


Notes on Agenda items, Environment Committee, Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March

E/1027 Minutes	Minutes attached
E/1028 Budget report	Report attached
E/1029	<p><u>Kingfisher</u>  The plan is to retain as much of the original design on the breast of the bird as possible – however, the amount could be less than seen here depending on how much of the original papier-mache has failed. The rest of the kingfisher will be painted as illustrated. The costs of restoration will not exceed £120.00, and all work will be done by SIB volunteers – see also quotation attached. When finished, the kingfisher will be relocated to the Ship Inn Community Space.</p> 
E/1032 Planning Applications	<p><b>S.26/0307/HHOLD</b> 12 Boakes Drive, Stonehouse  Erection of conservatory, insertion of window to first floor side elevation, new heat pump, new gate in boundary wall.  Respond by 19<sup>th</sup> March. Click <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p><b>S.26/0175/OUT</b> 14 Gloucester Road, Stonehouse  Outline planning application for the demolition of the existing buildings &amp; the construction of 11 new dwellings – access and layout to be determined – all other matters reserved.  Respond by 11<sup>th</sup> March. Click <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p><b>S.26/0180/FUL</b> Stonehouse Community Centre, Stonehouse  Erection of an InPost Locker.  Click <a href="#">here</a>.  <b>To recommend that this application is discussed and determined at the next Full Town Council meeting.</b></p>

<b>E/1033 Planning Decisions</b>	<b>S.25/2431/HHOLD</b> 11 Melbourne Drive, Stonehouse Erection of single storey front extension and porch. <b>PERMITTED</b>  <b>S.26/0056/HHOLD</b> 8A Gloucester Road, Stonehouse Erection of outbuilding. <b>PERMITTED</b>
<b>E/1034 Reports Working Groups</b>	



**Minutes of a meeting of the Town Environment Committee held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 7pm at Stonehouse Library, High Street, Stonehouse GL10 2NG**

**Present:**

Councillors: Keren Capeling, Deborah Curtis (Committee Chair), Marcus Dixon, David Drew, Simon Macgregor, John Parker

**Also present:**

Jacqui Sanders (Deputy Clerk)

County Councillor Dean Botterill

2 members of the public

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

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**Public Questions**

The Chair opened the meeting by offering members of the public the opportunity to raise questions or make comment.

Councillor Botterill asked to raise these questions:

Regarding the planning application S.22/0206/OUT (Item 1021). He asked why he was not informed by Stroud District Council, as he is Gloucestershire County Councillor, of this application and that he was concerned about the amount of traffic that would occur on match days.

Committee responded that this was an amended application that was first submitted in 2022 and that he could respond to the application citing his views as a member of the public or as a County Councillor.

Why was the Council wasting money on the restoration and relocation of the Kingfisher statue, as the Kingfisher trail is no longer and the Kingfisher is in too bad of a state?

Committee responded that Stonehouse in Bloom are offering to restore the Kingfisher at potentially little to no cost to the council.

The Ship Inn Site aims to create a Community Hub through fundraising - not a lot of fundraising can be seen. Where is the fundraising?

Cllr Dixon explained that Spice has only been running for one year. They have completed Phase 1 of raising funds for the boardwalk. There is now a plan of monthly fundraising events.

- Is the Ship Inn Site going to cost the Council more money each year?

Cllr Dixon responded that a five-year business plan was in place, with a shortfall in the next three years, after which, the site will be self-funded.

- Will the Ship Inn Site begin to look better from the roadside?  
Committee responded that this is in the plan for the future, however, a huge amount of work has already been undertaken on the site.

- Has the Ship Inn Site looked into alternate builders/contractors for the work required?

The work at the Ship Inn Site is undertaken by volunteers.

One member of the public queried the land at Verney Fields, saying that the community could all pay £1 each to purchase the land, or Stonehouse Town Council could purchase it. Committee stated that the Council had attempted to purchase the land in 2022 and had put in an offer, which was initially accepted. Two weeks later the offer was rejected for a higher one. At this point, Council withdrew from negotiations.

Committee also stated that the current owner has said he would not sell to Stonehouse Town Council in the future, under any circumstances.

The two members of the public left as the meeting began promptly at 7.15pm.

#### **E/1009 To receive apologies.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Creighton (Committee Vice-Chair) and Cllr Hunter.

#### **E/1010 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Drew declared an interest in Item E/1021, planning application S.22/0206/OUT.

Cllrs Dixon and Curtis declared an interest in Items E/1014 and E/1015.

Cllr Dixon raised the question as to whether it was necessary for councillors to declare an interest in the Ship Inn Site and would appreciate a response.

Update: There is no need for councillors to declare an interest in the Ship Inn Site.

#### **E/1011 To approve the minutes of the Town Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January.**

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

#### **E/1012 To receive the latest updated Environment Budget.**

Committee NOTED the updated report showing a total 'Actual Net' Income of £3,936.31; 'Actual Net' Expenditure of £63,557.23 and Reserve Expenditure of £7,936.70.

#### **E/1013 To consider and recommend to Full Council, changes to the Council's Earmarked Reserves.**

Committee recommended to Full Council the removal of the following reserve headings:

- Replacement Vehicle
- Mowers & Equipment
- Underwrite Rev Budget

Officers requested this reserve heading remain for future use; however, committee thought it unnecessary

- Laburnum Recreation Field Tress and Wildflower seeds Memorial Fund
- GCC Build Back Better Fund
- Welcome Back Funding
- Major Projects Support
- Canal Spring Festival - move remaining reserve to General Fund
- Kings Coronation

Committee RESOLVED not to approve a reserve fund of £5000 to the Ship Inn Site as it was felt there was insufficient information to make the decision.

**E/1014 To recommend for Full Council to approve the reserve allocation to allocate £20,000 to the Ship Inn Community Space project to cover the anticipated funding shortfall anticipated over the next three years: Year 1 - £5000, Year 2 - £7,500, Year 3 - £7,500.**

Cllr Dixon explained that the reserve allocation begins in April 2026 for year 1. A decision will be made by Stroud District Council's Strategy and Resources Committee on 17<sup>th</sup> April, as to whether to transfer the Ship Inn Site to Stonehouse Town Council on a long-term lease. If the decision is made to not transfer the land to Stonehouse Town Council, then no funds will be needed. Committee proposed the item, with an amendment, to read: Committee to RECOMMEND to Full Council the proposed phased allocation of reserves only on condition that the Certificate of Lawfulness is issued by Stroud District Council and that the land is transferred to Stonehouse Town Council.

**E/1015 To recommend to Full Council that an application is made to Stroud District Council for a Certificate of Lawfulness for the building design/site plans, proposed for the Ship Inn Community Space.**

Committee AGREED to recommend to Full Council an application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for the Ship Inn Community Space.

**E/1016 To agree in principle the restoration and potential relocation of the Kingfisher Sculpture.**

**Stonehouse in Bloom propose doing the restoration work for nothing or minimal cost.**

Committee AGREED in principle for Stonehouse in Bloom to undertake the restoration work and relocate the Kingfisher to the Ship Inn Site, subject to any costings being approved.

**E/1017 To consider and approve, the application for the siting of a memorial Bench in Stonehouse.**

Committee discussed the application at length. They felt more consideration should be given to the type and location of bench. Cllrs Parker and Curtis will arrange to follow this matter up with the Applicant directly, and will defer the matter to the next Environment Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> March. Officers explained that the application has followed correct procedures in line with the current Memorials Policy.

Committee RECOMMENDED that the Memorial Policy is reviewed by Policies Working Group for future applications.

**E/1018 To seek retrospective approval for a tree survey to be undertaken by Glendale for a total of £813.78, plus VAT.**

Committee APPROVED the retrospective payment of £813.78, plus VAT, for a tree survey.

**E/1019 To receive an update concerning Harpers Field and consider a response.**

Cllr Curtis gave an update on the meeting regarding Harpers Field, in which all Cllrs were invited to attend.

Committee received the update, but felt that the matter needed further discussion before a response was made.

**E/1020 To receive and approve the following recommendations from the Community**

**Arboretum and Open Spaces working group:**

- **That the cedar outside the Globe be removed and replanted in a more suitable location, and that a swamp cypress be purchased and planted in its place.**

Committee AGREED in principle to the cedar tree outside the Globe being removed and replaced by a swamp cypress, subject to a fully costed proposal being approved.

- **That Neil Gibbs be invited to join the CAOS Group, as a member of the public.**

Committee APPROVED that Neil Gibbs be invited to join the CAOS Working Group, as he had been a very engaged member previously whilst in the group as a councillor, and that he would benefit the group.

**E/1021 To comment on recent Planning Applications**

**S.22/0206/OUT** Land at M5 Junction 13 west of Stonehouse

Proposed Eco-Park development comprising a 5,000 capacity football stadium, indoor and outdoor playing pitches, an Academy building, up to 37,700 sq.metres of Class E offices and 18,000 sq. metres of B2/B8 employment floorspace with up to 2,750 sq.metres of ancillary Class E food/retail/creche, a hotel with up to 100 beds, a Care Village including a 70 bed Care Home, as well as associated access, parking, landscaping and other ancillary works.

**Comment:** Stonehouse Town Council has concerns regarding the amount of extra traffic on match days and the impact this would have on nearby areas. This council would also like to enquire whether a survey has been carried out, or any thought has been given to visitors to the Stadium arriving by train at Stonehouse Station and the impact this would have on Stonehouse, on match days.

This Council would like to note and support the comments made by Stroud District Council's Head of Housing Solutions.

Lastly, has the provision of office space been reviewed post covid?

**S.25/2438/PIP** Site of Former Reliance Works, Downton Road, Bridgend, Stonehouse

Erection of up to 9 dwellings (Use Class C3)

**Comment:** Stonehouse Town Council fully support housing on a brownfield site. The Council feels this is an ideal site, next to existing housing. The only concern is that this site is currently being used as a car park, so would like consideration as to where all these cars will move to.

**S.26/0102/HHOLD** 1 Canal Side, Ebley Road, Stonehouse

Erection of a single storey front extension.

**Comment:** No objections.

**S.26/0110/HHOLD** 17 Kings Road, Stonehouse

Erection of a rear dormer extension and loft conversion.

**Comment:** No objections.

**S.25/2455/HHOLD** 30 Willow Road, Stonehouse

Rendering of the external elevations.

**Comment:** No objections.

**S.26/0056/HHOLD** 8A Gloucester Road, Stonehouse

Erection of outbuilding.

**Comment:** No objections.

**S.26/0003/FUL** Far Westrip, Stroud

Erection of roofs over the collecting yard, where cows wait to be milked, joining on to existing milking parlour and silage barn.

**Comment:** No objections.

**S.26/0073/HHOLD** 1 Laburnum Walk, Stonehouse

Installation of a dropped kerb.

**Comment:** No objections but would like to note the piecemeal loss of greenspace and biodiversity, with ad hoc addition of parking spaces.

**E/1022** To receive a report on planning decisions received from Stroud District Council.

**S.25/2008/TPO** 20 Bramble Lane, Stonehouse

Oak tree - fell.

**REFUSED**

**S.25/2060/HHOLD** Brierfield, Pearcroft Road, Stonehouse

Erection of a single storey side and rear extension.

**PERMITTED**

**S.25/2307/TCA** Ryeford Lodge, Ryeford Road North, Ryeford, Stonehouse.

Pollard T1, T2 and T3 down to 2-3m monoliths.

**CONSENT GIVEN**

**E/1023** To receive Working Groups updates.

- **Communications**  
Minutes were attached to supporting papers.
- **Stroudwater (Bristol Road) Station**  
Not met.
- **Transport and Highways**  
Minutes were attached to supporting papers.
- **Public Rights of Way**  
Not met.
- **Recreation.**  
Not met.
- **Canal Rejuvenation**  
Not met.
- **Court View**  
Not met.
- **Community Arboretum and Open Spaces.**  
Minutes to be included in next Environment meeting.
- **Events**  
Minutes were attached to supporting papers.

**E/1024 Date of next Environment Committee meeting: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026.**  
Committee NOTED the date of the next meeting.

# Financial Budget Comparison

## for Town Environment Committee

Comparison between 01/04/25 and 27/02/26 inclusive. Includes due and unpaid transactions. Includes commitments.

Excludes transactions with an invoice date prior to 01/04/25

		2025/2026	Reserve	Actual Net	Balance	Bal %age
<b>INCOME</b>						
<b>Town Environment Committee</b>						
200	Stonehouse in Bloom	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
205	Event Income/Donations					
205/1	Events	£1,200.00	£0.00	£1,335.00	£135.00	11.25%
205/2	Donations	£0.00	£0.00	£49.20	£49.20	0.00%
205/3	Markets	£0.00	£0.00	£755.00	£755.00	0.00%
205	Total	£1,200.00	£0.00	£2,139.20	£939.20	78.27%
210	Planting Sponsorship	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
215	Grants	£0.00	£0.00	£1,797.11	£1,797.11	0.00%
<b>Total Town Environment Committee</b>		<b>£1,200.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£3,936.31</b>	<b>£2,736.31</b>	<b>228.03%</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
<b>Town Environment Committee</b>						
1190	Amenity Areas					
1190/1	Grounds Maintenance (contract)	£29,500.00	£0.00	£27,065.50	£2,434.50	8.25%
1190/2	Grounds Maintenance (in-house)	£1,000.00	£0.00	£829.88	£170.12	17.01%
1190/3	Play Equipment maint/repairs/insp	£3,800.00	£0.00	£3,390.83	£409.17	10.77%
1190/4	Public Space Improvements	£6,000.00	£0.00	£4,577.88	£1,422.12	23.70%
1190/5	Tree & Hedge/boundary maintenance	£4,500.00	£0.00	£1,733.90	£2,766.10	61.47%
1190/6	Waste Collection	£4,000.00	£0.00	£2,978.32	£1,021.68	25.54%
1190	Total	£48,800.00	£0.00	£40,576.31	£8,223.69	16.85%
2000	Christmas Lights	£2,000.00	£14,897.15	£17,007.15	-£110.00	-5.50%

# Financial Budget Comparison

## for Town Environment Committee

Comparison between 01/04/25 and 27/02/26 inclusive. Includes due and unpaid transactions. Includes commitments.

Excludes transactions with an invoice date prior to 01/04/25

		<b>2025/2026</b>	<b>Reserve</b>	<b>Actual Net</b>	<b>Balance</b>	<b>Bal %age</b>
2005	Climate Change	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
2010	In Bloom					
2010/1	Contract Planting	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
2010/2	Non-Contract Planting	£0.00	£343.54	£343.54	£0.00	0.00%
2010/3	Watering Services	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
2010/4	Other	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
2010	Total	£0.00	£343.54	£343.54	£0.00	0.00%
2050	Cultural Events & Studies					
2050/1	Goodwill	£6,000.00	£0.00	£5,574.26	£425.74	7.10%
2050/2	Civic Awards	£300.00	£0.00	£24.91	£275.09	91.70%
2050/3	Other	£3,000.00	£0.00	£3,454.00	-£454.00	-15.13%
2050/4	Communications	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
2050	Total	£9,300.00	£0.00	£9,053.17	£246.83	2.65%
2080	Neighbourhood Plan Review	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
2090	Planning Specialist Advice					
2090/1		£0.00	£1,320.00	£500.00	£820.00	0.00%
2090/2		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
2090	Total	£0.00	£1,320.00	£500.00	£820.00	0.00%
<b>Total Town Environment Committee</b>		<b>£60,100.00</b>	<b>£16,560.69</b>	<b>£67,480.17</b>	<b>£9,180.52</b>	<b>15.28%</b>
Total Town Environment Committe		£1,200.00	£0.00	£3,936.31	£2,736.31	
Total Town Environment Committe		£60,100.00	£16,560.69	£67,480.17	£9,180.52	
<b>Total Net Balance</b>		<b>-£58,900.00</b>		<b>-£63,543.86</b>		

## Quotation

Document Number  
 0011/04710801

**Quotation prepared for:-**

Stroud Cash Account  
 Unit 15  
 Griffin Mill Estate  
 London Road  
 Thrupp  
 Stroud  
 GL5 2AZ

**Prepared by:-**

Stroud

Account	Our Operator	Date	Time	Order Number
9000011	Jay.Whiting	06/02/2026	14:03	47108
Your Contact	Your Reference	Quote Expiry Date	Page	
	kingfisher project	08/03/2026	1	

Quantity	Product	Price	Total	V
1 EA	CROWN TRADE MATT EMULSION TINTED COL 1LTR base for price only, BLUE CRTMATVYN01000KDRKB	12.34 EA	12.34	S
1 EA	CROWN TRADE SAMPLE POT TINTED COL 250ML base for price only, GREEN CRTSAMPOT00250KDRKB	4.38 EA	4.38	S
1 EA	CROWN TRADE SAMPLE POT TINTED COL 250ML base for price only, ORANGE CRTSAMPOT00250KEXLB	4.38 EA	4.38	S
1 EA	CROWN TRADE SAMPLE POT TINTED COL 250ML base for price only, BLACK CRTSAMPOT00250KLITB	4.38 EA	4.38	S
1 EA	ZINSSER BULLSEYE 1-2-3 1LTR ZINPRMBUL01000WWHIT	18.58 EA	18.58	S
1 EA	FIT FOR THE JOB PIECE ARTISTS BRUSH SET COLOURS 12PC FFJBRUARTXXX12PCOLR	4.13 EA	4.13	S
1 EA	KANA EASY FLO 3PC SYNTHETIC BRUSH SET NO BRISTLE LOSS KANBRUESFXXXX3PSYNX	5.38 EA	5.38	S
1 EA	POLYVINE HEAVY DUTY EXTREME VARNISH DEAD FLAT CLEAR 1 LTR POVWODVXF01000XCLER	38.72 EA	38.72	S

Continued...

**Quotation**

**Document Numb**  
 0011/04710801

**Quotation prepared for:-**  
 Stroud Cash Account  
 Unit 15  
 Griffin Mill Estate  
 London Road  
 Thrupp  
 Stroud  
 GL5 2AZ

**Prepared by:-**  
 Stroud

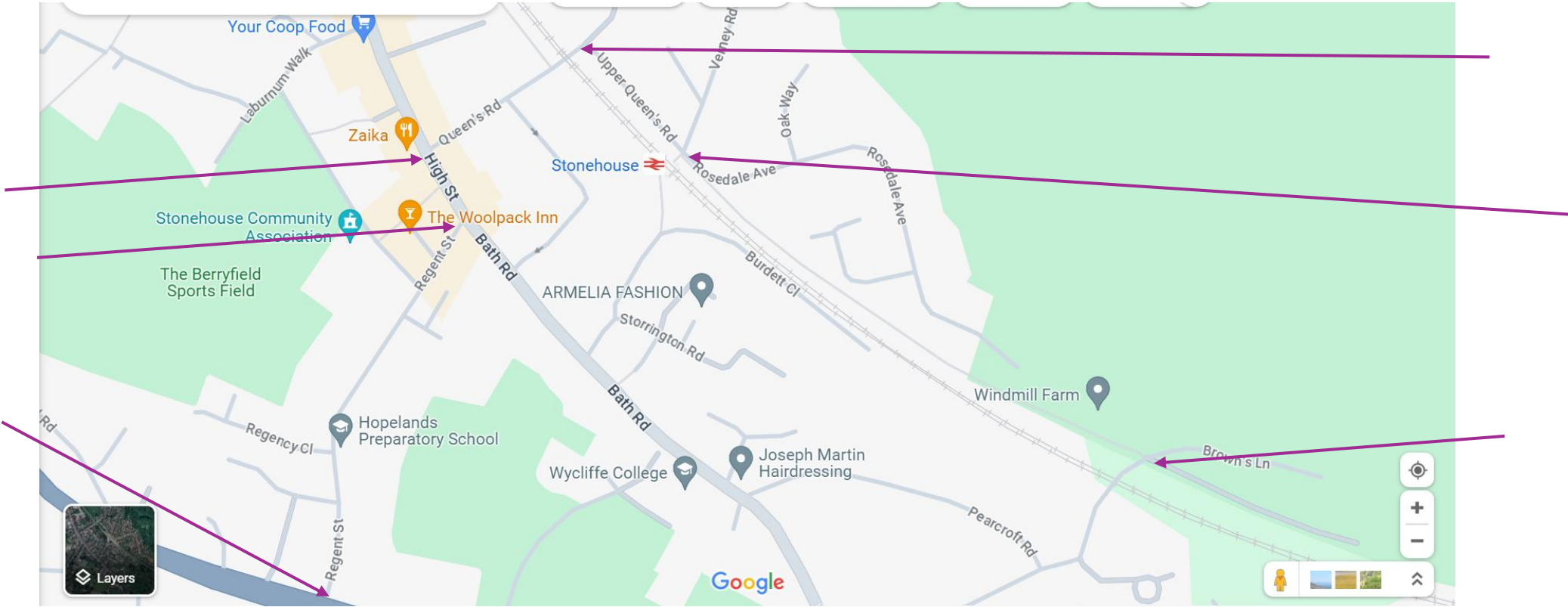
Account	Our Operator	Date	Time	Order Number
9000011	Jay.Whiting	06/02/2026	14:03	47108
Your Contact	Your Reference	Quote Expiry Date	Page	
	kingfisher project	08/03/2026	2	

Quantity	Product	Price	Total	V
1 EA	BEELINE ALL PURPOSE ADHESIVE 5 ROLL (6 PINT) BEEADHWPR00050XXXX	1.62 EA	1.62	S
1 EA	CROWN TRADE SAMPLE POT TINTED COL 250ML base for price only , BROWN CRTSAMPOT00250KEXLB	4.38 EA	4.38	S

*Price may go down due to us  
 doing a community discount.*

S	Rate	Goods	Vat	Please note this is not a VAT invoice	Total Goods	98.29
	20.00	98.29	19.66		Vat Total	19.66
					Total	117.95
					All prices are in Sterling	

GBP Sterling



Sign 1 From Canal at the bottom of Regent Street Signed Town Centre and Station and Cotswold Way and reverse to Canal.

Sign 2 As Regent street meets High street a “left turn” to go to Queens road. Signed Town Centre and Station and Cotswold Way and reverse to Canal

Sign 3 Bottom of Queens Road signed up to the station and Cotswold Way and reverse to Canal

Sign 4 Along Upper Queens Road signed to Station and Cotswold Way and sign going back to Canal.

Sign 5 At station. Going to Town Centre and Canal and reverse to Cotswold Way

Sign 6 at Browns Lane going to Station, Town Centre and Canal and reverse to Cotswold Way

Would need new signs with our Rose logo and bigger if possible than current ones which seem small and invisible as per attached! Nice to have black as per the canal design with finger posts and logo.

And we might also want to do signs from the canal at St Cyrs as well, but I haven't mapped those in yet. Stage 2 perhaps????



Already at lights on Upper Queens road. Very insignificant and easy to miss



Already along Rosedale at start of houses and railway path. Even more insignificant!

## Community Arboretum & Open Spaces (CAOS) Working Group

December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the Town Hall.

In attendance: John Parker (JP, convenor), Theresa Watt (TW), Gill Sermon (GS).

### 1. Actions from previous meeting

JP provided some updates on actions from the last meeting on 03/09/25.

- JP to review the existing Terms of Reference and set up FOSCA. IN PROGRESS. JP has spoken to a few people who are interested in getting involved, which is good. It may also be best to encourage one of them to set up the group.
- JP to draft an example landscape management plan and share with the Working Group. IN PROGRESS. TW suggested that a document previously produced by Wild Towns could be useful.
- JP to review the actions in the SCAMP and provide updates to the Working Group. IN PROGRESS
- GS to speak to Cotswold Warden colleagues to find a suitable date for a site meeting. DONE. We met on September 22<sup>nd</sup> for a very useful site visit.
- JP to speak to an appropriate professional to determine whether or not some sort of repair might be possible to some of the benches. JP spoke to John Callinan about this, who apparently has a contact. Followed up with an email to JC on 05/12/25.
- JP to speak to Carlos to arrange a site visit with an appropriate arboricultural contractor. DONE. JP met Midland Forestry on site on October 10<sup>th</sup> to look at what works were required, and we believe they have been completed.

### 2. Items for discussion

- TW reported that Stonehouse in Bloom is asking again about the GCC-owned street trees (limes) by the Town Green which cause problems for the benches underneath. JP explained that we are chasing GCC about this because we have previously suggested these trees be removed and replaced, as they are in poor condition.  
ACTION: JP to chase GCC again. Post meeting note: JP has tried to email GCC about this, and the proposed relandscaping of Horsetrough Roundabout.
- JP proposed that Neil Gibbs be invited to rejoin the CAOS group. All agreed that this was a good idea.  
ACTION: TW to follow up with Neil, if he agrees then a recommendation can go to Environment Committee.
- JP updated the group about the tree works at Doverow to deal with some ash trees over the main eastern entrance to the woods. This work should have been

completed this week, following a meeting on site between JP and Midland Forestry. It was also confirmed and agreed that no work is required to the large beech which failed after being set on fire, and it is to be left untouched as per expert advice.

- The sorbus on the Crown & Anchor Town Green has been removed but the stump is in situ and needs to be removed so replanting can be done. JP is recommending a magnolia be planted, and we have one ready to go in. *Post meeting note: The stump was removed on 18/12/25.*  
ACTION: JP to send details of proposed tree for sorbus replacement on Town Green to CAOS group.
- JP reported that the cedar planted on the Town Green outside the Globe has struggled since planting in 2021, likely due to waterlogging. JP proposed the cedar be removed and replanted in a more suitable location, perhaps Meadow Road Park, and that a new tree be planted in its place. The recommended species is *Taxodium distichum*, the swamp cypress. A recommendation to be submitted to Environment Committee: That the cedar outside the Globe be removed and replanted in a more suitable location, and that a swamp cypress be purchased and planted in its place.
- It was noted that the Globe willow has recovered extremely well from its substantial pruning.
- The botanic garden labels from Kew Gardens still need to be attached to the relevant trees.  
ACTION: JP to arrange for the labels to be fitted to the relevant trees.
- GS reported that no date has yet been fixed for the Cotswold Wardens to repair the damaged path in Doverow Wood.
- TW mentioned that the Biodiversity Model Policy should be circulated to the CAOS group to ensure it is fit for purpose.  
ACTION: TW to circulate the Biodiversity Model Policy to the CAOS group.
- GW mentioned that the green spaces section on the Town Council website needs reviewing and updating.  
ACTION: TW to inform Debbie Curtis and Jacqui about the need for a review of the green spaces section of the website.
- JP informed the group that Weston-Super-Mare has adapted the Stonehouse Community Arboretum Management Plan and is soon to release their own version, inspired by the project in Stonehouse.
- The group discussed the need for a tree survey to be completed ASAP – the last one was in Spring 2024. Due to problems with the previous surveys, a new specification is required. RECOMMENDATION: That a tree survey be commissioned within the next few months, with a suitable specification.

### 3. Actions and recommendations – Summary

#### Actions

- JP to review the existing Terms of Reference and set up FOSCA. IN PROGRESS. JP has spoken to a few people who are interested in getting involved, which is good. It may also be best to encourage one of them to set up the group.
- JP to draft an example landscape management plan and share with the Working Group. IN PROGRESS. TW suggested that a document previously produced by Wild Towns could be useful.
- JP to review the actions in the SCAMP and provide updates to the Working Group. IN PROGRESS
- JP to speak to an appropriate professional to determine whether or not some sort of repair might be possible to some of the benches. JP spoke to John Callinan about this, who apparently has a contact. Followed up with an email to JC on 05/12/25.
- JP to chase GCC again. *Post meeting note: JP has tried to email GCC about this, and the proposed relandscaping of Horsetrough Roundabout.*
- TW to follow up with Neil, if he agrees then a recommendation can go to Environment Committee.
- JP to send details of proposed tree for sorbus replacement on Town Green to CAOS group.
- JP to arrange for the labels to be fitted to the relevant trees.
- TW to circulate the Biodiversity Model Policy to the CAOS group.
- TW to inform Debbie Curtis and Jacqui about the need for a review of the green spaces section of the website.
- JP to arrange a date for the next meeting.

#### Recommendations

- That the cedar outside the Globe be removed and replanted in a more suitable location, and that a swamp cypress be purchased and planted in its place.
- That a tree survey be commissioned within the next few months, with a suitable specification.
- That Neil Gibbs be invited to join the CAOS Group as a member of the public, should he agree.

#### 4. Next meeting date

- Date to be confirmed, but likely January 2026.  
ACTION: JP to arrange a date for the next meeting.

# STONEHOUSE TOWN COUNCIL

Recreations Working Group Minutes 19 February 2026

Location: Stonehouse Town Hall

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## **1. Welcome and Apologies**

Present: Cllr Simon macgregor, Cllr Drew, Cllr Capeling, Cllr Watt

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## **2. Appointment of Working Group Convener**

Cllr Simon macgregor was nominated and agreed as Working Group Convener.

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## **3. Confirmation of Minutes – 3 July 2025**

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 July 2025 were approved.

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## **4. Fully Inclusive Park Proposal**

The Working Group discussed the need to improve inclusivity within Stonehouse play parks.

It was noted that:

- Current parks are not fully inclusive.
- Both Laburnum and Oldends Lane parks have a disabled swing; however, these are located on grass and do not currently provide easy disabled access.

The Working Group agreed to:

- Undertake a review of Meadow Road, Oldends Lane, and Laburnum play parks.
  - Invite Kay Lillington (Gloucestershire Playing Fields) to act as an advisor.
  - Assess what improvements are required to bring parks up to an appropriate inclusive standard.
  - Use the audit findings to determine which park would be most suitable for a future fully inclusive play park project.
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## **5. Inspection of All Parks – Working Group Plan**

- Laburnum, Oldends Lane, and Meadow Road parks will be inspected on 18 March 2026.
  - Parks within Arrowsmith will be inspected at a later date.
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## **6. Inviting Members of the Public onto the Group**

The Working Group agreed to put forward:

- Neil Gibbs to be invited to join the Working Group.
  - Kay Lillington to attend in an advisory capacity.
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## **7. Any Other Business (AOB)**

### Meadow Road Funding

- It was noted that £16,000 is showing under Meadow Road.
- Cllr Simon macgregor will liaise with Carlos to clarify whether this funding is ring-fenced or can be used more broadly.

### SIL Reserve Funding

- A further £7,000 is showing within an account labelled SIL in reserves.
- Clarification will be sought from Carlos as to whether this funding can be used for play parks.

### Bridge End Play Park

- The Working Group noted that Bridge End Play Park is currently under Stroud District Council control.
  - Members discussed that, when future unitary authority changes occur (timing uncertain), it may be something for Stonehouse Town Council to consider.
  - This was noted for background awareness only.
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## **8. Date and Time of Next Meeting / Park Audit**

18 March 2026 14:00 📍 Meet at Oldends Lane Play Park