

Stonehouse Town Council



MINUTES (subject to agreement at the next Committee meeting)
of a meeting of THE AMENITIES, RECREATION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2015 AT 7PM IN THE TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET,
STONEHOUSE.

Present:

Neil Gibbs (Convenor of Committee)
Gary Powell (Deputy Convenor of Committee)
Theresa Watt (Chair/Town Mayor)
Pam Swain (Vice Chair/Town Mayor)
Gwen Atkinson
Deborah Curtis
Also Present:
Gill Jennings Town Clerk

Attendees are reminded that the Proceedings of this meeting may be filmed, photographed or recorded but anyone wishing to make a record should first inform the Chairman

K3/328 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

None received

K3/329 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are reminded of their obligation within the requirements of the adopted Model Code of Conduct to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests where applicable.

None declared

K3/330 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 28TH SEPTEMBER

The Minutes were approved with an amendment to K3/312 line 5 "Clerk" changed to Allotments Officer.

K3/331 PUBLIC ADJOURNMENT (15 minutes)

Members of the public may speak only once for a maximum of 5 minutes on any specific Agenda item.

Will Pedrick was present to hear deliberations under item K3/335 which was brought forward on the agenda for discussion.

K3/332 ALLOTMENTS

To receive a report from Cllr Gibbs & Cllr Mrs Atkinson and to agree next step
Cllr Gibbs and Cllr Atkinson reported on a very positive meeting with the Stonehouse Allotment Association. The Association does not have a constitution yet and is not quite ready to take on the allotments but are keen to do so. The Councillors would have a further meeting to discuss possible terms and the method of consulting with all tenants. Councillor Swain proposed, Councillor Gibbs seconded, the Committee agreed to support the Association in their endeavours to take over the site.

K3/333 PLAY EQUIPMENT & PLAYING FIELDS REPORT

To receive a report compiled by the Town/Deputy Clerk

The report was noted. Seats and Litters bins mainly required replacement. The Committee were asked to bear in mind an estimate of £25650 expenditure over the next 5 years. **Priorities would be identified for expenditure in the current year.**

K3/334 GRASSCUTTING CONTRACT

To consider prices for 2016-17 and agree contractor. The Council considered 2 estimates of £18750 and £17890. **It was agreed to stay with the current contractor at £18750.**

K3/335 OLDENDS LANE PAVILION

- a. To consider requests from Stonehouse Football Club and Stroud League regarding hire of the pavilion – Stonehouse Football Club offered to pay £3000 towards the new toilets. The club had difficulty in meeting the current hire charges and asked if the Council would agree to an annual fee. Cllr Watt proposed a fee of £2500 to include the whole site. The Clerk reminded the council that the stadium was leased to the Club for £660 per annum plus insurance and the pavilion has high heating and cleansing costs. **After lengthy discussion the Committee agreed an annual fee of £2800 plus insurance to include the current lease of £660 for a period of 2 years and the Club is to repair the goalmouths at the end of each season. The Club will not have exclusive use of the changing rooms except for county league matches. Stroud League had asked for exclusive use of the storage area with a fee of £3000 over 10 years but Cllr Swain believed that agreement had been reached with the youth teams to share the area. The Recreation Working Group to check this and obtain agreement. Due to the contribution from Stonehouse FC the Committee agreed to go ahead with the order for the toilets at £4600.**
- b. To receive details of hire charges from other councils and to review hire charges for 2016-17 – **The Council considered the hire charges of other councils and agreed to keep the current charges in place.**
- c. To review other hire charges – **A deposit of £50 is required for hire of the marquee.**

K3/336 FINANCE

1. To check Committee expenditure/receipts against budget September/October
**September Expenditure £7002.33 Income £1474.22
October Expenditure £24285.15 Income £1102.62 were agreed.**
The Clerk advised the Committee that unusual costs had been incurred in changing the lock of a tenant's shed which had been entangled in cable ties. The Committee agreed that the tenant should be asked to pay these costs.
The Bank Reconciliation at £151828 was agreed.
2. To agree outstanding payments **Payments for November to date at £2177.50 were agreed.**
3. Update on dispute with EON – **EON had not yet fully explained the charges. The complaint would be referred to the Ombudsman. In the meantime the meter was being checked for faults and a quotation would be obtained to move the meter next to the building.**
4. To consider spending plans for 2016-17 and draft budgets
The Committee were provided with 2 draft budgets to consider and were asked to check these for any omissions. £102550 was an increase on last year.
5. To agree purchase of replacement strimmer £680 – **The Committee agreed to the purchase of a replacement strimmer at £680**

K3/337 MEADOW ROAD PLAYING FIELD

1. To agree cost of railings – Quotations circulated for £825 and £1670. **The Committee agreed to accept the quotation of £825 and place an order.**

K3/338 DOVEROW HILL

To commission a tree study – **The Committee agreed that an annual inspection was due by a qualified arboriculturist and the cost of approx. £750 should be met from the current budget.**

K3/339 BOULE COURT

To consider a new quotation for repairs – **The Committee agreed to place an order with Mant Leisure at £1300. Cllr. Atkinson asked to be present when the contractor was on site.**

K3/340 CAR PARK SECURITY

Cooperation has been sought from Magpies Social Club regarding locking the bottom barrier at night in the meantime a new height barrier has been installed. The specification of this is under query. **The locking device referred to in the specification required a padlock. The Committee agreed that it should be possible to obtain a standard county padlock which would allow emergency service access. Failing which a heavy duty Abloy padlock would be purchased.**

K3/341 WORKS TO THE PAVILLION

Progress report. (Clerk) Work was proceeding to schedule.

The Clerk would meet with the Project Manager and Turnkey construction to agree finishes to the extension. **A quote would be obtained for this work and would be authorised by the Clerk up to budget level.**

K3/342 DEFIBRILLATOR – LOCATION & PURCHASE OF CASE

Progress report (Cllr Gibbs) The Cooperative were taking the lead in organising a fundraiser with Rotary towards an external cabinet and wiring. Any shortfall would be reported back to the Committee.

K3/343 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

To discuss purchase of laser lights – Cllr Powell proposed that 3 laser lights were purchased at a cost of £40 each to boost the displays. The Recreation Working Group would meet to approve the display and the **Committee agreed that provided this was satisfactory an amount of £120 might be spent from the street furniture budget.**

K3/344 GRAZING LAND – RYEFORD

To discuss a parcel of land which might be of interest to the Council – The Committee discussed the parcel of land which had an asking price of £50,000 and felt that it would not be suitable due to flooding and presence of 3 pylons. A group called the Bowmen of Minchinhampton were keen to take on the site and it was suggested that they might also be interested in leasing Stagholt.

K3/345 REPORT ON VANDALISM/ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

To receive and discuss a report from the Town Clerk

The Committee were appraised of a rise in vandalism and anti-social behaviour. This would be monitored. The resident who had pulled out the hedge on Laburnum Field would be asked to replant it.

K3/346 OUTDOOR PLAY SPACE STUDY 2013 – STONEHOUSE CLUSTER

To discuss the accuracy of the report – The report seemed inaccurate but was useful for funding bids. Councillor Powell was asked to explore whether the data had been used in the Local Plan to enhance provision in the Stonehouse cluster.

K3/347 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

18th January 2016

The Committee will pass a resolution to exclude the public to receive confidential legal advice

K3/348 LEGAL ADVICE

The Committee received legal advice and were satisfied that there were no restrictions applied to sale of land at Oldends Lane or changes in the lease terms.
