



STONEHOUSE **TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES (subject to agreement at the next Committee meeting)
of a meeting of the AMENITIES and RECREATION COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 19 MARCH
2018 AT 7PM IN THE TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, STONEHOUSE.**

Councillors:

Becky Amor
Deborah Curtis
Neil Gibbs (Committee Convenor)
Gary Powell (Deputy Committee Convenor)
Theresa Watt
Carol Kambites

Also Present: 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

K3/586 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

No apologies were necessary

K3/587 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.

There were no declarations of interest

K3/588 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 FEBRUARY 2018

The Minutes were proposed for approval by Cllr Powell, seconded by Cllr Watt, all in favour

K3/589 PUBLIC ADJOURNMENT

A maximum time limit of 15 minutes allocated for residents to raise comments (3 minutes each) on any item on this agenda

There was no call for an adjournment

K3/590 NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT

a. To receive a report from the Recreation Working Group
Cllr Gibbs reported that the Working Group had met on site and discussed a landscaping play scheme and zip wire. Committee Clerk now looking into costs of suitable equipment. 3 phases of work planned - The Clerk reminded the Working Group to be mindful of funding end dates.

K3/591 OLDENDS LANE PLAYING FIELD

1. Discuss outcome of planning application - The Clerk has written to John Chaplin asking for a decision as the alternative given to the Council was to withdraw the application and resubmit for community facilities without enabling development. It was

questionable as to why CP15 could not be used to allow development. It seemed to depend on the planning officer's interpretation.

Councillors were disappointed that Cllr Tom Williams had refused to call in the application although he had called in another application which his wife was allowed to speak on. There appeared to be inconsistency with the use of power which was also being queried by another parish council. Cllr Powell felt that planning officers were confused about which planning application was being referred to. He would try to clear up any misunderstanding.

2. Discuss and agree appeal costs including contracting a planning specialist - The Committee agreed to await the decision notice and then meet with a planning specialist and the architect to obtain initial free advice. **For Resolution**
3. Balfour Beatty - Licence to Occupy - This was for access only and involved the removal and replacement of 1 fence panel and a licence agreement had been sent to them for signature.
4. Reinstatement by Network Rail - Costs for reinstatement have been accepted by Network Rail and they have been invoiced.

K3/592 FINANCE

1. To check Committee expenditure and receipts for February against budget
Expenditure £12289.18 and Receipts £6543.50 were agreed as correct

2. Authorise any payments due

Payments to date in March were agreed at £2543.14

3. Consider earmarked reserve balances

The Committee agreed that funding was required for the same purpose as the previous year and should be increased where possible.

K3/593 RECEIVE A REPORT ON PROPERTY MAINTENANCE and agree any actions including the purchase of new equipment

The Report was noted, work at Doverow Wood has not been started and is behind schedule. Difficult to find contractors who will take wood away. The Committee agreed that equipment would be purchased including a ride on scag mower and chainsaw. Costs awaited.

K3/594 ASSET ACQUISITION

1. Athletics Field - Response from Glos County Council to offer for purchase

The County Council have refused the Council's first offer of £36000 despite the land being in poor condition and the rent not being reviewed for some considerable time. John Kusalek's valuation was circulated to members. The County Council have been provided with a copy of the District Valuer's assessment. The Committee agreed to recommend to Council that no more than £40,000 is offered for the land. **For Resolution**

2. Verney Fields - Report on meeting with Glos County Council

The Rights of Way officer Sarah Macauley-Smith indicated that there was a possibility of creating a registered right of way from Oak Way to Cotswold Green. She would also investigate the possibility of registering the land as a village green.

3. Land at Burdett Road - Consider asset transfer request

The suggestion by a ward councillor that the Town Council takes over the ownership and maintenance of this small piece of rough land was discussed. Councillors agreed that the Committee might proceed if the land was given up freely and in good condition. Members of Stonehouse in Bloom indicated that they did not have enough resources to put the land in good condition.

4. Agree purchase of further replacement litter bins

The Committee agreed to purchase 2 bins at a cost of £369 each for the town green.

K3/595 RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS

1. To acknowledge funding of a donated memorial bench.
Councillors were grateful for the donation and agreed to install the bench outside the medical centre in memory of a resident.

2. Authorise purchase and ongoing maintenance of trees - Elm Road
The Committee agreed to allow £200 for the purchase of 2 trees for planting by Stonehouse in Bloom and agreed to maintain the trees thereafter.

K3/596 FIRE RISK ASSESSMENTS - RECREATION BUILDINGS

Consider reports and agree any actions - The Committee agreed to purchase fire extinguishers, smoke alarms and fire notices as noted in the reports.

K3/597 STONEHOUSE IN BLOOM

Cllr Curtis reported that funding from table top sales and coffee mornings coming in slowly. The weather was preventing much progress but volunteers were eager to get started.

K3/598 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

8th May 2018

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

The Council will by resolution exclude the public from item K3/599 due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and publicity of the item would be prejudicial to the public interest.

K3/599 LEASES

1. Receive an update on the status of Lease renewals and agree action

Stonehouse Football Club Lease completed.

Magpies outstanding. Clerk to chase. The Committee gave 1 month's deadline.

Wessex Reserves outstanding. Clerk to chase.

Stonehouse Community Centre proceeding.
