



Stonehouse Town Council

Town Hall, High Street, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire GL10 2NG

**MINUTES (subject to agreement at the next Town Council meeting)
of a meeting OF STONEHOUSE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 7th SEPTEMBER
2015 COMMENCING AT 7PM IN THE TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, STONEHOUSE.**

**Present: Chairman/Town Mayor Theresa Watt
Vice Chairman/Deputy Town Mayor Pam Swain
Councillors Gwen Atkinson, Jo Byrne, Amy Coombs, Deborah Curtis, Neil Gibbs, Gary
Powell, Carol Kambites, Vicky Redding, Rob Waite, Paul Stephens
Also Present: Town Clerk Gill Jennings, County Councillor Lesley Williams, Borough
Councillors Mattie Ross, Chris Brine
1 Member of the public**

**Attendees were reminded that the PROCEEDINGS of the meeting may be filmed,
photographed or recorded**

TC1623 To Receive Apologies for Absence

None received

TC1624 Declarations of Interest

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

**Cllr Rob Waite declared an interest in TC1635 1. Payments, Cllr Curtis declared an
interest in TC1635 1. Receipts**

TC1625 To agree the Minutes of the Meeting held on 22nd June 2015

**The Minutes were agreed as a true record. Cllr Redding expressed concern that her
apologies had not been recorded.**

TC1626 To consider Candidates for Co-option and agree their appointment

This item was moved by resolution to follow TC 1627

Tim Jackson was co-opted as a Member of the Council by unanimous vote

Tim has previously been an active member of the Allotment Tenants Association, Park Junior PTA and Scout Leader

TC1627 Adjournment for Public Participation

**A resident asked what progress had been made in getting Complete Boule back to rectify
the surface of the boule court and whether a private application could be made to the
County Courts. The Council explained that due to Mr. Rumble's reluctance to accept
fault with the surfacing quotations/reports would be obtained and depending on the cost
an application for redress might be made if appropriate. The resident requested that a rake
be chained to the railings to provide a means of preparing the surface for play (ART Committee)
Councillor Brine asked the Council to look for another location for the defibrillator because the
Co-op were taking too long to decide a nationwide policy on the matter. (ART Committee)**

TC1628 To receive brief written reports from County/District Councillors on matters of concern
to Stonehouse

Councillor Gary Powell requested that the agenda item should read verbal reports as he did not think Councillors had time to prepare in writing.

Councillor Williams expressed concern about delay in getting anything done on the High Street, surface dressing etc which was all weather dependent and department lacked staff. Cllr Vernon Smith was portfolio holder and complaints should be addressed to him. We Are Gloucestershire have made a bid for devolution which will mean control of the budget for matters such as health and social care. Councillor Kambites questioned the democratic balance and was advised there would be a negotiating team to take things back to a politically balanced board. Councillor Brine reported on changes to the waste collection services with a fortnightly collection and charges for green waste collection. Councillor Ross reported that Stroud District Council also involved in devolution consultation. She explained that tenants would get a 1% cut in rent but this has changed Stroud District Council's 5 year plan, and the Right to Buy affects housing in Trust. There will be a budget meeting next week. Both District Councillors expressed annoyance that they had not been invited to a meeting to discuss repairs to the High Street taking place between Town Council representatives and County Council Highways representatives on the 9th September. Councillor Brine stated that the Town Council did not know all the history of the project and would not understand how to resolve it. Following discussion it appeared that there was insufficient attendance level for the meeting to proceed and this would be re-scheduled.

TC1629 To receive Chairman's report and External Representative Reports

Councillor Watt had attended the Stonehouse Celebration Day although she had not been officially invited. Cllr Byrne reported that she has been appointed to the Steering Group of Stonehouse Community Partnership. Councillor Redding reported that she had attended Standish Partnership Board meeting in August and the site was now on the market, preferably to find a bidder for the whole site.

Please note that Members may ask for an explanation of wording but not raise new matters or amendments which are to be referred to the Committee Chair for the next Agenda:

TC1630 To receive the Minutes of the Development Control Panel Meeting of 6th July 2015

Noted

TC1631 To receive the Minutes of the Regeneration & Environment Committee of 6th July 2015

1. A report circulated to members re: K2/225

Resolution Proposed: **Stonehouse Town Council supports the Cotswold Canals Phase 1B bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund as the project will bring environmental, economic, social and health benefits to Stonehouse and the surrounding area.**

This Resolution was passed by Unanimous Vote.

2. Interim Matters:

- a. ECOPARK 2015/1820/EIAS Land at M5

To agree the response to the Scoping Report – The response was agreed.

- b. Local Plan further Post-Submission Proposed Changes and Main Modifications

To agree a response from the Town Council and approve the response given by SPA – The responses were agreed.

TC1632 To receive the Minutes of the Amenities Recreation & Tourism Committee of 13th July 2015

- a. Resolutions Required:

K3/298 To agree the Terms of Reference for the Oldends Partnership Project –
The Terms of Reference were agreed.

Continued -

TC1632 (continued)

K3/307 To proceed with an order to Turnkey Construction and to commit to funding up to £120,000 (to include S106 funding of £92000) allowing for contingencies. Council will then sign JCT.

**The Council resolved to place an order with Turnkey Construction in the sum of £99957 with an allowance up to £120,000 for provisional sums and contingency planning.
The Council entered into Joint Contract Terms.**

b. Interim Matters:

Council to exchange contracts on the sale of Perth.

The Council passed a Resolution by Unanimous Vote to exchange contracts on the sale of land at Perth.

TC1633 To receive the Minutes of the Finance & Strategy Committee of 27th July 2015

Interim Matters:

- a. **Council are requested to agree to release a further £1050 to complete the matter in K1/220.2**

The Council agreed to the payment in full and final settlement of any amounts presented as outstanding.

- b. A date has been set for a meeting with business organisations and traders on 16th November 6.30pm – 8pm by invitation. (K1/221)

Noted. Councillor Byrne offered to compile a list of organisations

TC1634 To receive the Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Group of 20th August 2015

Noted. Cllr Redding explained that the District Council have set out a timetable for referendums which means a delay in the process. It would be difficult to maintain momentum within the group over the extended period. Currently the Group were working on policies. Councillor Brine explained that the District Council were bound to work within the election timeframe.

TC1635 Finance

1. **To agree cashbook entries July/August and payments due to date.**

Payments July £13845.38 Receipts July £77804.49 were agreed as correct.

The Bank was reconciled correctly at £144316.47

Payments August £102803.76 which included an investment of £80000 Receipts August £3420.40 were agreed as correct.

2. **To receive the external auditors report (if available)**

The Auditors report was delayed by an enquiry into the Stonehouse Community Partnership terms of reference and extra costs would be incurred by the Stonehouse taxpayer in dealing with this enquiry.

3. **To agree a donation to the Royal British Legion £25**

The donation was agreed.

Councillor Brine urged the Council to liaise closely with the RBL to ensure that the Remembrance Day Parade was being organised as he was concerned that they did not have enough members to cope with the responsibility of this Civic role.

TC1636 Stonehouse Community Centre Report

The Annual report is available from the Town Clerk

The recent survey of the building has found that extensive work is required to enable a further Lease of 25 years. This report has been shared with the Community Centre.

Noted

TC1637 Athletics Field

A Community Right to Bid has been submitted. County Councillor Williams has been asked to represent the Council's interest in transfer of the asset, or management to the Town Council.

County Councillor Williams would make this representation as soon as possible directly to the Cabinet.

TC1638 Matters of Information

1. The Local Government Boundary Commission has now published its recommendations which have made changes to the electoral arrangements for Stonehouse with the requirement for 1 candidate to be elected from Ebley.

Noted

2. Stroud District Council are now consulting on 2016-17 Council Tax Support – they state “Approximately 52% of the people in Stroud who receive Council Tax Support are of pension age and, as such, are protected from any changes that might be made. However, this means that people of working age on low incomes could face a reduction of more than 25% in the help they receive with Council Tax so that benefits for people of pension age can be maintained” <http://consultation.stroud.gov.uk>

Noted

3. Remembrance Service takes place on Sunday 8th November with a parade commencing at 11.35am from the top of Regents Street

Councillors were asked to attend for the parade.

TC1639 Date of Next Meeting

19th October 2015

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

The Council will by resolution exclude the public from item TC1640 due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and publicity of the item would be prejudicial to the public interest.

TC1640 To receive Updated Costings on Redevelopment Work (if available)

The Council considered latest costings received from Greensquare. **The Council decided to take professional advice regarding the costings before agreeing them.**
