



## **STONEHOUSE** **TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** (subject to agreement at the next Town Council meeting)  
of a MEETING of the TOWN COUNCIL held at 7pm on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2018 in the Town Hall, High Street,  
Stonehouse GL10 2NG

**Present:** Councillors John Aldis, Becky Amor, Gwen Atkinson, Leigh Binns, John Callinan, Carol Kambites, Deborah Curtis, Neil Gibbs (Vice Chair/Deputy Town Mayor), Tim Jackson, Gary Powell, Pam Swain, David Thorpe, Theresa Watt (Chair/Town Mayor)

**Also Present:** Town Clerk/RFO, County Councillor Lesley Williams, 5 members of the public

Attendees were reminded that the Proceedings of this meeting may be recorded, filmed or photographed but that any person requiring such a record is asked to give polite notice at the start of the meeting.

### TC2043 To Receive Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies from members. Apologies were received from District Councillors.

### TC2044 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

### TC2045 To agree the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May

Proposed for acceptance Cllr Powell, seconded Cllr Thorpe, all in favour

### TC2046 To agree the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meetings held on 18<sup>th</sup> June and 2<sup>nd</sup> July

Proposed for acceptance Cllr Powell, seconded by Cllr Binns, majority in favour

### TC2047 Public Adjournment (max 15 minutes)

A member of the public introduced the concept of a repair café with an interest in being based in the Post Office temporarily. The idea was to expand into providing skills training and provide a community base for upcycling.

### TC2048 To receive brief reports and responses to questions on matters of importance to Stonehouse from County and District Councillors

To ask Ward councillors whether there has been any take-up of employment land at West of Stonehouse and whether this will be monitored in the Local Plan review. Cllr Powell stated that from his knowledge there was interest from only 1 company at present but he would make enquiries.

Councillor Williams had made enquiries about the Severn Trent works crossing Doverow Hill and whether an archaeological assessment had been carried out. She hoped that the new footway from the Horsetrough roundabout was proving useful. Councillors confirmed that it was but pointed out that footpaths between Rosedale and the railway line, and Stonehouse Court to Wycliffe were very overgrown and might be improved by the lengthsman. The Town Council appreciated the new bollards in Elm Road.

**TC2049 To discuss the Parish Boundary Review and agree a way forward**

The Council agreed that it would be prudent to discuss the possibility of expanding the parish boundary with ward councillors. Councillor Powell offered to set up a meeting. This needed to be done soon.

**TC2050 To receive brief reports from the Chair and Town Councillors on external meetings attended and to receive the appropriate minutes**

Cllr Watt mentioned an invitation to Stroud Credit Union 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations. She advised the council that kind donations had been received for In Bloom £500 and Doverow Wood £40.

Cllr Swain had facilitated a Make a Difference Day with Wycliffe students working alongside In Bloom volunteers. The students had found it a worthwhile experience. She had also attended a School Trustees meeting which made 5 awards towards educational residential trips. Cllr Jackson had attended the Chartered Parishes Meeting at which a presentation on Javelin Park was given. It was confirmed at that meeting that it would be preferable to have the incinerator running at full capacity and to achieve this might mean taking in waste from other areas. He had enquired whether traffic into the site would be controlled but was advised that it wouldn't be. The site would also have a visitors centre. Cllr Kambites attended a Canals Trust meeting to discuss the feasibility study. Cllr Binns attended a meeting of Stonehouse Opportunities who expressed a desire to support town events if given sufficient notice. Cllr Watt reported that the Equaliteas and Flower Sculpture Trail had been well attended. Cllr Gibbs had attended a Cluster Group Meeting which introduced the concept of Neighbourhood Policing with 4 PCSOs and 1 officer to cover this area. Changes are being made in the structure of the Neighbourhood Wardens.

**TC2051 To accept the Minutes of the Development Control Panel meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018**

The Minutes were accepted, Councillors expressed concern that the comments of 18/0105/FUL appeared negative although at a pre-application meeting councillors had expressed support. The Clerk suggested that the only option was to withdraw the comments but not to change them. After lengthy debate it was agreed that the matter would be referred back to the Panel.

**TC2052 To accept the Minutes of the Regeneration & Environment Committee meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018 and to consider recommendations for resolution:**

The Minutes were accepted.

**From K2/666/2:** That the programme for work to reinstate the Shared Space after the cable works and to improve road safety on the High Street would be design and consultation in 2018 and installation in June 2019.

Proposed by Cllr Callinan, seconded by Cllr Powell, all in favour

**From K2/666/4:** That Stonehouse Town Council take on ownership and maintenance of an additional bus shelter to be installed by GCC Highways at Downton Road.

Proposed by Cllr Callinan, seconded by Cllr Powell, all in favour

**TC2053 To accept the Minutes of the Amenities and Recreation Committee meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and The Town Council to revisit K3/626 ASSET ACQUISITION and make a resolution**

The Minutes were accepted.

The Council discussed the Athletics Club request for a fence. Councillors had concerns about this and tasked Recreation Working Group to meet with the Club to discuss. No resolution was passed with regard to progressing with the land purchase.

**TC2054 To accept the Minutes of the Finance and Strategy meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and to pass a resolution to adopt the recommended policies:**

**Health & Safety Policy**

The Minutes were accepted.

Cllr Callinan proposed/Cllr Kambites seconded to adopt a revised Health & Safety Policy, all in favour

**TC2055 Discuss the Stroud District Council consultation document on carpark charges and consider whether there are any issues to be dealt with by Regeneration Committee**

Cllr Callinan would raise a question about the need to increase charges where a profit was already being made and for what purpose?

Cllr Watt would raise a request for free parking for the 1<sup>st</sup> hour.

**TC2056 To agree payments to date**

Total payments of £31094.77 were proposed for authorisation by Cllr Curtis, seconded by Cllr Powell, all in favour

**TC2057 Remembrance Parade**

To note changes to arrangements and agree support and assistance

The Council agreed to arrange the necessary road closure and police contact. Cllr Thorpe offered to liaise between the Legion and the Council regarding the future of the local group.

**TC2058 Discuss Strategy changes recommended at the Information Meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> June**

Councillors were enthusiastic about revising the Council's strategy to ensure that councillors feel fully engaged in all decisions and that these deliver quicker results. There was also a desire to engage more with the community.

**TC2059 Consider use of the Post Office Space as a voluntary run cafe/repair workshop**

A short debate followed item TC2047. Suggestions of alternative venues were made. Councillors felt that the workshop may serve a purpose in community engagement and could be offered temporary accommodation on the understanding that notice to quit might be short. Cllr Kambites proposed, Cllr Jackson seconded that the Council facilitates temporary use of the Post Office, majority in favour (2 abstentions) The Clerk was tasked with drawing up an Agreement and management arrangements.

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

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

**TC2060 Consider a draft S106 Agreement - Stagholt**

A draft agreement had been circulated. The Clerk had requested some changes for the two owners to two sellers and for TRH to be referred to as a buyer with the concern that should the sale not go ahead, the obligations would be left charged to the Town Council. Stroud DC had not agreed with the change saying that the obligations are conditional upon the grant of planning permission and the commencement of development. The County are no longer going to be a party as their land is highway.

The Clerk had also been concerned about the affordable housing provisions in that Standish would have first call with Stonehouse second and Haresfield third, but Stonehouse is not mentioned within the definition of Qualifying Person although Eastington was. The District Council accepted the request to insert Stonehouse after Standish although Eastington would be left on the list.

Also the rationale behind clauses 4.4.3.2 being included was questioned in that a developer and registered provider could be one and the same which would then arguably give the developer a basis on which to hold the provisions as unenforceable. It was agreed this clause be removed and clause 4.3 will remain as originally drafted.

The Council agreed that a document with the amendments mentioned would be acceptable for signature.