



## STONEHOUSE TOWN COUNCIL

### Members of the Town Environment Committee

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Town Environment Committee to be held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 7pm at Stonehouse Library, High Street, Stonehouse, GL10 2NG.

#### Committee Members:

Councillors: John Callinan, Keith Creighton (Committee Vice-Chair), Deborah Curtis (Committee Chair), Marcus Dixon, Neil Gibbs, Stephen Hunter, Simon Macgregor, Theresa Watt

A period of up to 15 minutes will be set aside at the beginning of the meeting for members of the public to raise questions.

Carlos Novoth  
Town Clerk  
22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025

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

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### A G E N D A

E/903 To receive apologies.

E/904 Declarations of Interest

E/905 To approve the minutes of the Town Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March.

E/906 To receive the latest updated Environment Budget up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

E/907 To consider the design and purchase of new Stonehouse Town Entry signs and recommend for Full Council approval.

E/908 To approve a payment of £459.00 plus VAT to secure portable toilets for the Ship Inn site in the eight weeks prior to the Canal Festival

E/909 To approve the purchase of tables and chairs, chosen by Stonehouse in Bloom, for Old Chapel Garden from the Mayor's Fund.

E/910 To note the interim report from Transition Stroud e-bike loan project.



E/911 To discuss the future protection of Doverow Hill Wood and recommend securing the services of Fields in Trust, to Full Council.

E/912 To receive the enquiry from Standish Parish Council and discuss and consider a response.

E/913 To consider participation of the Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution Survey, from GAPTC.

E/914 To comment on recent Planning Applications (details in support papers)

E/915 To receive a report on planning decisions received from Stroud District Council.

E/916 To receive Working Groups updates from:

- Communications,
- Stroudwater (Bristol Road) Station,
- Transport and Highways,
- Public Rights of Way
- Recreation.
- Canal Rejuvenation
- Court View
- Community Arboretum and Open Spaces

E/917 Date of next Environment Committee meeting: Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2025.





**STONEHOUSE**  
**TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes (subject to agreement at the next Committee Meeting) of a meeting of the Town Environment Committee held on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March, 7pm at Stonehouse Library, High Street, Stonehouse GL10 2NG

**Present:**

Councillors: Keith Creighton (Committee Vice-Chair), Debbie Curtis (Committee Chair) Marcus Dixon, Neil Gibbs, Stephen Hunter, Simon Macgregor, Theresa Watt.

**Also present:**

Jacqui Sanders (Deputy Clerk), Cllr John Parker

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

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**E/894 To receive apologies.**

Apologies were received from Cllr John Callinan

**E/895 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Gibbs declared an interest in item E/900.

**E/896 To approve the minutes of the Town Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February**

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

**E/897 To receive the latest updated Environment Budget.**

Committee NOTED the updated report showing a total 'Actual Net' Income of £1,240.00; 'Actual Net' Expenditure of £43,426.73 and Reserve Expenditure of £0.

**E/898 To propose a street name for the development at Land Adjoining Station Road, Bristol Road, Stonehouse.**

After much discussion, committee proposed the following street names - West Station Road or Old Coalyard Road for Full Council approval. Committee would like to advise against the street name of Station Road because of the main train station already in Stonehouse and the thought it may cause confusion for commuters.

**E/899 To comment on recent Planning Applications**

**S.25/0239HHOLD** 16 Paddock Rise, Stonehouse  
Installation of 1.8m timber fence.





**Comment: No Comment.**

**S.25/0437/HHOLD** 3 Bath Road, Stonehouse  
Dropped kerb and creation of parking area.

**Comment: This council supports the objections from Gloucestershire County Council that the applicant is not providing safe and suitable access to the site.**

**S.25/0419/HHOLD** 91 Ryelands Road Stonehouse  
Erection of two storey rear extension.

**Comment: No objections as long as none from neighbours.**

**S.25/0423/CPL** Block 31 Upper Mills Trading Estate Bristol Road Stonehouse  
Certificate of lawfulness to confirm use of building as B2-General Industrial.

**Comment: No comment**

**S.25/0103/FUL** Far Westrip Farm , Far Westrip, Stroud  
Construction of roof over existing agricultural store.

**Comment: No comment**

**S.25/0410/HHOLD** The Wheelwrights , Grosvenor Road, Stonehouse  
Erection of two storey side extension with a single storey rear extension, driveway extended with an extended drop kerb.

**Comment: No objections as long as none from neighbours. This council supports the addition of solar panels.**

**S.25/0457/FUL** Land At The Rear Of 42, High Street, Stonehouse  
Erection of single storey rear extension.

**Comment: No objections as long as none from neighbours.**

**Cllr Gibbs left the room at 7.28pm.**

**S.25/0275/FUL** Land At Verney Road, Verney Road, Stonehouse  
Conversion of garage to dwelling.

**Comment: This council has no objections, however there is concern that parking is restricted to one car only and there is limited parking elsewhere.**

**Cllr Gibbs returned to the meeting at 7.33pm**

**Cllr Parker left the meeting at 7.33pm**

**S.25/0557/HHOLD** 6 Burdett Road, Stonehouse  
Erection of a single storey front extension and a dormer extension.

**Comment: No objections**

**S.25/0373/FUL** 53, 55, 56, 60, 64, 70, 76 & 78, Woodcock Lane, Stonehouse,  
Installation of external wall insulation.

**Comment: No objections. This council welcomes improvements to public housing.**





**E/900** To receive a report on planning decisions received from Stroud District Council.

**S.25/0108/HHOLD** 9 Abbots Way Bridgend Stonehouse  
Erection of single storey flat roof extension to the front elevation.  
**PERMITTED**

**S.25/1877/FUL** 56 High Street Stonehouse  
Erection of first floor extensions to front & rear and replacement of existing rear extension.  
**APPLICATION WITHDRAWN**

**S.25/0117/P18A** Footbridge At Rear Of 75 Midland Road Stonehouse  
Replacement of existing footbridge deck and parapets of Oldends Footbridge.  
**NOTIFICATION ACKNOWLEDGED**

**S.25/0226/CPL** 8A Gloucester Road Stonehouse  
Erection of a single storey outbuilding.  
**CONSENT GIVEN**

**S.25/0333/GDPE** 9 Blackbird Court Stonehouse  
Erection of a single storey rear extension.  
**NO OBJECTIONS**

**E/901** To receive Working Groups updates.

- **Communications**  
Not met.
- **Stroudwater (Bristol Road) Station**  
Not met.
- **Transport and Highways**  
Not met.
- **Public Rights of Way**  
Not met.
- **Recreation.**  
Not met.
- **Canal Rejuvenation**  
The Ship Inn site has been harrowed and levelled.  
A new gate has been fitted.  
The site is awaiting the arrival of tables and benches.  
Opening day is 4<sup>th</sup> May.  
Canal Festival is 29<sup>th</sup> June.



- **Court View**  
Not met.

**E/902 Date of next Environment Committee meeting: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025.**  
Committee NOTED the date of the next meeting.

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# Financial Budget Comparison

## for Town Environment Committee

Comparison between 01/04/24 and 31/03/25 inclusive. Includes due and unpaid transactions.

Excludes transactions with an invoice date prior to 01/04/24

	2024/2025	Reserve	Actual Net	Balance
2005 Climate Change	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
2010 In Bloom				
2010/1 Contract Planting	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
2010/2 Non-Contract Planting	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
2010/3 Watering Services	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
2010/4 Other	£0.00	£0.00	£338.17	-£338.17
2010 Total	£0.00	£0.00	£338.17	-£338.17
2050 Cultural Events & Studies				
2050/1 Goodwill	£6,000.00	£0.00	£2,978.21	£3,021.79
2050/2 Civic Awards	£300.00	£0.00	£0.00	£300.00
2050/3 Other	£3,000.00	£0.00	£1,865.94	£1,134.06
2050/4 Communications	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
2050 Total	£9,300.00	£0.00	£4,844.15	£4,455.85
2080 Neighbourhood Plan Review	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
2090 Planning Specialist Advice				
2090/1	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
2090/2	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
2090 Total	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
<b>Total Town Environment Committee</b>	<b>£58,100.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£43,426.73</b>	<b>£14,673.27</b>
Total Town Environment Committe	£1,200.00	£0.00	£1,305.00	£105.00
Total Town Environment Committe	£58,100.00	£0.00	£43,426.73	£14,673.27
<b>Total Net Balance</b>	<b>-£56,900.00</b>		<b>-£42,121.73</b>	



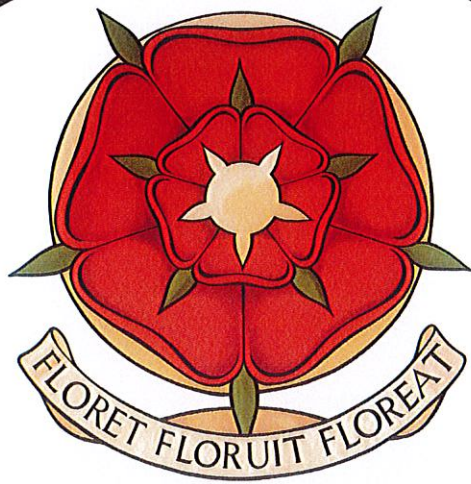
# Financial Budget Comparison

## for Town Environment Committee

Comparison between 01/04/24 and 31/03/25 inclusive. Includes due and unpaid transactions.

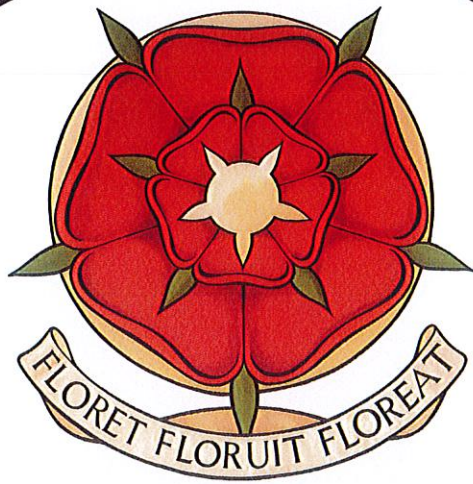
Excludes transactions with an invoice date prior to 01/04/24

		2024/2025	Reserve	Actual Net	Balance
INCOME					
Town Environment Committee					
200	Stonehouse in Bloom	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
205	Event Income/Donations				
205/1	Events	£1,200.00	£0.00	£670.00	-£530.00
205/2	Donations	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
205/3	Markets	£0.00	£0.00	£635.00	£635.00
205	Total	£1,200.00	£0.00	£1,305.00	£105.00
210	Planting Sponsorship	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
215	Grants	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total Town Environment Committee		£1,200.00	£0.00	£1,305.00	£105.00
EXPENDITURE					
Town Environment Committee					
1190	Amenity Areas				
1190/1	Grounds Maintenance (contract)	£27,500.00	£0.00	£28,500.00	-£1,000.00
1190/2	Grounds Maintenance (in-house)	£2,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,000.00
1190/3	Play Equipment maint/repairs/insp	£3,000.00	£0.00	£1,751.30	£1,248.70
1190/4	Public Space Improvements	£5,300.00	£0.00	£2,561.28	£2,738.72
1190/5	Tree & Hedge/boundary maintenance	£3,500.00	£0.00	£4,438.86	-£938.86
1190/6	Waste Collection	£5,500.00	£0.00	£992.97	£4,507.03
1190	Total	£46,800.00	£0.00	£38,244.41	£8,555.59
2000	Christmas Lights	£2,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,000.00



**WELCOME TO  
STONEHOUSE**

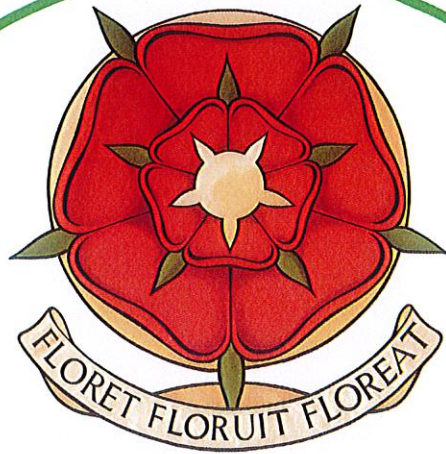




**WELCOME TO**  
**STONEHOUSE**

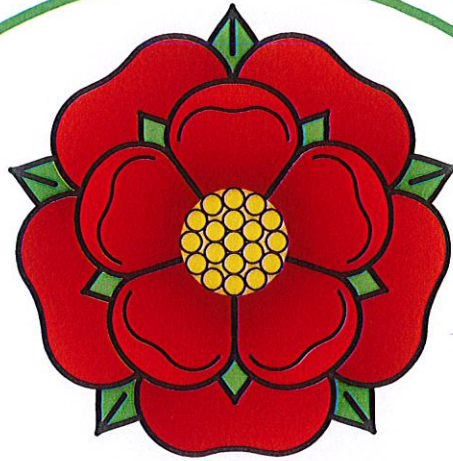






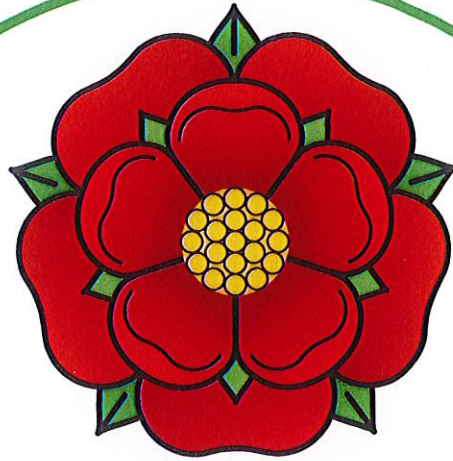
*Welcome to*  
**STONEHOUSE**





**WELCOME TO**  
**STONEHOUSE**

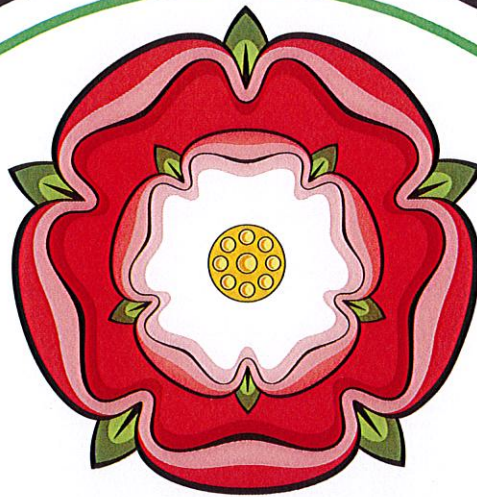




*Welcome to*  
**STONEHOUSE**







**WELCOME TO  
STONEHOUSE**



For illustrative purposes only





# **RHS Britain in Bloom 2024 BEST SMALL TOWN IN THE UK**









## Stonehouse Town Council - interim report for e-bike loan project

Since buying 2 e-bikes with the help of Stonehouse Town Council in spring 2024, Transition Stroud has been supporting a small group of volunteers from the area to learn how to book out the e-bikes and support users to try them. We bought 1 Benno eJoy, which can carry 1 adult and 1 small child, and 1 Benno Boost, which can carry 1 adult and 2 larger children. We also used our funding to buy all the cargo carrying and safety equipment necessary for anyone to use the e-bikes straight away.

Our volunteer team for this area is 5 people strong, who have all been very supportive of the project, and we have developed good links with our hosts at Bridge Cafe on the High St.

Between August 2024 and February 2025, we have loaned out the Stonehouse based e-bikes 7 times. During the winter we took the decision to loan out the e-bikes for 4 weeks at a time to encourage more people to try them out during the colder wetter months. The Stonehouse e-bikes have taken £340 in loan fee donations so far, which we are hoping to use to reinvest in more equipment in future.

We've had some lovely feedback so far -

*"A great service! Loved having the loan E-Bike as a way to get around, from dropping the little one off at playgroup, to picking them up from grandparents, cycling to parks, commuting to work and not forgetting the little trips to the shops."*

*"I wanted to write to say a huge thank you for this absolutely life-changing experience that Transition Stroud gave to me! I have never in my adult life owned a bike and rarely cycled one, especially not on the road. The feeling you get on this bike is so hard to explain but it felt a little like being in the ET movie, it just lifted me up my first hill and I was screaming in joy the whole way up . . . I went to work, I went food shopping , I even started transporting my kids around. In just one week I became a pro!"*

During the autumn we gained further funding for more e-bikes and recruited John Tierney in as our e-bike Coordinator so we had more resource to lead on and grow the service further. John has launched 2 further e-bike collection points in central stroud and Horsley in addition to our original 3, and we are now planning to extend this pilot project until at least spring 2026. You can now book all the e-bikes out on the new [Pedal Power website](#).

As always, the take-up of the bikes relies on awareness of the scheme locally, so Transition Stroud would be appreciative of any help that Stonehouse Town Council can give in getting the word out locally - and we will be planning on doing more promotion to nearby areas as well, including the Stanleys, Great Oldbury, Eastington and Ebley. We're happy to provide content and images for any newsletters or Facebook posts. We are also open to supporting or attending local events in the area with the bikes.

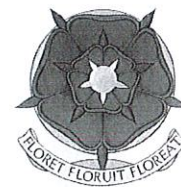
Warm wishes,

Jess Farr

On behalf of Transition Stroud

<b>SUMMER</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Serial</b>	<b>Times loaned</b>	<b>Loan fees</b>
Start - 1 Oct	Benno Boost E-bike	Stonehouse-WNBL00185	3	100
Start - 1 Oct	Benno eJoy	Stonehouse-WNBD00081	1	50
			TOTAL	£150
<b>WINTER</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Serial</b>	<b>Times loaned</b>	<b>Loan fees</b>
1 Oct - 29 Jan	Benno Boost E-bike	Stonehouse-WNBL00185	3	190
1 Oct - 29 Jan	Benno eJoy	Stonehouse-WNBD00081	0	0
			TOTAL	£190





## Stonehouse Town Council Agenda Item Template

Adopted April 2019 (TC 2150)

To be reviewed May 2022

Items must be submitted to give as much notice as possible but with the minimum of 5 clear days before a meeting date not including weekends or bank holidays. Items may be rejected or postponed if they are submitted too late, a power cannot be identified, the item requires further information, the item can be resolved by administration, or a form of words cannot be agreed. The final decision regarding these reasons will be taken by the Proper Officer.

<b>To be completed by the Proper Officer</b>		
Date Received by Proper Officer: <i>PR J. Sanders</i>		
Agreed / postponed / Rejected		Reason for postponement / rejection
Added to agenda of (Meeting): <i>TEC 28<sup>th</sup> April</i>	Meeting Date:	Item no.

Item Subject: (This is the same as the agenda item)

### Protection of Doverow Hill Wood

Explanation of the proposal:

Doverow Hill Wood has been owned by Stonehouse Town Council and formerly Stonehouse Parish Council since the late 1800's. It is an iconic and important landscape site for a number of reasons, not only it's natural beauty and as a habitat for biodiversity, but it is an important site culturally and socially for the people of Stonehouse and Ebley. Its loss would be a major blow.

Interestingly, despite its importance, the site does not benefit from any formal protection other than being in public ownership. We all know the pressures placed on natural resources now and although the current Town Council does not seek to put the land a risk, who knows what could happen in future generations.

This proposal seeks to formally protect the site in perpetuity for the people of Stonehouse to use and enjoy as the "pleasure ground" it was originally designed to be.

"Fields in Trust" ([fieldsintrust.org](http://fieldsintrust.org)) are a national charity to which the Council subscribes and will formulate a bespoke package of legal protection using their pro-bono lawyers to protect the landscape in perpetuity from exploitation and development. The costs associated with this service are minimal as the charity does the work for free. There are however two HM Land Registry fees to pay – one to obtain the registry details and the second to register the new deeds.

Options:

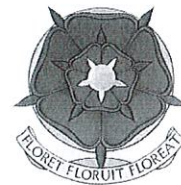
Costs and Funding Source: If costs are involved please ask Customer Services or Committee Clerk to obtain them for you in accordance with Financial Regulations)

We need to check with Fields in Trust for exact details of costs

## Stonehouse Town Council Agenda Item Template

Adopted April 2019 (TC 2150)

To be reviewed May 2022



Carbon emission implications	
N/A	
Status: for information / for decision	
If for decision, Recommendations:	
Proposed by: Cllr Neil Gibbs	Dated: 25/03/25