



# Stonehouse Town Council

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

## MINUTES

**of A MEETING OF STONEHOUSE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2014 COMMENCING AT 7PM IN THE TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, STONEHOUSE.**

**Present: Chairman/Town Mayor Chris Brine  
Vice Chair Theresa Watt  
Councillors: John Aldis, David Drew, Carol Kambites, Roger Govier,  
Simon Lewis, Rob Waite, Pam Swain, Paul Stephens, Vicky Redding**

**Also Present: County Councillor Lesley Williams, District Councillor Mattie Ross,  
Rick Jordan, Town Clerk Gill Jennings**

---

### TC1515 To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Councillor Howarth and Councillor Powell

### TC1516 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 R Waite declared an interest in TC1528 and took no part in the matter

Cllr S Lewis declared an interest in TC1527 and took no part in the matter.

Cllr R Waite/Cllr J Aldis declared an interest in TC1527 and took no part in the matter (due to the fact that it might be construed that the tenants of the Post Office were known to them on a personal basis or in the course of private business and that any decision might be prejudiced in favour of the tenant) The remaining councillors had applied for a dispensation on this item which had been granted by the Proper Officer on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

### TC1517 To agree the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2014

**The Minutes were agreed as a true record.**

### TC1518 To consider candidates for Co-option to the Council

**Mrs Jan Dyer had been nominated for consideration and was accepted for co-option by unanimous vote.**

### TC 1519 Public Adjournment (15 minutes duration)

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

**There was no participation in this item.**

### TC1520 To receive the Minutes of the Development Control Panel meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2014

**The Minutes were noted.**

### TC1521 To receive the Minutes of the Regeneration & Environment Committee meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2014

**The Minutes were noted.**

TC1522 To receive the Minutes of the Amenities, Recreation & Tourism Committee meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2014

Cllr Kambites asked the Committee to review charges for the hire of the boule court at the earliest opportunity. Cllr Swain gave an interim report that the Christmas lights would be achieved within budget but without new lights.

**The Minutes were noted.**

TC1523 To receive the Minutes of the Finance & Strategy Committee meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014

**The Minutes were noted. Item K1/45 moved to Item TC1527**

Resolutions:

K1/141 Pensions Scheme Discretions – to agree the proposed wording of the Discretions Policy – **The new discretions were accepted and the Policy would be published on the website.**

K1/144.5 Financial Regulations – to agree the additional wording – **The additional wording was agreed.**

K1/144.6 West of Stonehouse – to agree to set aside £6000 from reserves to fund professional support in preparing the objection to the application at Appeal and Public Inquiry – **Following lengthy discussion the Council resolved to set aside £6000 from general reserves to be held by Regeneration & Environment Committee for the purpose of funding professional support in preparing the objection to the application at Appeal, Public Inquiry or in the event of it becoming an allocated site under the Local Plan.**

TC1524 To receive Minutes from the Neighbourhood Plan Group and to review the progress to date

**The Minutes had not been made available for distribution before the meeting. Councillor Redding reported that the Group were now making progress with themes and more focused consultation. It would be necessary to apply for a variation of the CDF grant due to the timescales in the application not being met.**

TC1525 To receive Brief Reports from County/District Councillors

County Councillor Williams reported that the decision on Javelin Park was likely to be made on the 18<sup>th</sup> September. The contract with Amey was not working well and is under review. The County Council have pledged to work with partners who pay a living wage and do not operate zero hours contracts. She advised that street lights would be changing to LED. She asked whether there was any news on the Ship Inn Site and whether the Council planned to fly the Saltire in support of the referendum on Scottish independence.

Cllr Brine advised that SDC were still looking at bids on the Ship Inn Site. He advised that the District Council were entering into a new Ubeco waste contract with Cotswold DC and Gloucester City Council which meant the introduction of bins and a food waste collection. It was likely that the District Council would buy their own depot and could now consider employing staff direct. The District Council had also launched an impressive Youth Strategy and Health & Wellbeing Strategy. The Town Council discussed the Saltire but felt it was inappropriate.

District Councillor Mattie Ross stated that the sheltered housing project still making progress. The planning application for a supermarket at Ryeford was deferred to a planning meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September and Councillor Watt was to attend on behalf of the Town Council.

TC1526 To consider and agree Future Plans for Oldends Lane

Following the feasibility study:

- a. To proceed with a large comprehensive development plan consisting of a number of houses (to be agreed), new community hall and replacement facilities

TC1526 (continued)

b. To proceed with a moderate development plan by:

Engagement of professional services

Modification to existing Pavilion (to be costed)

Resurfacing and Marking Oldends carpark (to be costed)

Provision of small scale housing development and an extension to an existing building (to be scoped)

Grant offered to existing tenants to replace/enhance their facilities (to be agreed on application)

The Council were provided with consultation evidence, estimates, current income and expenditure, and a feasibility study for a comprehensive development of the whole site (42 houses).

**The Council discussed the redevelopment options at great length and felt that it encroached too far into the green space. It was agreed that a more moderate development of both Oldends Lane and Stagholt (26-30 houses of mixed tenure) would be better tolerated. The Council also agreed that they would consider proposals put forward by tenants for redevelopment of their facilities in partnership with others. The strategy for the delivery of any proposals was not confirmed but the Council hoped to continue discussions with Greensquare. RWG are to provide a clear brief on the community facilities to ART Committee.**

TC 1527 (see K1/145) To consider and agree Future Plans for the Town Hall/Post Office

a. Whether to proceed with internal office alterations to provide security and additional interview space/exhibition space

b. Whether to pursue shared location

c. Whether to relet Post Office space or utilise in Council business

Councillor Watt proposed that a. and b. should be deferred until the situation within regard to the Post Office tenancy was clarified. **The Council discussed this at great length and it was agreed that a Post Office applicant would be supported in their application to Post Office Limited and the Council would try to facilitate the continuation of the Post Office business in its current location by liaising with Post Office Limited. The Council then considered the resolution put forward under K1/45 and Resolved that they would allow a transfer of the existing lease to new Post Office tenants but could not allow the release of the existing tenant until a new tenant had been found.**

TC1528 Finance

a. To agree payments (Sept to date of meeting) Payments totalling £21513.81 were agreed.

b. To agree release of retention sum (Youth Building) £4323 This was agreed and included in the above total.

TC 1529 Matters of Information

1. The Local Government Boundary Commission is reviewing the electoral arrangements for Stroud to determine the number of councillors, wards, ward boundaries and names of wards [www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk)
2. Stroud District Council Youth Council have issued an Annual Review Report (available from the Town Clerk)

TC1530 Date of Next Meeting

27<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

The Council will by resolution exclude the public from item TC1531 due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and publicity of the item would be prejudicial to the public interest.

TC 1531 Legal Representation

The Council to consider legal costs – **The Council agreed that the Town Clerk might incur costs in drawing up draft lease agreements if action required in the interim between meetings**

TC 1532 Stonehouse Community Centre

To discuss the lease and provide remit to the Recreation Working Group – **The Council considered it expedient to form a strategy with regard to the future of the Community Centre upon the expiry of the lease and agreed that the Chair and Vice Chair should seek a meeting with the Trustees to discuss the matter.**

---