decisions received from Stroud District Council.

S.23/2539/DISCON Parcel E5, Land West Of Stonehouse, Grove Lane, Westend
Discharge of Condition 46 of outline permission S.14/0810/OUT relating to the
Area Masterplan in respect of Parcel E5
REFUSED

S.23/2304/HHOLD 1 Arrowsmith Drive, Stonehouse
Erection of a front canopy and a replacement single storey rear extension,
alterations to fenestration.
PERMITTED

E/743 To approve communications in support of the meeting's decisions.

Committee NOTED no noteworthy communications.

E/744 Date of next Environment Committee meeting: Monday 26th February 2024.

Committee NOTED the date of the next meeting.



Financial Budget Comparison

for Town Environment Committee

Comparison between 01/04/23 and 22/01/24 inclusive. Includes due and unpaid transactions. Includes commitments.
Excludes transactions with an invoice date prior to 01/04/23

	2023/2024	Reserve	Actual Net	Balance	Bal %age
2010 In Bloom					
2010/1 Contract Planting	£0.00	£2,677.98	£0.00	£2,677.98	100.00%
2010/2 Non-Contract Planting	£3,000.00	£0.00	£2,209.06	£790.94	26.36%
2010/3 Watering Services	£3,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£3,000.00	100.00%
2010/4 Other	£1,000.00	£0.00	£3,971.33	£-2,971.33	-297.13%
2010 Total	£7,000.00	£2,677.98	£6,180.39	£3,497.59	49.97%
2050 Cultural Events & Studies					
2050/1 Goodwill	£5,000.00	£0.00	£4,765.10	£234.90	4.70%
2050/2 Civic Awards	£300.00	£0.00	£111.34	£188.66	62.89%
2050/3 Other	£3,000.00	£930.92	£1,224.54	£2,706.38	90.21%
2050/4 Communications	£1,000.00	£0.00	£300.00	£700.00	70.00%
2050 Total	£9,300.00	£930.92	£6,400.98	£3,829.94	41.18%
2080 Neighbourhood Plan Review	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
2090 Planning Specialist Advice					
2090/1	£0.00	£0.00	£234.00	£-234.00	100.00%
2090/2	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
2090 Total	£0.00	£0.00	£234.00	£-234.00	100.00%
Total Town Environment Committee	£69,600.00	£5,191.70	£49,034.67	£25,757.03	37.01%

Financial Budget Comparison

for Town Environment Committee

Comparison between 01/04/23 and 22/01/24 inclusive. Includes due and unpaid transactions. Includes commitments.
Excludes transactions with an invoice date prior to 01/04/23

	2023/2024	Reserve	Actual Net	Balance	Bal %age
INCOME					
Town Environment Committee					
200 Stonehouse in Bloom	£1,500.00	£0.00	£0.00	-£1,500.00	-100.00%
205 Event Income/Donations					
205/1 Events	£1,200.00	£0.00	£1,110.00	-£90.00	-7.50%
205/2 Donations	£0.00	£0.00	£234.64	£234.64	100.00%
205 Total	£1,200.00	£0.00	£1,344.64	£144.64	12.05%
210 Planting Sponsorship	£1,500.00	£0.00	£550.00	-£950.00	-63.33%
215 Grants	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
Total Town Environment Committee	£4,200.00	£0.00	£1,894.64	-£2,305.36	-54.89%

EXPENDITURE

Town Environment Committee					
1190 Amenity Areas					
1190/1 Grounds Maintenance (contract)	£25,000.00	£0.00	£20,047.98	£4,952.02	19.81%
1190/2 Grounds Maintenance (in-house)	£2,000.00	£0.00	£978.09	£1,021.91	51.10%
1190/3 Play Equipment maint/repairs/insp	£2,500.00	£0.00	£2,418.74	£81.26	3.25%
1190/4 Public Space Improvements	£5,300.00	£1,582.80	£5,217.49	£1,665.31	31.42%
1190/5 Tree & Hedge/boundary maintenance	£6,500.00	£0.00	£2,942.00	£3,558.00	54.74%
1190/6 Waste Collection	£5,000.00	£0.00	£4,394.00	£606.00	12.12%
1190 Total	£46,300.00	£1,582.80	£35,998.30	£11,884.50	25.67%
2000 Christmas Lights	£5,000.00	£0.00	£221.00	£4,779.00	95.58%
2005 Climate Change	£2,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,000.00	100.00%