



Members of the Town Environment Committee

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Town Environment Committee to be held on Monday 13th July, 7pm at Stonehouse Library, High Street, Stonehouse, GL10 2NG.

Committee Members:

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

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
6th July 2026

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

A G E N D A

E/1071 To receive apologies.

E/1072 Declarations of Interest

E/1073 To approve the minutes of the Town Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 8th June.

E/1074 To receive the latest updated Environment Budget.

E/1075 To approve the pollarding of three willows at Stagholt Brook, at a cost of £540 plus VAT.

E/1076 To consider a response to Stroud District Council's Public Spaces Protection Orders.

E/1077 To consider a response to Standish Parish Council's draft Neighbourhood Development Plan.

E/1078 To retrospectively recommend approval to Full Council, the extension to the council's Grounds Maintenance Contract to 31st March 2028.

E/1079 To note the historical significance and importance of the Beatrice Webb Oak at Greenwalk and consider writing a letter of support to Standish Parish Council.

E/1080 To receive the following recommendation from the Events Working Group:

- To retrospectively approve a payment to Market Street Markets-Nailsworth of £1000 for the hire of the stalls for Goodwill.
- To retrospectively approve a payment of £1,950 to Little Party Heaven for entertainment for Goodwill.

E/1081 To receive the following recommendation from the Community Arboretum and Open Spaces Working Group:

- To provisionally approve a Community Activity Day be held in Doverow Wood to fix the paths, subject to costings being provided and approved at the next meeting.

E/1082 To comment on recent Planning Applications (details in support papers).

E/1083 To receive a report on planning decisions received from Stroud District Council.

E/1084 To receive Working Groups updates from:

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

E/1085 Date of next Environment Committee meeting: Monday 14th September 2026.

Notes on Agenda items, Environment Committee, Monday 13th July

E/1073 Minutes	Minutes attached
E/1074 Budget report	Report attached
E/1076 PSPOs	Stroud District Council wants to hear from people before deciding whether to extend six Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs), including a ban on drinking alcohol in certain Stroud and Dursley town centre streets, and orders covering dog fouling, dog control, and the exclusion of dogs from certain areas. The dog control PSPOs require owners to: • Pick up dog faeces. • Put dogs on leads when directed to do so by an authorised officer. • Keep dogs out of designated exclusion areas, such as children's play areas. • Keep dogs on leads in designated locations including allotments, cemeteries, car parks, canal towpaths, designated cycle tracks and specified footpaths used to reach schools and colleges. Assistance dogs are exempt from these restrictions. A Public Spaces Protection Order is used to address particular anti-social behaviours where those behaviours are having a negative impact on the quality of life of people in a public space. Failure to comply with the terms of an enacted PSPO is a criminal offence and can lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice or prosecution. PSPOs can remain in place for up to three years and must be reviewed before being extended. The current orders were extended in 2023 and will expire on 18 October 2026. No changes are proposed. The consultation period will end on 2 August 2026. Full details on how to respond can be found at www.stroud.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/about-the-council/have-your-say/consultations/public-space-protection-order-consultation/ and there is a link to the survey here as well www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ASLL83/ The areas covered by the street drinking PSPOs can be seen here: www.stroud.gov.uk/community-and-living/community-safety-and-community-officers/public-spaces-protection-orders/
E/1077 Standish Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan	Standish Parish Council is preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the parish area and is now undertaking consultation in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. They are writing to invite comments on the draft Standish Neighbourhood Development Plan. The consultation period runs for six weeks from 1st July 2026 to 11th August 2026 The draft plan and supporting documents are available to view online at: Standish Parish Council Standish Village

E/1082 Planning Applications	<u>S.26/0811/OUT</u> Land at 7 Woodcock Lane, Stonehouse Outline application for the erection of one detached single-storey dwelling (bungalow) with all matters reserved except for access, layout and scale. Respond by <u>S.26/1069/FUL</u> Maidenhill School, Kings Road, Stonehouse Installation of a synthetic turf pitch, including fencing, floodlighting, access path and ancillary. Respond by 16th July. <u>S.26/1097/TCA</u> 3 Valley View, Lower Mills, Bridgend, Stonehouse T1 Willow, T" Willow, T£ Willow – pollard to 1 – 2m stems. Respond by 16th July. <u>S.26/0976/FUL</u> Land at 19 Kings Road Demolition of 4 single storey garages and erection of a 2 storey, 3 bed detached dwelling. Respond by 14th July. <u>S.26/0986/HHOLD</u> 19 High Street, Stonehouse Installation of an electric vehicle charging unit. Respond by 14th July. <u>S.26/1060/HHOLD</u> 111 Ryelands Road, Stonehouse Erection of two single storey extensions and a boundary wall. Respond by 21st July.
E/1083 Planning Decisions	S.26/0691/HHOLD 24 Oldends Lane, Stonehouse Erection of a garage. APPLICATION WITHDRAWN 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. PERMITTED <u>APP/C1625/C/25/3369713</u> Land off Ebley Road, Stonehouse Appeal against an alleged breach of planning control for the material change of use of land from agriculture to a mixed use of agriculture and car park, storage of vehicles, and the laying of hardcore without the benefit of planning permission. APPEAL DISMISSED
E/1084 Reports Working Groups	Events minutes in supporting papers. Community Arboretum and Open Spaces minutes in supporting papers.



Minutes of a meeting of the Town Environment Committee held on Monday 8th June, 7pm at Stonehouse Library, High Street, Stonehouse GL10 2NG

Present:

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

Also present:

Jacqui Sanders (Deputy Clerk),
One member of the public

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

The Chair welcomed a member of the public and invited them to address the meeting.

The speaker expressed disappointment at the lack of a fully accessible play area in Stonehouse for her disabled grandchild, with particular reference to the facility at Oldends Lane.

She also raised concerns regarding road safety on Oldends Lane, suggesting that it should be designated as a 20mph zone and noting the absence of traffic lights or a pedestrian crossing.

Cllr Macgregor advised that Stonehouse Town Council has previously written to Gloucestershire County Council and continues to campaign for the introduction of a 20mph zone throughout Stonehouse. However, he noted that the town has not been included in the first wave of identified areas, although efforts to pursue this will continue.

E/1057 To vote in the Environment Committee Chair

Cllr John Parker proposed Deborah Curtis continue as Chair; the proposal was seconded by Cllr Simon Macgregor. All voted in favour.
Cllr Deborah Curtis was elected as Committee Chair

E/1058 To vote in the Environment Committee Vice Chair

Cllr Keren Capeling proposed Cllr Keith Creighton continue as Vice-Chair; the proposal was seconded by Cllr Marcus Dixon. All voted in favour. Cllr Keith Crieghton was elected as Committee Vice-Chair.

E/1059 To receive apologies.

No apologies were received.

E/1060 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Capeling declared an interest in item E/1066.

E/1061 To approve the minutes of the Town Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 11th May.

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

E/1062 To receive the latest updated Environment Budget.

Committee NOTED the updated report showing a total 'Actual Net' Income of £55.00; 'Actual Net' Expenditure of £6,005.48 and Reserve Expenditure of £0.

E/1063 To agree a response regarding the potential development of Harper's Field.

Committee AGREED the following response to the owner of Harper's Field, regarding the potential development of the site:

Thank you for taking the time to visit Stonehouse Town Council on 20 January to share your initial ideas for Harper's Field. Councillors and officers appreciated the opportunity to meet with you.

The Council awaits submission of a planning application and looks forward to reviewing and discussing your proposals in more detail as they develop.

E/1064 To note the recent ROSPA Play Inspection report.

Committee noted the officer's update and look forward to seeing the report in due course.

E/1065 To receive the following recommendation from the Recreation Working Group:

To recommend for Full Council approval that Oldends Lane is the preferred site for play area improvement.

The Committee discussed this recommendation at length.

It was noted that in 2016 Stonehouse Town Council planned to introduce accessible play equipment in all play areas. Since that time, improvements have been made at Laburnum and Oldends Lane. Meadow Park, which currently has no accessible play equipment, had previously been identified as the next site for development.

Members discussed the rationale for prioritising particular locations. It was argued that prioritising a site solely based on proximity to parking is not appropriate, as accessibility also relates to the proximity of facilities to residential areas. Requiring users to travel by car to access appropriate equipment was considered unfair, particularly where local parks could be

upgraded to meet need. It was noted that the Town Council is responsible for five play areas in Stonehouse. It was therefore suggested that a more balanced approach would be to provide accessible equipment across all play areas.

Whilst one councillor expressed a preference for focusing investment at Oldends Lane, it was also noted that this site has benefited from significant previous investment. Another councillor emphasised that future development should take into account both need and the distribution of past expenditure, with Meadow Park identified as a priority on this basis.

The Committee also highlighted the importance of considering wider accessibility, including pathways and associated facilities such as basketball courts, rather than focusing solely on individual items of play equipment. Concern was expressed that decisions may be being progressed without sufficient engagement with the community. One suggestion was that the Recreation Group should adopt a more comprehensive approach, reviewing all play areas and identifying opportunities to increase overall usage. Finally, Members stressed that funding sources should be identified and confirmed before any firm decisions are taken.

Committee ADVISED that the Recreation Working Group and the Community Arboretum and Open Spaces Working Group meet to discuss a strategy for future improvements to the play areas.

E/1066 To receive the following recommendation from the Transport & Highways Working Group:

That Jenny Jones be invited to join the Transport & Highways Working Group, as a member of the public.

Committee APPROVED that Jenny Jones be invited to join the Transport & Highways Working Group, as a member of the public.

E/1067 To comment on recent Planning Applications

S.26/0852 Stroudwater Canal. Ryeford, Stonehouse
Installation of a fish pass.
Comment: No objections.

Cllr Curtis and Dixon declared an interest in the following planning application:

S.26/0855/TCA Site of Former Ship Inn, Bristol Road, Stonehouse
Willow tree - fell
Comment: No objections. Cllrs Curtis and Dixon did not vote.

S.26/0875/LBC 19 High Street, Stonehouse
Installation of an electric vehicle charging unit.
Comment: No objections.

S.26/0974/TCA Kellaway Building Supplies, Ryeford Industrial Estate, Ryeford
Removal of ash tree.

Comment: No objections.

E/1068 To receive a report on planning decisions received from Stroud District Council.

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

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

S.26/0730/CM The Elms, Elm Road, Stonehouse
Consultations on planning application 26/0017/STR3MJ - proposed 3 storey care home comprising of 80no bedrooms & café area with associated car parking & landscaped gardens.
NO OBJECTIONS

E/1069 To receive Working Groups updates.

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

**E/1070 Date of next Environment Committee meeting: Monday 13th July 2026.
Committee NOTED the date of the next meeting.**

Financial Budget Comparison

for Town Environment Committee

Comparison between 01/04/26 and 03/07/26 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	0.00%
205	Event Income/Donations					
205/1	Events	£1,200.00	£0.00	£20.00	£-1,180.00	-98.33%
205/2	Donations	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
205/3	Markets	£0.00	£0.00	£100.00	£100.00	0.00%
205	Total	£1,200.00	£0.00	£120.00	£-1,080.00	-90.00%
210	Planting Sponsorship	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
215	Grants	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
Total Town Environment Committee		£1,200.00	£0.00	£120.00	£-1,080.00	-90.00%
EXPENDITURE						
Town Environment Committee						
1190	Amenity Areas					
1190/1	Grounds Maintenance (contract)	£29,000.00	£0.00	£6,939.87	£22,060.13	76.07%
1190/2	Grounds Maintenance (in-house)	£2,000.00	£0.00	£59.00	£1,941.00	97.05%
1190/3	Play Equipment maint/repairs/insp	£3,300.00	£0.00	£515.00	£2,785.00	84.39%
1190/4	Public Space Improvements	£5,300.00	£0.00	£618.90	£4,681.10	88.32%
1190/5	Tree & Hedge/boundary maintenance	£4,500.00	£0.00	£916.00	£3,584.00	79.64%
1190/6	Waste Collection	£3,300.00	£0.00	£0.00	£3,300.00	100.00%

Financial Budget Comparison

for Town Environment Committee

Comparison between 01/04/26 and 03/07/26 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
1190	Total	£47,400.00	£0.00	£9,048.77	£38,351.23	80.91%
2000	Christmas Lights	£3,000.00	£0.00	£4,301.00	-£1,301.00	-43.37%
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	£430.00	£3,570.00	89.25%
2050/4	Communications	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
2050	Total	£11,300.00	£0.00	£430.00	£10,870.00	96.19%
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	£13,779.77	£47,920.23	77.67%

Financial Budget Comparison

for Town Environment Committee

Comparison between 01/04/26 and 03/07/26 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
Total Town Environment Committee Incom	£1,200.00	£0.00	£120.00	-£1,080.00	
Total Town Environment Committee Expen	£61,700.00	£0.00	£13,779.77	£47,920.23	
Total Net Balance	-£60,500.00		-£13,659.77		

From:

West Country Forestry Limited
Redhill Valley Farm
Redhill Lane
Elberton
South Gloucestershire
BS35 4AJ
Tel: 07545779603
Email: office@westcountryforestry.com
VAT Reg No: 517 1775 83
Company Registration Number: 06536594



Redhill Valley Farm, Redhill Lane, Elberton, BS35 4AJ

Quote No.	1142
Quote Date	25/06/2026
Expiry Date	23/09/2026

All quotes are valid for 90 days from the date of quote. Should this period expire, West Country Forestry Ltd reserves the right to review and amend the quoted price before any works are undertaken.

All works carried out to BS3998:2010 and BS5837:2012 by qualified arborists and arboriculturalists
West Country Forestry Ltd is covered by £10 million public liability insurance in all aspects of tree surgery and complies with relevant legislations
Such as LOLER, RIDDOR, and Chapter 8 of the Traffic Regulations.

Description:

Stagholt Brook, Stonehouse GL10 2PX
Pollard 3 Willows on the Brook edge

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with this quotation. Should you have any questions or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Total Net	£	540.00
Total Tax	£	108.00
Quote	£	648.00

Events WG Meeting – 16th June 2026

Cllrs: Theresa Watt (TW), Debbie Curtis (DC), Keith Creighton (KC), Simon Macgregor (SM)

Guests: Ruth Creighton (RC)

Officers: Jacqui Sanders (JS), David Marsden (DM)

Canal Festival

Use of the Community Cancel, and activities including scavenger hunt, photo competition, etc cancelled.

ACTION **CS/DM** - to organise toilets, bins and road closure asap – **Actioned.**

Summer Lighting/Signage

ACTION **CN** - ask Blachere re passive/summer lighting & 'Welcome to Stonehouse' sign

Eat Festival

Some concern over the duration of the road closure

ACTION **CN** - ask organisers whether the closure needs to be so long but ultimately their festival, their choice.

Goodwill

Agreed format of new letter and booking form to go to stallholders.

ACTION **TW** - to book stalls from Nailsworth Market **ACTIONED but Nailsworth Stalls can only provide one person to erect.**
- to book LPH and the following activities – face painting, balloon modelling, 2 x donkey rides, petting farm, and 2 x magic show. Possibly stilt walking too.
- to speak to Globe re Goodwill involvement
- research use of an artist to supervise lantern making
DC - ask Val Randell for contacts for bands, etc and contact Red Band
- liaise with schools re lantern parade
- speak to the Woolpack re Goodwill involvement
RC - liaise with Baptist Church for possible storage of lanterns

KCa - find price for ice rink – **Idea Cancelled**

DM/CS – issue new stallholder letter and booking form asap

Recommendation to Environment Committee - £1950 to go to Little Party Heaven for entertainment.

BUDGETS

Gross Expenditure - Goodwill	£7,000
Gross Expenditure - Event Budget	£4,000
Gross Income - Goodwill Net Income forecast	£1,200
Net Expenditure	£9,800

EXPENDITURE/COMMITMENTS

Canal Festival

Road Closure	£174	
Portaloos	£516	
	£690	Sub Total

Goodwill

Stall Hire (approx)	£1,000	
Littlepartyheaven	£1,950	
	£2,950	Sub Total

£3,640 **Overall Total**

£6,160 **Balance**

Next meeting – 2pm, Monday 10th August 2026

Community Arboretum & Open Spaces (CAOS) Group

June 17th, 2026, at the Town Hall

In attendance: John Parker (JP, Convener), Theresa Watt (TW), Gill Sermon (GS), Steven Hunter (SH)

1. Actions and updates from the previous meeting

JP provided some updates from the actions generated by the last meeting on December 5th, 2025.

- *ACTION: JP to review the existing Terms of Reference and set up FOSCA.*

This was discussed by the CAOS Group, and it has been decided to hold off setting up an external group for now. It is difficult enough to coordinate meetings of this group without creating something else. The priority at the moment should be to strengthen this group. **SH suggested the name of a local resident who might be able to add value and agreed to contact them to see if they might be interested.** If so, their name would be submitted to Environment Committee for approval.

- *ACTION: JP to draft an example landscape management plan (LMP) and share with the Working Group.*

This has been in progress for some time and recently JP has asked the Town Council for details about the grass cutting regimes to feed into the first template LMP. The Clerk has informed the CAOS Group that the landscape contracts need to be reviewed and put out for tender, and it was agreed that it would be useful to have the LMPs in place before then so that they can be properly incorporated into the contract. **TW agreed to produce a first version of a LMP to be circulated to the group.** The CAOS Group will have the opportunity to review and comment on the contract specification before it goes to Environment Committee. **JP to check with the Clerk to ask if the contract specification can be shared in its current form.**

- *ACTION: JP to review the actions in the SCAMP and provide updates to the Working Group.*

This is in progress but is a considerable task – **JP will continue with the review.**

- *ACTION: JP to speak to an appropriate professional to determine whether or not some sort of repair might be possible to some of the benches.*

Whilst the group agreed that the benches continue to pose little or no risk to the public, it had previously been agreed to look into the possibility of repairing them. Unfortunately it has not yet been possible to find an appropriate local expert to offer an informed opinion.

- *ACTION: JP to follow up with Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) about outstanding GCC tree issues.*

JP has attempted numerous times to speak to GCC about issues including the relandscaping of Horsetrough Roundabout, the street trees next to the war memorial, and a lime tree on the junction of Upper Queens Road and Verney Road. JP will keep trying.

- *ACTION: Invite Neil Gibbs to join CAOS Group.*

JP confirmed that Neil Gibbs (NG) had been proposed to join the group, and the appointment was confirmed with Environment Committee, but NG has since confirmed that he will not be joining the group.

- *ACTION: Replace sorbus on Town Green with a more suitable species as agreed.*

JP confirmed that the sorbus on the Town Green outside the medical centre has been removed and was replaced with a magnolia, as agreed.

- *ACTION: JP to affix the remaining tree labels.*

JP confirmed that the first few botanical labels have been affixed to trees (in Meadow playing field) and that the others will be installed over the summer. **JP to get this task completed.**

- *ACTION: TW to circulate the Biodiversity Model Policy and Wild Towns information to the CAOS Group.*

TW has circulated the Biodiversity Model Policy and the Wild Towns information to the group as requested.

- *ACTION: TW to speak to officers and Debbie Curtis about the need to update the open spaces information on the Town Council website.*

TW has spoken to officers and Debbie Curtis about the green space information on the website needing to be updated. **TW will chase this up again with officers.**

2. Tree survey specification

- JP explained that the tree survey had recently been undertaken, but there were concerns around the suitability of the specification. A new tree survey specification was required, in addition to clearer procedures, prior to the 2027 survey being undertaken. **JP will draft a tree survey specification to circulate to the CAOS Group for comment before taking it to Environment Committee.**

3. Community Activity Day in Doverow

- The group discussed the recent works done in Doverow to start repairing one of the paths on the southern side. A new edge for the highest priority path has been created but is yet to be infilled to make it level.
- JP noted that many of the paths in Doverow require attention, and that there is also a lot of material in the wood which has been generated by years of tree works. Whilst some of this material creates good habitat, there is currently too much there. It was suggested that by taking a chipper on site, the excess material could be chipped and used to infill some of the paths, particularly along the northern boundary. This would be a suitable activity for a community day, but would need to be confirmed by Environment Committee.
- **The CAOS Group recommends to Environment Committee that a Community Activity Day be held in Doverow on October 17th to fix the paths. This would need to involve an arboricultural contractor to undertake the chipping, local volunteers and – if interested – the Cotswold Wardens.**

4. Any Other Business

- JP informed the group that at the previous Environment Committee meeting it had been proposed that there be a joint meeting between the CAOS and Recreation Groups to consider open spaces holistically. Recreation is currently looking at inclusive play areas and CAOS is looking at LMPs, and there may be crossover in terms of landscaping requirements. TW suggested that the overall crossover may be small and that any new inclusive play areas are unlikely to require significant access paths etc. TW is on both groups and will be able to ensure each considers the broader picture where possible.
- SH asked about tree watering and what volunteering opportunities there might be. JP confirmed that resident engagement in tree watering was certainly welcome and suggested SH spoke to the Allotment Association about the new orchard, and that SH could potentially take responsibility for watering the London plane and new magnolia on the Town Green outside the medical centre. SH suggested he might be able to engage volunteers from other groups to assist with tree watering when required – all agreed this would be positive.
- GS asked if consideration could be given to locating new benches in the shade of existing trees. TW observed that care would need to be taken when selecting which trees to install benches under, and to avoid damaging roots. JP noted that consideration should also be given to the possibility of installing a bench and a tree at the same time, to maximise space and provide shade in the future. A new bench is due to be installed in Laburnum Field soon.
- TW informed the group that a film called the People's Emergency Briefing is being shown at the Community Centre on June 21st at 6pm.

- JP informed the group that the Arboricultural Association (declaration: JP is an employee of the Association) held a successful Green Equity Symposium in Stonehouse Court Hotel in April. This generated a lot of interest in the town and the Stonehouse Community Arboretum, and it was very positive for Stonehouse to be able to host an international conference here. The event was also attended by some Town Councillors and staff.
- JP told the group about upcoming tree management training which is being organised by Stroud District Council and hosted in Stonehouse, at the Community centre on July 8th at 6pm. This will include talks from JP and a guided tree walk around some of the Community Arboretum.
- JP showed the group a new publication, the Tree Care Manual, which includes the Stonehouse Community Arboretum as an example of best practice in tree care and community engagement. This is the third published document mentioning Stonehouse which has been produced in the last few years.
- JP informed the group that some branches had broken from the large lime tree on the Town Green outside the medical centre and had become caught up in the festive lights. These were directly over the pavement and posed a risk to the public. Whilst this had not been identified in the recent tree survey, once brought to the attention of Town Council Officers the matter was swiftly resolved and given retrospective approval by Environment Committee. This situation should draw attention not only to the tree survey, but to the risks associated with festive lighting remaining in trees.

5. Date of next meeting

- The next CAOS meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 18th, at 1200-1330 in the Town Hall. **JP to send invite.**

6. Summary of actions and RECOMMENDATIONS

- SH to contact a potential new CAOS Group member to see if they would be interested in joining.
- TW agreed to produce a first version of a Landscape Management Plan to be circulated to the group.
- JP to check with the Clerk to ask if the landscape contract specification can be shared in its current form.
- JP will continue with the review of the SCAMP.
- JP to follow up with Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) about outstanding GCC tree issues.
- JP to affix the remaining tree labels over the summer.
- TW will follow up with officers about the required updates to the green spaces section of the website.
- JP will draft a tree survey specification to circulate to the CAOS Group for comment before taking it to Environment Committee.

- Recommendation: The CAOS Group recommends to Environment Committee that a Community Activity Day be held in Doverow on October 17th to fix the paths. This would need to involve an arboricultural contractor to undertake the chipping, local volunteers and – if interested – the Cotswold Wardens.