

Stockbridge Parish Council



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 15th JUNE 2023 AT 7:30PM AT THE TOWN HALL, STOCKBRIDGE HIGH STREET STOCKBRIDGE

Present: Cllrs D Halle (Chair), R Foord, M Porter,
H Jackson, F Parr, B Powell, A Marshall

Cllrs D Drew

Apologies: Cllrs D Smith

Clerk: Belinda Baker

Public attendance: Seven

C/23/041 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Smith. The Chair asked the Clerk to write to Cllr Jeffery because he had not attended. The Clerk said she would continue to advertise the Co-option positions.

Action: Clerk

C/23/042 To receive declarations of pecuniary interests (DPIs) and other significant interests from members concerning items on the agenda

There were none.

C/23/043 Public Participation

One member of the public wished to speak about planning 23/01221. The Chair agreed to move that item up the agenda. Other members of the public wished to speak about item 12 on the agenda.

C/23/044 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 18th May 2023

a. To approve and sign the minutes of 18th May.

These were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

b. To deal with matters arising not on the agenda

- An application had been made for a pavement licence by Prego Dining and Deli. The Council agreed 7:1 (Cllr Marshall supported) not to support the application because it would set the precedent for other businesses and reduce the available parking.
- A letter of introduction to Test Valley Arts Foundation was circulated to Cllrs.
- The Clerk explained that the balance on the Lantern Arch had been transferred too quickly. Further electrical work for safety reasons needed to be undertaken. The Church would be sending back the £140.80 that had remained from the fund but there would be an outstanding amount of around £160 to be paid. She

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asked if the Council would be prepared to make up the difference, as had previously been agreed (C/22/219 & C/23/044) would be considered. The Council agreed funding to the estimated £300.

c. To deal with any correspondence

A resident had written to complain that the TVBC road sweeper was unable to clear the gutter in Trafalgar Way because a number of cars, owned by one resident, blocked access. He suggested this would give rise to problems with rodents. Cllr Halle agreed to speak to the car owner.

The Chair moved items 18, 12 and 16c up the agenda.

C/23/045

Planning

a. New applications – to agree responses

Number	Address	Description	Date
23/01437/FULLN	Blandford House, High Street, Stockbridge, Hants	Demolition of garage and replace with double garage, family guest accommodation and home office	03/07/23
The Council had no comment to make.			
23/01221/FULLN	Stockbridge House, High Street, Stockbridge,	Retrospective replacement of outbuildings with outbuilding to provide storage for garden machinery and potting shed	07/07/23
The Council objects to this application because the Council cannot see any substantial difference between the previous application 22/03284/FULLN and this one. Should the planning dept be minded to approve the application the Council requests that it is referred to committee.			
23/01490/TREEN	Meadow Court, High Street, Stockbridge	4 Crack Willow - Fell	07/07/23
The Council has no objection			
23/01046/FULLN	Stockbridge Telephone Exchange High Street Stockbridge Hampshire	Creation of secure storage compound including 2 storage containers and perimeter fence.	07/07/23
The PC objects to this application. Stockbridge is a conservation area and the proposal for blue storage containers is not in keeping with this. The containers would be clearly visible from the High Street but the applicant has made no attempt to tone down their visual impact. The Council is of the opinion that the containers would be an eyesore to residents. The Council also queries the number of parking spaces the proposal will be taking up. This raises the question where the cars that would have parked there will go.			

b. To note recent decisions:

Number	Address	Description	Date
23/00564/LBWN	Stockbridge House High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EX	New signage and retractable shop front awnings on the existing building	Consent
23/00616/ADVN	Stockbridge House High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EX	Display of 1 externally illuminated hanging sign and 1 non-illuminated fascia sign	Consent

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c. To note decisions awaited:

Number	Address	Description	Date
23/00940/FULLN	Woodcott Winton Hill Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6HL	Single storey rear extension, 2 storey front and side extensions, creation of pool and pool house, modifications to drive and boundary wall/fence, alterations to roof, cladding and associated landscaping works	12/05/23
21/02064/FULLN	Greyhound On The Test High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EY	Demolition and replacement of existing fishing hut (re-submission of 18/01444/FULLN)	24/08/21

d. Enforcement – to note any enforcement matters

- (i) TVBC had notified a resident that enforcement had taken action against a construction of a wooden framed building with a corrugated metal sheet roof at Fairways cottage, Grosvenor Hotel. This had now gone to appeal to the Secretary of State. The Council agreed 7:1 (Cllr Foord dissenting) with TVBC's stance.
- (ii) There were two further tree work enforcement cases brought to TVBC's attention and there was no update regarding the application for the Pump House.

C/23/046

Traffic Safety Old London Rd Project

The Clerk had circulated an email from HCC before the meeting saying that HCC needed to consult with various bodies including utilities, street lighting and conservation. The members of the public queried where the parking bays would go. The Clerk explained that the proposal for a corner into OLR would be needed for the installation of a one way street but it would have the effect of slowing up traffic. She said that the problem with the implementation of a one street would be that cycle lane would be required and that could cost up to £200K and there wasn't enough money for this. The residents asked to see any plans before they were implemented and Cllr Halle confirmed that the PC would not support any solution without the residents agreement. An OLR resident thanked the PC for getting the project this far.

Action: Clerk

C/23/047

OLR Electricity Supply

The Clerk had received an email from SSEN saying they would be prepared to meet with the Council to discuss the problem. They asked for a list of questions that the Council would like answered. Cllr Porter confirmed that he would prepare the questions.

Action: Cllr Porter, Clerk

Six members of the public left the meeting.

C/23/048

Headteacher of Test Valley School to address the Council

The Headteacher did not attend.

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C/23/049 Borough and County Councillor Reports

- i Cllr Jeffery did not attend.
- ii Cllr Drew confirmed that there was an interim Exec board at the Test Valley School and the transfer to HISP would take place 1st September. The intention was to write to community stakeholders shortly. He said that he had met with Cllr Halle and HCC regarding the loss of the unique paving stones in parts of the High Street. He said the intention was to retain the character of the area. HCC would look at fixing the collapse of the pavement outside the Clos du Marquis. He said that support was available for struggling families and that HCC was providing an extra £7.5mil for roads. He said that HCC was anticipating a substantial budget deficit by 2025 and needed to make £132mil savings. HCC was consulting on how this should be done. He agreed to chase HCC regarding the crossing by the Co-Op.
- iii Cllr Drew said that TVBC was changing the way rubbish would be collected in April 2025 to come in line with legislation. He said it would be more efficient but householders would need to sort their rubbish.
- iv Cllr Drew said he had asked HCC to contact the Council regarding the traffic survey. He said HCC recognised the Council needed an answer to their letter. He said that vehicle counts would be included in the data collection and that HCC was open to understanding what the data revealed. He said it was an opportunity to find solutions for residents.

C/23/050 Stockbridge Business Association

An email from Mr D Buck had been received and circulated. There was nothing to report.

C/23/051 Trout n'About

Cllr Powell said that the committee was encouraging businesses to get involved because most did well out of the day. He said that next year this point would again be made to businesses because the event may not continue if they were reluctant to get involved. He pointed out that the event was originally put on to regenerate the High Street but now it was seen as revenue generation for good causes. He confirmed that planning for the day was on track.

C/23/052 Community Asset – Fields South of the High Street

A map of 3 fields to the south of the High Street was circulated before the meeting. Cllr Halle said that there was a possibility of gvt grant funding available to purchase the fields as a community asset. The member of the public said she could ask the National Trust if they would be interested in managing one of the fields. She said the land was suitable for nature conservation. Cllr Foord said he felt the project was worth exploring. Registering the land as a community asset was discussed.

Action: Clerk

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C/23/053

Infrastructure Issues

a. **Phone Boxes**

There was no update.

Action: Cllr Halle

b. **Trout Pond**

Photos of the cracks had been sent to the contractor who had replied that there was nothing to worry about. The Council asked the Clerk to ask the contractor for guarantees that the rendering would last.

Action: Cllr Halle, Clerk

c. **Blandford Row Pocket Park**

Cllr Halle, Cllr Marshall and the Clerk had met staff and students from Sparsholt College. The students were due to produce 3 proposals each of the park. The Council would then reduce the number of plans to be considered and the final selection would be presented to the community. Cllr Halle said the students had been given free rein irrespective of the present hard landscaping. He noted that Sparsholt could not undertake any installations.

Action: Clerk

d. **Cycle Path**

There was no progress. Cllr Drew was asked to chase.

Action: Cllr Drew, Clerk

e. **Defibrillator**

The Clerk had received an email from the Primary School to say that all schools were due to receive a defibrillator which would be available for public access. This would include Test Valley School.

C/23/054

High Street

a. **HCC's parking survey**

This was dealt with under C/23/049iv. An email from HCC's Ms Ware was circulated confirming a meeting would be held when the results of the survey had been collated.

b. **Update on crossing between Co-Op and Greengrocer**

This was dealt with under C/23/049iv.

c. **Consider forming a Working Group for the VDS**

Cllr Halle asked if, having read the VDS, Cllrs considered that it needed upgrading. Cllr Foord commented that only minor changes would be required. He felt that the flooding topics would have changed. Cllrs agreed to put forward comments and changes to the document.

Action: All Cllrs

C/23/055

Recreation Ground Trust WG

Cllr Halle said there had been a recent meeting of the Recreation Ground Trust in which the draft of the ToR had been discussed. He said it had been a positive meeting but although the Trust recognised the need to look at the future management of the ground, the Trust preferred to do so with their own WG.

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Cllr Powell said that this would be positive because it would start the Trust to focus on the future. Cllr Porter commented that the Trust had no income. The Clerk confirmed that the funds the PC could give were very limited. The Council agreed not to pursue a WG for the Recreation Ground.

C/23/056

Lancaster House

a. Update on handover

Cllr Halle said that he and a member of the public had visited the site. He said that it would be helpful if HCC removed the dead wood from the bank of the A3057. He commented that he did not feel that there were many dead Ash trees and he had noticed many other types of trees including yew and sycamore. He said he would ask TVBC's Rory Grogan for his advice. There was no progress from the solicitor.

Action: Clerk, Cllr Halle

b. Consider forming a CIO for the future management of the site

The Clerk explained that a Charitable Incorporated Organisation would be an appropriate body to own the site. The Council agreed that this should be considered.

Action: Clerk

C/23/057

Council Communications

a. Approve June Newsletter

The draft produced by the Clerk was agreed. The Clerk explained that the Venture scouts were no longer prepared to deliver it. She asked for suitable alternatives.

Action: Clerk

C/23/058

Village Amenities to provide update

a. Lengthsman tasks and Maintenance

Cllr Halle said the weed cuts on the trout streams would start this week. The village gates needed cleaning.

Action: Cllr Marshall, Clerk

b. Speedwatch, SID/SLR

Cllr Halle confirmed that there had been no formal response from Longstock regarding the proposal. He said he would chase this up.

Action: Cllr Halle

c. OLR Electricity supply

This was dealt with under C/23/047

C/23/059

Finance

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

Income and payments 26-34 were circulated ahead of the meeting and were reviewed and approved. Income was for the Trout pond fund, the cemetery x 2 and for a share of the Zoom licence. Cllrs noted income and expenditure against bank statements.

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Opening bank balance		80759.83
Fishing Club (Trout pond)	Income	3000
A H Cheaters (Cemetery)	Income	145
Headbourne W PC (share Zoom licence)	Income	59.95
Sly memorials (cemetery)	Income	135
Zurich Insurance	26	695
Peak Electrics (Lantern Arch)	27	465.60
HMRC (Clerk's tax)	28	16.2
STHC (Hall Hire)	29	19.50
B Baker (Salary + lengthsman -tax – pension)	30	754.87
Standard Life (Clerk's pension)	31	21.15
St. Peter's Church (C/23/029c)	32	140.80
YMML (Clerk's Office)	33	36
Shane Ling (lengthsman May)	34	1740
Closing Balance		80110.66

b. To approve budget year to date.

Expenditure against budget was reviewed, approved and agreed. The Clerk asked the Council to put the Council's remaining reserve for the Trout pond into general reserve. This was agreed. It was agreed to pay the £500 Trout n'About reserve to Trout n'About.

c. To agree payment of Employer's NI

The Clerk explained that a payment of £4.12 a month was due for employer's NI. She said that the extra lengthsman payment had caused her pay to go over the threshold. She said that this payment could come out of the Lengthsman funds. This was agreed.

Action: Clerk

d. BDO LLP

No conflict of interest with the external auditors was declared.

Action: Clerk

C/23/060

Health and Safety

There were none.

C/23/061

Items for next agenda and date of next meeting

The next Council meeting is due to be held on 20th July 2023. Items for the agenda:

Lancaster House

Village Design Statement

Action: Clerk

The meeting closed at 9:40pm.

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STOCKBRIDGE

Signed.....

Date.....