



Stonehouse Town Council

MINUTES (subject to agreement at the next Town Council meeting) **OF A MEETING OF STONEHOUSE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 14 JULY 2014** **COMMENCING AT 7PM IN THE TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, STONEHOUSE.**

Present: Chairman/Town Mayor Chris Brine
Vice Chair Theresa Watt
David Drew, Paul Stephens, Rob Waite, Simon Lewis, Carol Kambites, Gary Powell, Roger Govier

Also Present:
County Councillor Lesley Williams, District Councillor Mattie Ross,
Town Clerk Gill Jennings, 1 member of the public, Sarah Yates of Stroud
News & Journal

TC1495 To Receive Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Anthony Howarth, Pam Swain, Vicky Redding, John Aldis – Apologies received and accepted

TC1496 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.
Councillor Waite declared an interest in TC1508 (Payment to Hostpipe) and took no part in the vote.

Councillor Brine announced to the meeting two items of tragic news in that Stonehouse resident Liz Shipton and also Trevor Silverwood had recently passed away. Both had been very supportive of the work of the Council, Trevor being the husband of former Town Clerk Judith Silverwood.

TC1497 To agree the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting of the 19th May 2014

Councillor Lewis advised that the number of years Clare Sheridan had served on the Council should read 7 not 2. The Minutes were agreed with this amendment.

TC1498 To agree the Minutes of the AGM of the 27th May 2014

Councillor Stephens asked to withdraw the word “guaranteed” from Minute TC1491.2. The Minutes were agreed with this amendment

TC1499 To consider candidates for Co-option to the Council

There were no candidates for co-option and the vacancy would continue to be advertised

TC1500 To receive brief reports from County/Borough/Town Councillors

Cllr. Lesley Williams encouraged Councillors to get involved in the consultation Meeting the Challenge. Cllr. Mattie Ross reported that Stroud District Council would now be considering their budget and are aiming to look at ways to make money rather than just make cuts. She thanked Councillor Brine for assisting in getting environmental issues at Elm Rd dealt with. Cllr Brine said that in his capacity as District Councillor he had attended a meeting between Park Junior School, the landowner and Environmental Health and discussed a way forward in tidying up the site. He had inspected the building which was in a state of advanced dereliction.

TC1500 (continued)

He advised that the owner made it clear that a further planning application had been registered and if unsuccessful the site would be boarded up and mothballed. Councillors present voiced the need for development in the short term.

Cllr Drew mentioned that regarding the supermarket applications it seems likely that one out of the three will succeed therefore Town Council should be represented regarding Ryeford site. Councillor Watt offered to attend on behalf of the Town Council.

The Town Council acknowledged the work of Stonehouse Community Partnership and Global Arts in bringing the first part of an Annual Arts festival to Stonehouse. The Clerk is to write and congratulate the 3 organisers.

TC 1501 Public Adjournment

Members of the public may speak only once for a maximum of 5 minutes on any specific agenda item. A member of the public expressed concern that the Ship Inn site might be lost from the community if developed for housing.

TC1502 To receive the Minutes of the Development Control Panel of the 9th June 2014

The Minutes were noted

TC1503 To receive the Minutes of the Regeneration & Environment Committee of the 9th June 2014 and to:

1. Discuss a report of a meeting held on the 16th June 2014 re: High Street repairs and to agree the way forward – Glos County Council had suggested waiting for a full report from Amey but suggested (a) cutting a clean edge and create a 1” channel filled with concrete, (b) leave as it stands but patch and see how it looks, (c) take out and insert granite edges which are very expensive. **A further meeting is to be arranged.**
2. Discuss a report of a meeting held on the 24th June 2014 re: Land West of Stonehouse and to agree the way forward - Councillor Brine asked the Council to consider whether it agreed in principle to funding a planning expert to fight any appeal. The Council were reluctant to agree to this without knowing the cost involved. **Councillor Watt proposed/Gary Powell seconded that the Council reaffirms opposition to the plan so that an objection can be submitted in the due time. 8 objections/1 abstention**

TC1504 To receive the Minutes of the Amenities, Recreation & Tourism Committee of the 16th June 2014

The Minutes were noted.

TC1505 To receive the Minutes of the Finance & Strategy Committee of the 23rd June 2014

The Minutes were noted with the amendment of Paul Stephens instead of Pam Swain K1/135 item 7.

TC1506 To receive Minutes from the Neighbourhood Plan Group of the 13th June 2014 and to consider the implications of the delay in the Stroud Local Plan

The Minutes were noted. Cllr Kambites reported that the last consultation as part of the Arts Festival had been a success. The delay in the Local Plan was not discussed.

TC1507 Ship Inn Site

To receive an update of Stroud District Council's deliberations on 26th June Councillor Brine reported that Glos County Council had valued the site at 500K as their contribution towards the canals project. This value was the aim of Stroud District Council when considering the 3 submissions to date.

TC1507 (continued)

He had reiterated to SDC that the Town aspired to retain the site for community use as a café/restaurant/shop, somewhere for boats to tie up and visit the town, a town wharf. However, the site was in the canals budget and other Councillors would consider housing development to ensure the 500K value being realised. The site was being marketed for a further period for consideration of further offers on 30th September.

TC1508 To agree Payments to date

Payments (July to date) of £71460.98 were agreed including emergency gate repairs £848.40. Trespass Order £384 and a Transfer to Treasury £60,000.

TC 1509 Matters of Information

1. RBL will be holding a WW1 Commemoration on the War Memorial Green on Sunday 27th July commencing with a march at 12 noon.
2. Remembrance Sunday 9th November 11.35am Parade – Road closure to be arranged (Cllr Powell)
3. Magpies Social Club to feature in film screening – The clubhouse was currently being used as a location for JK Rowling's Casual Vacancy with the film crew hiring the Town Council car park.

TC1510 Date of Next Meeting

15th September 2014

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

The Council will by resolution exclude the public from item TC1511, TC1512 & TC1513 & TC1514 due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and publicity of the item would be prejudicial to the public interest.

TC 1511 Redevelopment of Oldends Lane & Strategy for Redundant Sites

Plans had been made available for a consultation exercise with current users and residents attending the Arts Festival. Option A had been favoured by consultees. Councillors viewed block plans for redevelopment and **agreed that Option A would be the most suitable plan for a feasibility/costing exercise.**

TC 1512 Sale of Perth

The Council agreed to meet costs of a drainage survey in the sum of £350.

TC 1513 Emergency Expenditure to remove Travellers & Secure Site

The Clerk had reported the cost of the Trespass Order. To secure the site bollards, fencing and a gate had been ordered. **Council agreed the cost in the sum of £1000 plus VAT**

TC 1514 Legal Representation

The Council agreed to proceed with alternative legal representation on future matters.
