

Stockbridge Parish Council



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 18th APRIL 2024 AT 7:15PM
AT THE STOCKBRIDGE TOWN HALL,
STOCKBRIDGE

Present: Cllrs D Halle (Chair), M Porter, R Foord, A Marshall,
H Jackson, D Smith, A Lawrence (late), A Parr

Cllrs D Drew

Apologies: Cllrs I Jeffery, B Powell, M Nadal

Clerk: Belinda Baker

Public attendance: One

C/24/001 **Apologies**
Apologies were received from Cllrs Nadal, Powell and TVBC Cllr Jeffery.

C/24/002 **To receive declarations of pecuniary interests (DPIs) and other significant interests from members concerning items on the agenda**
Cllr Foord declared an OSI for the Cemetery C/24/015.

C/24/003 **Public Participation**
One member of the public attended. She complimented the Council on the newsletter but went on to say that she was unhappy with the idea that the High Street would be closed for traffic when Trout n' About took place. She asked that other local venues could be investigated for the event. She suggested that the High Street could be cleaner and that pavements were in disrepair in many places and there were often trip hazards.

Cllr Lawrence joined the meeting.

C/24/004 **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 21st March 2024**

a. To approve and sign the minutes of 21st March 2024.
These were agreed as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

b. To deal with matters arising not on the agenda

- Fields south of the High Street would be discussed when there was a response from the landowner.
- Members of the Traffic Safety Old London Rd Project WG would be meeting with HCC in May.
- The Church would be holding a D-Day remembrance service, 6th June, with the Primary School at the War memorial.

c. To deal with any correspondence

- A member of the public had written in support of local pharmacies. It was agreed to put the matter onto May's agenda.

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- The Bean Club had written to thank Cllrs for their help at recent event.
- A member of the public had offered to monitor the Test River carrier that ran beside Lily's/Marsh path. The offer was accepted.

Action: Clerk

C/24/005 **Meeting Management**

The Chair asked the Councillors to check the minutes that the Clerk had written, when they were circulated by email. He said there was an opportunity then to raise issues but doing so at meetings held things up. He noted that a formal vote with a show of hands was not always necessary because concerns or dissent could be raised as the matter was being addressed. He asked Cllrs to familiarise themselves with Council's Standing Orders.

C/24/006 **Borough and County Councillor Reports**

i Cllr Jeffery did not attend. A report was circulated. There were no comments.

ii A report from Cllr Drew was circulated before the meeting. He said that TVBC has successfully undertaken fly-tipping prosecutions. He said that HCC was consolidating its office space including libraries and registrar offices. He said that Trading Standards had enjoyed success pursuing fake vapes and tobacco. He would speak to Cllr Adams-King about painting white parking bays on the High Street. He said he and Caroline Noakes MP had inspected the Fullerton water treatment plant and had been told that the amount of water that could be treated, had been raised. Cllr Halle raised the state of Stockbridge's pavements and the number of trip hazards (C/24/003).

C/24/007 **Training**

The Chair encouraged Cllrs to undertake the training available from HALC. A list had been provided.

C/24/008 **Stockbridge High Street**

a. Disabled parking signage

Cllr Halle would install the sign. Cllr Halle noted that the pavement outside the Grosvenor was particularly bad for trip hazards. He said it was important to note the problems to HCC on its website via "Report It".

Action: Cllr Halle

b Installation of crossing between Co-op and Greengrocer

The Clerk noted that the licence for the planters had been renewed for 6 months. Cllr Foord agreed to remove the planters when necessary. There was no agreement on where the planters should be placed.

c Update on HCC's parking survey

There was no update. A member of the public had written to say that he believed businesses were leaving Stockbridge because of parking issues. Cllr Jackson disagreed with this, saying that the businesses that had now gone had done so for reasons other than parking.

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d. Update from VDS WG

Cllr Foord said there was no update. Cllr Lawrence had supplied comments (C/23/223di).

Action: VDS WG

C/24/009

Resilience WG

Terms of Reference for the WG had been drafted by the Clerk (C/23/225a) and had been reviewed by Cllr Foord. He put forward some amendments which had been circulated before the Meeting. The Clerk had advised that these amendments transgressed the legal powers of the Council. The Chair put forward amended wording. Cllr Foord was clear he did not agree with these amendments. Other Cllrs did not agree with Cllr Foord and the Council discussed at length how the form of words could be changed. Cllr Foord maintained that the advice of the Clerk was wrong and that her advice was tainted. He made it clear he did not trust her. Cllr Lawrence expressed serious concern that making such an accusation, and the treatment of the Clerk, could potentially expose the Council to a claim, in an employment tribunal, from the Clerk. Cllr Foord declared that he was unconcerned with this risk. The Chair put forward a motion that Cllr Foord should be asked to leave the meeting.

C/24/010

Resolution that Cllr Foord should be asked to leave the meeting

The resolution that Cllr Foord should be asked to leave the meeting was agreed 4:3, (Cllrs Lawrence, Porter, Halle and Jackson voting for suspension, Cllrs Parr, Foord and Marshall voting against and Cllr Smith abstained).

Councillor Foord left the meeting.

C/24/011

River Test Pollution

a. Update from Pan Parish WG

Cllr Marshall had attended the recent Pan Parish WG. He said that Houghton PC's new river pollution monitor was due to be installed imminently. The next meeting would be in June.

Action: Cllr Marshall

b. Signs

Cllr Powell had produced signs to warn the public of the danger of pollution in the River Test and streams (C/23/229). Cllr Smith agreed to install the signs at the village and Marsh ends of the Marsh/Lily's path.

Action: Cllr Smith

C/24/012

Rural Crime Meeting

Cllr Parr had attended. She had circulated a report before the meeting. She said it had been helpful and that she would continue to attend.

Action: Cllr Parr

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C/24/013

Infrastructure -update on Council projects

a. Phone Boxes

The Clerk commented that W Tytherley was using the lengthsman to paint their phone boxes. She suggested waiting to see the standard of the work.

b. Cycle Path

A community service team had visited and undertaken work of a reasonable standard but there was still a long length of the path to be cleared. The Clerk was asked to ask them to return if possible.

Action: Clerk

c. Gate at the entrance to the Marsh Field

HCC had confirmed that improvements to the gate are the landowner's responsibility. Cllr Halle agreed to supply the Clerk with the contact details for the landowner so she could write to them.

Action: Cllr Halle, Clerk

C/24/014

Blandford Row Park

a. Community event to vote for favoured design

The community event to present the designs for the pocket park was due to take place the following week. Invitations, to be distributed by Cllrs, had been created by Cllr Powell and printed by Cllr Nadal. Cllr Powell had agreed to organise the display of the designs. The Clerk was asked to purchase some stands.

Action: Cllr Powell, Clerk

b. Discuss renaming the park in honour of the late Queen

It was agreed to rename the park as the Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Garden.

C/24/015

Cemetery

a. Memorials – cleaning and re-erecting

Cllr Powell had approached the Lutyens Trust to fund the cleaning of the Lutyens memorial in Winton Hill Cemetery. Interest had been expressed for providing funding for this work. Cllr Smith felt it was unnecessary and stressed that the work required considerable skill to be undertaken. The Clerk was asked to obtain a quotation from Blackwell and Moody for the cleaning work.

Action: Clerk

b. Extension of the cemetery

The Clerk had provided information following recent legislation to show that the cemetery could not be extended to within 250m of a well which was used to supply water for domestic or food production purposes. It was accepted that extending the cemetery towards Winchester would contravene this.

C/24/016

SLR and Speedwatch

There was no update.

Action: Cllr Halle

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C/24/017

Lancaster House

a. **Update from Working Group**

Cllr Halle proposed that marking stakes should be purchased so the boundary of the land, that the Council now owned, could be established. The Clerk had provided a quotation from Barker and Geary. It was agreed to purchase 30 stakes at a cost of around £50.

Action: Clerk

b. **Hedging**

This was not discussed.

C/24/018

Council Communications

a. **Report from engagement surgeries at the Community Market**

Cllr Marshall had attended the surgery. He advised there was nothing to report.

b. **Agree content of June newsletter**

This was agreed as a report from the Rural Crime meeting, reminder about reporting pavement issues, Trout n About, cycle path and the QE II memorial garden event.

Action: Clerk

C/24/019

Village Amenities to provide update

a. **Lengthsman and Maintenance**

It was requested that the grass around the war memorial should be trimmed before the event on 6th June. Cllr Marshall said he would ask for the trees along the cycle lane to be cut back as well as the grass between Trafalgar Way and New Street.

Action: Cllr Marshall

b. **Community Bus**

The Clerk had passed on emails from Broughton PC who had been approached to see if their community bus could be diverted to pick up Stockbridge residents C/23/212b & C/23/235b. Cllr Smith said that he had spoken to residents but they were not interested in visiting Andover. He said there was already a good service to Romsey. He noted there maybe some interest a monthly trip to Salisbury. The Clerk was asked to contact Broughton to say that journeys to Salisbury and Winchester could be of interest.

Action: Clerk

C/24/020

Finance

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

Income and payments 151 – 153 & 1-11 were circulated ahead of the meeting and were reviewed and approved. Income from R Steele & Sons for the Cemetery was noted.

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Opening bank balance (minus cheque)		60705.91
R Steele (Cemetery)	Income	220
B Baker (Salary + lengthsman -tax – pension)	151	733.84
Hugo Fox (website)	152	11.99
Unity Bank (Service charge)	153	18
Standard Life (Clerk’s pension)	1	24.26
B Baker (Planter licence)	2	169
D Younger (newsletter delivery)	3	100
YMML (Clerk’s office)	4	36
B Baker (Zoom licence to be shared with HWPC)	5	155.88
HMRC (Clerk’s tax & NI & Emp’s NI)	6	170.6
ADH Printing	7	145
Ovo Energy (Milsom Lights)	8	20.36
Shane Ling (Lengthsman)	9	699
STHC (Room hire)	10	21
TVBC (Dog bin emptying)	11	267.9
Closing Balance (minus cheque)		58353.08

b. To approve budget year to date.

Expenditure against budget was reviewed, approved and agreed.

c. Council Accounts 2023/2024

This was approved.

Action: Clerk

d. Update Council Savings Account

3 Councillors had been asked to provide ID verification as signatories.

Action: Cllrs Foord, Halle and Lawrence

e. Insurance – to approve

The Clerk said that she needed to correct parts of the quotation. She would refer the matter to next month’s Agenda.

Action: Clerk

C/24/021

Planning

a. Agree trees suitable for a TPO

The Clerk was asked to write to TVBC to confirm which trees had a TPO.

Action: Clerk

b. New applications – to agree responses

Number	Address	Description	Expiry Date
24/00821/TREEN	New House Winton Hill Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6HL	T1 - Sycamore - Fell T2 - Sycamore - Fell T3 - Horse Chestnut - Fell T4 - Sycamore - Fell	30/04/24

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It was agreed to abide by the advice of the TVBC tree officers			
24/00734/TREEN	Old Rectory High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EU	T1 & T2 Magnolia - Reduce height of 2 trees to gutter height and reduce lateral spread by upto 1m	18/04/24
It was agreed to abide by the advice of the TVBC tree officers			

b. To note recent decisions

Number	Address	Description	Result
24/00724/DDCA	Spitfire Cottage High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EU	Dead Birch - Fell - Within Stockbridge Conservation area.	Fell Dead CA Tree DD
24/00264/FULLN	Dawlish House 7 Trafalgar Way Stockbridge SO20 6ET	Erection of outbuilding for use as home office	Permission

c. To note decisions awaited

Number	Address	Description	Date
HCC/2024/0154 24/00616/HCC3	Stockbridge County Primary School, Old London Rd, SO20 6EJ	Replacement of the school's playfield access gates	3/04/24
24/00543/FULLN	Dr G Evans And Partners Doctors Surgery New Street SO20 6HG	Erection of single storey front extension to provide separate dispensary	05/04/24
24/00083/VARN	Stockbridge House High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EX	Variation of condition 02 (approved plans) of 21/01171/FULLN (Erection of 3 tourist units) to alter the provision of windows, install decking platforms	To committee 23 rd April
The Council agreed that Cllr Jackson would attend the Committee meeting and speak to oppose the application on behalf of the Council.			
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

d. Enforcement

There were none.

C/24/022 **Health and Safety**
There were none.

C/23/023 **Items for next agenda and date of next meeting**
The next Council meeting is due to be held on 16th May 2024 at the Town Hall. Items for the Agenda:
High Street Chemist
Trout n' About
Insurance
Appoint Chair of the Council

Action: Clerk

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The meeting closed at 10:00pm.

Signed.....

Date.....