



Minutes of a meeting of the Town Environment Committee held on Monday 11th May, 7pm at Stonehouse Library, High Street, Stonehouse GL10 2NG

Present:

Councillors: Keren Capeling, Keith Creighton, Deborah Curtis (Committee Chair), David Drew, Stephen Hunter, John Parker, Simon Macgregor

Also present:

Jacqui Sanders (Deputy Clerk), Gary Wetson (Project Officer, Cllr Dean Bottrill (GCC)

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

E/1045 To receive apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllr Marcus Dixon.

E/1046 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

E/1047 To approve the minutes of the Town Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 13th April.

Subject to an amendment to agenda item E/1040, Committee APPROVED the Minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting:

'Committee noted the survey showed that the trees identified for works were assessed as medium or low priority.'

E/1048 To receive the latest updated Environment Budget.

Committee NOTED the updated report showing a total 'Actual Net' Income of £0; 'Actual Net' Expenditure of £618.90 and Reserve Expenditure of £0.

E/1049 To seek retrospective approval for urgent works to a lime tree on the High Street, at a cost of £120.00 plus VAT.

Committee retrospectively APPROVED the payment of £120.00 for urgent works to the lime tree on the High Street.

E/1050 To approve the pollarding of an ash tree to 3m, at Stagholt Brook, at a cost of £700 plus VAT.

The Chair permitted Cllr Parker to address the Committee prior to consideration of the agenda item. Cllr Parker stated that councillors should not rely solely on his views, as he does not hold indemnity or insurance. He expressed full support for the officers' comments and confirmed his

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agreement with their stated position. Cllr Parker advised that the matter should be subject to discussion, following which the Committee should reach a decision based on the outcome of that discussion.

He further confirmed that he would draft a suitable tree specification in advance of the next survey and would present this to the Community Arboretum and Open Spaces Working Group once completed.

Chair thanked Cllr Parker for his comments.

Committee APPROVED the pollarding of the ash tree to 3m, at Stagholt Brook at a cost of £700 plus VAT.

E/1051 To approve the application for a black wrought iron, memorial bench to be sited in Laburnum Park.

Committee APPROVED the application for a wrought iron memorial bench to be sited in Laburnum Park.

E/1052 To receive a recommendation from the Recreation Working Group to approve a contractor to complete Phase 1 allotment works at Stagholt.

The Chair permitted the Project Officer to address the Committee in relation to this item. The Project Officer outlined the scope of the quoted works and emphasised the need for the works to commence.

The Committee discussed the community benefits arising from the project, including a reduction in the allotment waiting list and improvements to the greenspace. Committee noted that the allotments have been highly successful, are well managed, and represent a worthwhile investment.

Committee RECOMMENDED for Full Council approval the appointment of a contractor to complete Phase 1 allotment works at Stagholt.

E/1053 To comment on recent Planning Applications

S.26/0691/HHOLD 24 Oldends Lane, Stonehouse
Erection of a garage.

Comment: No objections as long as none from neighbours.

S.26/0716/LAC High Street, Stonehouse
Removal of public payphone.

Comment: The Council raises no objection to the removal of the telephone; however, it notes concern that there is no alternative public telephone located nearby for use by members of the public should it be required.

The Committee requested that officers investigate whether the telephone box could potentially remain in situ and, if so, whether the Town Council would be willing to consider adopting it.

S.26/0017/STR3MJ The Elms, Elm Road, Stonehouse

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Proposed 3 storey care home comprising of 80no. bedrooms and café area with associated parking and landscaped gardens.

Comment: The Committee noted that an 80-bed care home would represent a very large development for the proposed site. Committee expressed concern that there is insufficient parking provision to accommodate residents, staff and visitors, and that there are no nearby opportunities for overflow parking. The site is located on a road that already experiences significant traffic congestion at the start and end of the school day and forms part of a main bus route.

While the Council welcomes the provision of a new care home facility in principle, Committee suggests that the scale of the development proposed requires careful and thorough consideration.

S.26/0630/HHOLD 48 Cotswold Green, Stonehouse
Erection of a single storey front extension.

Comment: No objection to this planning application but notes the objection from the neighbouring property.

S.26/0531/FUL Hopelands Preparatory School, Stonehouse
Alterations to playground including upgraded access path, relocation of wall and fencing to enlarge play surface, and replacement fencing and erection of a retaining wall.

Comment: No objection but notes the loss of permeable green space and biodiversity.

S.26/0597/TPO The Grove, Browns Lane, Stonehouse
T23 Oak tree - crown reduce by up to 4m in height and 2m laterally.

Comment: This is a tree of significant importance to the history and heritage of Stonehouse. The Council is not persuaded that the report demonstrates a level of severity that would justify the proposed works and therefore considers the works to be unnecessary.

E/1054 To receive a report on planning decisions received from Stroud District Council.

S.26/0410/HHOLD 3 Anderson Drive, Stonehouse
Erection of a single storey rear extension.
PERMITTED

S.26/0600/CPL 17 Kings Road, Stonehouse
Erection of a rear dormer extension and loft conversion.
PERMITTED

S.26/0307 12 Boakes Drive, Stonehouse
Erection of conservatory, insertion of window to first floor side elevation, new heat pump, new gate in boundary wall.
PERMITTED

S.26/0180/FUL Stonehouse Community Centre, Laburnum Walk, Stonehouse

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Erection of an InPost Locker
REFUSED

E/1055 To receive Working Groups updates.

- **Stroudwater (Bristol Road) Station**
Not met.
- **Transport and Highways**
Met. Minutes will be included in next meeting.
- **Public Rights of Way**
Not met.
- **Recreation.**
Met. Minutes will be included in next meeting.
- **Canal Rejuvenation**
Not met.
- **Court View**
Not met.
- **Community Arboretum and Open Spaces.**
Not met.
- **Events**
Not met.

E/1056 Date of next Environment Committee meeting: Monday 8th June 2026.
Committee NOTED the date of the next meeting.

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Financial Budget Comparison

for Town Environment Committee

Comparison between 01/04/26 and 01/05/26 inclusive. Includes due and unpaid transactions. Includes commitments.

Excludes transactions with an invoice date prior to 01/04/26

| | 2026/2027 | Reserve | Actual Net | Balance | Bal %age |
|---|--------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 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 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £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 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | 0.00% |
| 2050 Cultural Events & Studies | | | | | |
| 2050/1 Goodwill | £7,000.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £7,000.00 | 100.00% |
| 2050/2 Civic Awards | £300.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £300.00 | 100.00% |
| 2050/3 Other | £4,000.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £4,000.00 | 100.00% |
| 2050/4 Communications | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | 0.00% |
| 2050 Total | £11,300.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £11,300.00 | 100.00% |
| 2080 Neighbourhood Plan Review | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | 0.00% |
| 2090 Planning Specialist Advice | | | | | |
| 2090/1 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | 0.00% |
| 2090/2 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | 0.00% |
| 2090 Total | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | 0.00% |
| Total Town Environment Committee | £61,700.00 | £0.00 | £618.90 | £61,081.10 | 99.00% |
| Total Town Environment Committe | £1,200.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | -£1,200.00 | |
| Total Town Environment Committe | £61,700.00 | £0.00 | £618.90 | £61,081.10 | |
| Total Net Balance | -£60,500.00 | | -£618.90 | | |

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Financial Budget Comparison

for Town Environment Committee

Comparison between 01/04/26 and 01/05/26 inclusive. Includes due and unpaid transactions. Includes commitments.
Excludes transactions with an invoice date prior to 01/04/26

| | 2026/2027 | Reserve | Actual Net | Balance | Bal %age |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 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 | £0.00 | -100.00% |
| 205/2 | Donations | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | 0.00% |
| 205/3 | Markets | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | 0.00% |
| 205 | Total | £1,200.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | -100.00% |
| 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 | £0.00 | -100.00% |
| EXPENDITURE | | | | | |
| Town Environment Committee | | | | | |
| 1190 | Amenity Areas | | | | |
| 1190/1 | Grounds Maintenance (contract) | £29,000.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | 100.00% |
| 1190/2 | Grounds Maintenance (in-house) | £2,000.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | 100.00% |
| 1190/3 | Play Equipment maint/repairs/insp | £3,300.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | 100.00% |
| 1190/4 | Public Space Improvements | £5,300.00 | £0.00 | £618.90 | 88.32% |
| 1190/5 | Tree & Hedge/boundary maintenance | £4,500.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | 100.00% |
| 1190/6 | Waste Collection | £3,300.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | 100.00% |
| 1190 | Total | £47,400.00 | £0.00 | £618.90 | 98.69% |
| 2000 | Christmas Lights | £3,000.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | 100.00% |

Handwritten signature and date: 8/16/26