



Stonehouse Town Council

MINUTES (Subject to agreement at the next Committee meeting)
of A MEETING OF THE REGENERATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON ONDAY
30TH MARCH 2015 AT 7PM IN THE TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, STONEHOUSE

Present:

Councillors: Carol Kambites (Convenor of Committee)
Theresa Watt (Vice Chair of Council)
Vicky Redding (Deputy Convenor)
David Drew

Also Present: Alastair Shankland – Neighbourhood Plan Administrator (part)
Liz Lawrence (Deputy Town Clerk)

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

K2/191 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

It was noted that apologies had been received from Councillors Chris Brine and Jan Dyer.

K2/192 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

K2/193 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 2 MARCH 2015

The Minutes were approved as a correct record.

K2/194 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no call for an adjournment.

K2/195 HIGH STREET

1. Correspondence regarding siting of BT wi-fi box.
Members present considered the issues relating to the inappropriate siting of BT cabinet in the High Street combined with the poor re-instatement of a section of the footway within the shared space area. Based on the offers put forward by the County Council to compensate for the problems created it was agreed that:
 - (i) Prior to any action to improve the visual aspect of the cabinet the Committee would like to have site of examples of the bespoke “wrap” designs for approval.
 - (ii) A financial contribution should be made by BT to the Stonehouse In Bloom campaign
2. The Great British High Street competition
Whilst Members appreciated the suggestion to enter the competition it was felt that Stonehouse has a vibrant High Street and improvements have already been made.

K2/196 TO EXAMINE THE EMERGING STRATEGY OF THE LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN

Working Group of Councillor Kambites, Powell and Watt were elected to respond to the LTP and will confirm details of this response.

Councillor Kambites reported that she had submitted, on behalf of the Working Group, the completed consultation questionnaire based mainly on local transport needs including improved rail provision.

K2/197 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

1. To receive Minutes and a progress report
 - Minutes of the Working Group meetings held on 5th February and 5th March 2015 were circulated for information.
 - Alastair Shankland reported to the Committee on a change in his employment status which therefore meant that he will not be in a position to take up an extension to his current contract. He envisaged starting his new employment at the beginning of April.
 - AS indicated that he would like to continue with the group as a volunteer but this would be on a much reduced time commitment.
 - Whilst congratulating AS on his recent success they were also very much aware of the implications this will have on the Working Group. AS suggested that GRCC would possibly be interested in taking up the administration of a Plan.
 - The Locality grant will not fund salaries but will fund planning expertise.
 - AS situation will be reported to the next meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group which is due on 2nd April. The Group will need to consider how to proceed and put forward recommendations to the Town Council.
2. To agree expenditure of funding balances
Locality funds have been utilised – GRCC days have been given in lieu.
3. The Administrator has been requested to provide feedback from consultations which relate to non-strategic issues
Members were circulated with feedback information following the Maidenhill School consultation.

Councillor Kambites thanked Alastair for his attendance and he then left the meeting.

K2/198 JAVELIN PARK

To discuss response received from Glos County Council.

The negative response was noted, as was the information on the District Council's legal challenge to the decision taken by the Communities and Local Government Secretary.

Members present felt that it is still necessary to continue pursuing answers as to why the decision was made.

K2/199 STATIONS

Network Rail have announced changes to the service – Committee to note and discuss

Members present noted and discussed the information on changes and improvements to the rail service. An assurance needs to be sought that the proposed timetable changes will include all trains that travel through Stonehouse stopping at the station.

More information also needs to be obtained on whether Stonehouse is eligible for a reported £2.2 million available transport fund.

K2/200 COMMITTEE EXPENDITURE

1. To check current balances against budget and to earmark unspent balances.
This information was not available for consideration.

K2/201 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. **Standish Hospital Draft Planning Concept Statement:**

Members present agreed that a public consultation meeting event should take place in Stonehouse and that Town Hall would be an appropriate venue. Cllr Vicky Redding agreed to liaise with the Planning Strategy Manager, Mark Russell, to arrange an appropriate date and time.

2. **Gloucestershire Bus Service Survey:**

The extended deadline date for submitting survey responses was noted. It was suggested (a) that the information be included on the Town Council's website and (b) local residents who regularly come into the office for timetables should be encouraged to offer their opinions.

K2/202 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

26th May 2015
