



Stroud Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Stroud Parish Council held at Steep Village Hall on Tuesday 2nd of July 2013 at 7.30pm. **Draft minutes subject to confirmation**

Present: Cllr D McKinney, Cllr C Snow, Cllr J Mitchell, Cllr J Edbrooke, Cllr F Rogers & Cllr A Burges (who arrived at 8.15pm).

Also Present: Mrs M Snow (Clerk & RFO) & 7 members of the public.

1.03.13 Apologies: County Cllr V Clarke & District Cllr N Drew.

2.03.13 Declarations of Pecuniary Interests: Cllr Rogers declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 11 a). The Clerk as Proper Officer to the Council declared a pecuniary interest under LGA 1972 s117 regarding agenda item 10 a).

3.03.13 Comments from the public or press. Mr Brian Ray spoke on behalf of the company Omonville properties who own the field to the East of the Seven Stars public house. Mr Ray stated that SDNP had made a mistake in that the field is the East side of the Seven Stars Public house not the West side as had been referred to in the Site appraisal document.

4.03.13 Minutes.

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 20th of May 2013 previously circulated were agreed and signed.

5.03.13 Matters Arising from the above minutes.

a) Clerk's Holiday- Due to the workload the clerk only took one weeks holiday rather than the two weeks which were requested and authorised at the last meeting.

b) Insurance – The Parish Council are now insured with Zurich Municipal as Came and Company never received the information sent to them by the clerk. The Insurance costs £273.19 [LGA 1972 s.111 & s.140(1) as amended]

c) Recreation Ground - Thumper Tower. Cllr Snow and the clerk conducted a check of the Thumper Tower and a note was made of the outstanding snags. The clerk has informed Sovereign and is awaiting a response. Further updates will follow.

d) Grounds Maintenance Contract – amended start date. The contract was due to start on the first of July 2013 but due to the AHSD Committee meeting during the month of June an extra meeting was unnecessary as the next meeting was held on the 2nd of July. The new contract start date is Monday the 8th of July 2013.

6.03.13 Website.

Mr Ray Street presented his plans for the layout and content of the new website, a template version was made available prior to the meeting. The domain name was discussed and the choices were shortlisted to the .gov.uk or .org.uk after a vote of 3 councillors for .gov.uk and 2 councillors abstaining. **It was resolved** that .gov.uk would be purchased at a possible cost of £30 a year but this is to be confirmed by Mr Street. The title of the domain name was shortlisted to stroudparishcouncil or stroud-pc, after a vote of 3 councillors for stroud-pc and 2 against stroud-pc. **It was resolved** that stroud-pc would be purchased for the new website. The hosting costs would be approximately £60 a year.

7.03.13 Village Hall Committee and Planning Application.

The Chairman introduced Mr Charlie Rogers Chairman of the Village Hall Committee who gave an update on the current position. The current planning permission for the new hall alongside the recreation ground is due to expire in August. The four trustees will have a meeting shortly to decide if the current permission is still applicable and so may wish to re-apply for planning permission with possible changes to the plans or start the project and apply for amendments to the current permission.

8.03.13 Recreation Ground Tenancy agreement.

The legal advice has been received from Hedleys solicitors and they recommend changes to the lease agreement received. (see appendix 1.) The clerk is to contact the landowner to advise them of the required changes.

9.03.13 Affordable Housing Sustainable Development Committee update.

The Chairman explained that the SDNP Site appraisal list has been received and would be discussed fully at the Affordable Housing Sustainable Development Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday the 9th of July. However due to the attendance of the landowners of sites 3 and 4 these were read out in detail. The planning officer Natalie Fellows has been invited to the AHSD Committee meeting to discuss her comments. It was felt that until the resident members of the committee were present for the full review this item should be deferred until the next meeting. This was proposed by Cllr Mitchell and seconded by Cllr Snow.

10.03.13 Planning Applications.

- a) **Planning Application-SDNP/13/02612/HOUS Location:11**
Willowdale Close, Stroud, GU32 3PS **Proposal:** Single Storey extension to rear, loft conversion with dormer window to front, installation of flue and erection of a 2m timber fence.

The clerk left the room during the discussions and the chairman took the minutes.

It was resolved to submit the following comments: Stroud Parish Council have no objections to this planning application.

- b) **Planning Application-SDNP/13/02795/HOUS HOUS Location: 8**
Willowdale Close, Stroud, GU32 3PS **Proposal:** Two storey extension to rear, single storey extension to side and rear and provision of Juliet balcony to rear.

The planning application was discussed but concerns were raised over the size of the extension impacting on the neighbouring properties. **It was resolved** that a site visit was necessary and that the comments from the visit would be submitted by the clerk. [No public had expressed a view prior to the meeting or were in attendance at the meeting]

11.03.13 Councillors reports.

a) **Footpaths-** *Cllr Rogers had declared an interest in this agenda item, so left the room after explaining the situation.* Improvements or changes to Footpath 703, in particular the section which runs from North Stroud Lane to Ramsdean Road used by school children. There are three landowners involved one being Cllr Rogers and her husband. The footpath currently cuts awkwardly across the 3 pieces of land and a proposal was made to re-route the footpath. **It was resolved** that the Parish Council would be willing to review any proposal the landowners may wish to put forward to the council requesting support but the Parish Council were unable to take this matter forwards themselves.

b) **School Governor-** A full report would be available at the next meeting but a brief outline of what was to be discussed were a new teacher pay structure related to performance. The SATs results at the end of the school year. School standards are high and 208 pupils are on the school roll.

c) **Bus Shelters** – See attached report. The clerk added that a letter is going out to Mr James Matthews to ask for the trees and bushes to be cut down from the Bus Shelter next to the Village Green.

d) **Tree Warden-** The village trees were checked but the millennium hedge was too overgrown to see all the trees. **It was resolved** that the hedge was to be cut back before the

pupils return to school in September. The Golden Jubilee Oak Tree on the Recreation Ground has some wind damage.

e) Village Hall – As per minute 7.03.13.

f) Parish Plan- The Chairman is looking at the Parish Plan. The website and infrastructure list have been completed. Moving forward the Chairman is to meet with resident Paul Ciniglio who is a Sustainability and Eco Energy Consultant. Updates to follow.

g) Communications. The 'About me' pages were included in the newsletter. The PC website will be up and running on the 1st of August and Cllr Mitchell is in contact with Ray Street.

12.03.13 Parish Council- 20th Anniversary.

The 20th Anniversary of the formation of Stroud Parish Council will be in April 2014 and it was agreed that the Parish Council would support an event to mark this occasion. To be discussed again at the November meeting.

13.03.13 Noticeboard.

Cllr Burges is to make some changes to the notice board at the end of Ramsdean Road as it currently has no cork backing and the small board inserted is too small and falling apart. Also the fixed glass panel is to have hinges inserted so that both sections of glass will open to improve access. Cllr Mitchell is to get a quote for the Recreation Ground notice board, the site of the board will be discussed at a future site visit.

14.03.13 Chairman's Report

The Chairman is to meet with South Downs National Park planning officers Natalie Fellows and Andrew Triggs on the 30th of July to discuss the site appraisals further. Members of the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Development committee (AHSD) will hopefully be in attendance. The AHSD Committee meeting is to be held next week on Tuesday the 9th of July 2013.

15.03.13 Financial Matters

a) Financial Report:

Balance in accounts: Unity Trust Current account £2,891.91

Barclays Savings account £0.44

Included in this amount is the Repairs and Replacement fund £300.00 and Election Funds £500.00

Money In: 03/06/2013 HMRC VAT Reclaim £420.13

30/06/2013 Bank Interest £1.74 Total In: 421.87

Money Out: 12/06/2013 300032 Zurich Insurance £273.19

18/06/2013 300033 A J M Perkins £60.00 Total: £333.19

The following payments were authorised and cheques signed:

02/07/13 300034 Clerk's wages (Apr & May) £444.34

02/07/13 300035 Clerk's Office Expenses (Apr-June 2013) £209.33

Total Out: £986.86

16.03.13 Report from District Councillor. (See appendix 1)

17.03.13 Report from County Councillor. (See appendix 2)

18.03.13 Correspondence

a) **EHAPTC Minutes** had been received and were available to the Councillors.

See minute 15.02.13

b) **Bus Timetable.** A revised Bus timetable had been received from Hampshire County Council. Cllr Mitchell is to pass the new timetable to the Newsletter Editors.

c) **EHDC CF Meeting-** An additional CF Meeting has been called on the 31st of July regarding the Joint Core Strategy consultation. All Councillors were advised to attend if they can.

19.03.13

It was resolved to agree to exclude the public and press, in the view that publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business or arising out of the business about to be transacted. (Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960)

Closed session starts 9.35pm

Grounds Maintenance Contract Tenders – Selection of Contractor. **The confidential Minute 20.03.13 continues on separate pages numbered 12 & 13.**

Closed session ends 9.50pm

21.03.13 Future Agenda Items.

Date of the next meeting will be Tuesday the 3rd of September 2013 at 7.30pm in Steep Village Hall.

Affordable Housing Sustainable Development Committee Meeting -Tuesday the 9th of July 2013 at Steep Village Hall at 7.30pm

Meeting Ended: 10pm

Signed
Chairman: _____ Date: _____

Clerk – M Snow