

Stockbridge Parish Council



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14th DECEMBER 2023 AT 7:30PM AT THE STOCKBRIDGE TOWN HALL, STOCKBRIDGE

Present: Cllrs M Porter (Chair), D Smith, R Foord, M Nadal, H Jackson.

Cllrs I Jeffery

Apologies: Cllrs B Powell, A Marshall, D Halle, D Drew

Clerk: Belinda Baker

Public attendance: Three and Mr Christopher Robathan

C/23/152 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Powell, Halle, Drew and Marshall. The Clerk said that Frank Parr had resigned, the vacancy would be advertised for a by-election. If no by-election requested, the Council will advertise for co-option.

Action: Clerk

C/23/153 **Co-Option of Councillor**

Mr Christopher Robathan put himself forward for the last Councillor position remaining after the election. He explained why he wished to be a Councillor in writing which had been circulated before the meeting. There were no objections. Cllr Robathan was welcomed to the Council.

C/23/154 **To receive declarations of pecuniary interests (DPIs) and other significant interests from members concerning items on the agenda**

Cllr Foord declared an interest in 23/03063, 23/03070, 23/03067. The referral of 23/03030 to the Council by TVBC had been acknowledged as an error.

C/23/155 **Public Participation**

i One member of public wished to talk about planning application 23/02934. He said that the conditions on the owner's other planning application for tourist accommodation had not been adhered to and he had constant issues with the construction traffic coming onto his land. He said that the proposed building was outside the settlement boundary. Cllr Foord commented that that the roofing was overdesigned for a storage building. The Council agreed to object to the application on the same grounds as 23/01221

ii A member of the public wanted to talk about item 8 on the Agenda.

The Chair moved item 8 up the agenda.

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C/23/156 The member of the public spoke to say that he had read C/23/136b. He said he had been involved with the implementation Stockbridge's flooding defences in 2015 which had been approved by TVBC, HCC and the EA. In response to C/23/136b, he had written a paper giving reasons why the proposal was inappropriate (circulated to the Council before the meeting). Cllr Porter commented that he felt the matter was the responsibility of TVBC and HCC. Cllr Jackson asked on whose land the bund/dam was proposed to be installed. Cllr Foord said this was irrelevant. The Clerk pointed out that in an email to the Council Cllr Foord said he had discussed the whereabouts of the installation with the EA. Cllr Foord admitted that the land where the bund/dam was proposed to be installed was his. The Clerk asked Cllr Foord if he wished to declare a DPI. Cllr Foord refused, he said the proposal was for the good of the community. The Clerk asked Cllr Smith if he had an interest to declare as he was Cllr Foord's brother-in-law. He refused. The Clerk asked Cllr Nadal if she had ever been in receipt of gifts to the value of over £25 from Cllr Foord. Cllr Nadal expressed outrage and offence that this had been asked. The Chair explained that it was appropriate that this should be asked. Cllr Nadal confirmed she was a long-term friend of Cllr Foord's. Cllr Nadal said that she wanted to understand if the danger of flooding had changed significantly since the last flooding event in 2014. Cllr Foord said that the Clerk had been asked (C/23/136b) to obtain quotations from 3 hydrologists and he asked why this had not been done. The Chair pointed out advice had been obtained from the Auditor that the Council could not spend money on flood defences for land they did not own. Cllr Foord made it clear that he did not agree with this. He said that the Auditor was wrong. The Clerk confirmed that the appropriate authorities for flooding matters were the Borough and County Councils and the Environment Agency. She had obtained advice (circulated to Cllrs) from TVBC and HCC referring SPC to the EA for flooding advice. Cllr Food was emphatic that the Clerk was wrong. The Clerk said she had spoken to the River Keepers who were content with the present flooding mitigations. The member of the public asked Cllr Foord if he was aware how much a hydrologist report would cost, suggesting it would be in the region of £50,000. He said he understood that there was a small fishing lake in the area. He asked Cllr Foord what the bund/dam would be constructed with (earth or concrete) and where the material would come from. Cllr Foord declined to answer. Cllr Foord insisted that the Clerk was wrong and that HALC agreed that money could be spent on flooding matters. The Clerk disagreed and said the advice obtained stipulated it was only possible when not prohibited by other statute. The Clerk was asked to contact the EA for an understanding of Stockbridge's flooding protections.

Action: Clerk

C/23/157 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 16th November 2023

a. To approve and sign the minutes of 16th November 2023.

Cllr Foord asked that "to stop the Test Bridge being overwhelmed" should be removed. He said he did not say the proposal was to deal with a 1 in

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100 year flood. It was agreed to change the wording in the minute to catastrophic flood. The minutes were signed.

b. To deal with matters arising not on the agenda

- Cllr Nadal had not had a reply from TVBC C/23/133d.
- The Clerk reminded Cllrs that only she could contact outside agencies on behalf of the whole Council.
- Cllr Nadal agreed to attend the Unity Transport online event.

c. To deal with any correspondence

There was none.

C/23/158

Borough and County Councillor Reports

- i Cllr Jeffery spoke to highlight award for a new theatre and cultural hub in Andover, which, he said, would help drive other improvements in the town centre. He commented on the TVBC Lettings open day for landlords and free training on domestic abuse provided by TVBC. He noted the successful prosecution of a fly-tipper.

- ii Cllr Drew had sent a report, there were no comments.

C/23/159

Stockbridge High Street

a. Disabled parking signage

An email from Carloine Noakes MP had been circulated before the meeting. She had agreed to see if she could influence HCC. The Clerk had written to Cllr Adams-King but had not had a reply (C/22/133a).

Action: Clerk

b. Installation of crossing between Co-op and Greengrocer

Cllr Halle had contacted the Co-op to gain their approval for the project but there was no progress. The Clerk was keen to make contact with residents who would benefit from the proposal. The licence for the planters expires in March and is not renewable.

Action: Clerk

C/23/160

Resilience -Flooding preparation

This was dealt with under C/23/156.

C/23/161

Christmas Event

Ms Alyson Lownie from the Christmas Committee said that the event had been lucky to obtain £1000 grant from TVBC this year but she had been told this would not be available next year. She recognised that the traders needed to donate more. She thanked SPC for its continued support but asked that the matter could be looked at in the Spring. The Council agreed to discuss the matter at the April meeting.

Action: Clerk

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C/23/162 Infrastructure -update on Council projects

a. **Blandford Row Pocket Park**

Cllrs and the Clerk had visited Sparsholt College to look at the designs put forward by the students. They were asked to choose and had chosen one design from each student to be developed further.

b. **Cycle Path**

The Clerk met with a Community Service organiser who had been positive that they should be able to help with the work. The Council agreed that the Lengthsman should then be paid to remove the collected waste.

Action: Clerk

C/23/163 Consider setting up a Working Group for management of Clerk

It was agreed to refer this to the next meeting.

C/23/164 Lancaster House

The final quotation from Hampshire Printing Services for the new sign at the site had not yet been provided.

C/23/165 Council Communications

The December newsletter had been circulated to the Cllrs before the meeting. The draft newsletter had been already proofread by Cllr Porter. The Council agreed the draft for publication.

C/23/166 Village Amenities to provide update

No specific tasks for the lengthsman were discussed.

C/23/167 Finance

a. **Recent Transactions – to approve income and expenditure since last meeting**

Income and payments 96-103 were circulated ahead of the meeting and were reviewed and approved. Income was from TVBC (grant) and The Hub for the Xmas fund, and for the Cemetery. Cllrs noted expenditure against bank statements.

Opening bank balance		75023.55
TVBC (grant for Xmas fund)	Income	1000
The Hub (Xmas fund)	Income	50
Blackwell and Moody (cemetery)	Income	160
Hugo Fox (website)	97	11.99
HMRC (Clerk's tax & NI & Emp's NI)	98	275.28
Headbourne Worthy PC (share Clerk's training crse)	99	22.50
B Baker (Salary + lengthsman -tax – pension)	86	707.06
OVO energy (Milsom light)	100	19.67

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STHC (Hall Hire)	101	10.50
B Baker (Salary + lengthsman -tax – pension)	103	831.42
Standard Life (Clerk's pension)	87	21.14
Closing Balance		75041.05

b. To approve budget year to date.

Expenditure against budget was reviewed, approved and agreed.

c. Update Council Savings Account

The Clerk obtained Cllr's signatures for the savings account application.

Action: Clerk

C/23/168

Planning

a. New applications – to agree responses

Number	Address	Description	Expiry Date
HCC/2023/0700 23/03107/HCC3 N	Stockbridge County Primary School, Old London Road, Hampshire SO20 6EJ	Replacement of the school's playfield access gates	26/12/23
The Council had no objection			
23/03063/FULLN	Penny Lane Barn Penny Lane Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6JJ	Alterations to fenestration, materials and car port (retrospective) and change of use of land to residential garden	05/01/2024
The Council had no objections			
23/03114/OELN	Penny Lane Farm Penny Lane Stockbridge	Application under section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 - Installation of second supply for a multi user	05/01/24
The Council had no objections			
23/03030/AGNN	Fair View Farm London Road Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EN	Application to determine if prior approval is required for proposed storage barn	02/01/24
This had been sent in error by TVBC and was not an application the PC were able to comment on			
23/03070/FULLN	Green Place Little Somborne Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6HW	Erection of 1.5-storey extension, replacement of 1 no. window to West elevation and infill of void	05/01/23
The Council had no objections			
23/03071/LBWN	Green Place Little Somborne Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6HW	Erection of 1.5-storey extension, replacement of 1 no. window to West elevation and infill of void	05/01/24
The Council had no objections			

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23/03067/TREEN	2 Test View Old London Road Stockbridge	4 Sycamores - Crown to 6 metres	22/12/23
The Council had no objections			
23/02934/FULLN	Stockbridge House, High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EX	Erection of replacement outbuilding	15/12/23
<p>Stockbridge Parish Council objects to this application.</p> <p>SPC is of the opinion that any building that is proposed outside the settlement boundary and that may be possible to be used as accommodation, should not be approved. This proposal is in this category. The proposal sits in the conservation area and has included the demolition of the original farm buildings without permission. The proposal is a retrospective application which the Council believes strongly should not be agreed. Having a retrospective application agreed just because the process of enforcement is difficult and expensive would set a precedent that could be devastating for all planning applications in the area.</p> <p>The proposal is over-engineered for its proposed use. A tiled roof (as opposed to a tin one) is more appropriate for accommodation and is unnecessary for a utility building (which is what is proposed here).</p> <p>The Council is concerned because the application proposers have not met some of the terms of their previous applications (for example access to the holiday accommodation via the high street as opposed the side alleyway next to the bookshop).</p> <p>Stockbridge Parish Council requests that should the Planning Officer be minded to approve the proposal the matter should be referred to the Planning Committee.</p>			
23/03108/FULLN	Waterlow High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EU	Replace conservatory with single storey extension and shed with greenhouse, remove external staircase, relocate soil stack and associated pipe work, resurface driveway, replace balcony, alterations to windows and doors	12/01/23
The Council has no objections			
23/03109/LBWN	Waterlow High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EU	As 23/03108/FULLN	12/01/23
The Council has no objections			

b. To note recent decisions

Number	Address	Description	Result
23/02673/FULLN	Beechdean Old London Road Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EJ	Install access door to rear, replace roof and roof lights.	Permission

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23/02549/TREEN	Manor Farm House Trafalgar Way Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6ET	T1 - Yew - Reduce by up to 2m	No objection
23/02476/FULLN	Grosvenor Hotel High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EU	Retention of pergola over wood fired oven prep area	Refuse
23/02423/LBWN	Grosvenor Hotel High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EU	Regularisation application for creation of treatment room for hotel guests including addition of timber cladding to interior walls, a timber skirting board,	Withdrawn
23/02584/REJN	Kent Hill Hall High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EU	Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: Installation solar photovoltaics (PV) equipment on the roof	Withdrawn
23/02567/TREEN	3 Trafalgar Way Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6ET	T1 - Pear - Re-prune back to pre- existing cuts by removing the 1 metre regrowth shoots, T2 - Crab Apple – T3	No Objection
23/02259/FULLN	Green Place Little Somborne Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6HW	Erection of 1.5-storey extension, replacement of window to west- elevation and infill of void	Withdrawn
23/02260/LBWN	Green Place Little Somborne Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6HW	Erection of 1.5-storey extension, replacement of window to west- elevation and infill of void	Withdrawn
23/02673/FULLN	Beechdean Old London Road Stockbridge	Install access door to rear, replace roof and roof lights.	Permission
23/02549/TREEN	Manor Farm House Trafalgar Way Stockbridge SO20 6ET	T1 - Yew - Reduce by up to 2m	No objection

c. To note decisions awaited

Number	Address	Description	Date
23/02838/FULLN	The Coach House Old London Road Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EJ	Replacement of conservatory roof, alterations to walls, new french doors and windows	8/12/23
23/02549/TREEN	Manor Farm House Trafalgar Way, Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6ET	T1 - Yew - Reduce by up to 2m	27/10/23

d. Enforcement

There were none.

C/23/169

Health and Safety

There were none.

C/23/170

Items for next agenda and date of next meeting

The next Council meeting is due to be held on 18th January 2023 at the Town Hall. Items for the Agenda:

Precept

Lancaster House signage

Flooding mitigations

Action: Clerk

The meeting closed at 9:10pm.

Signed.....

Date.....