MINUTES OF STOW-ON-THE-WOLD TOWN COUNCIL'S PARKS & SQUARE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2026, AT STOW YOUTH CENTRE, FOSSEWAY, STOW-ON-THE-WOLD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE GL54 1DW AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillors: S Clarke (Chair), A Tighe (Chair of Council), J Scarsbrook, J Davies, V Davies and S Woods

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Miss M Pawley, Clerk/RFO of Council.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
   Cllrs B Eddolls & M Stracey.
   Advisor N Surman was noted as absent.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
   Members were reminded to declare any interests in items on the agenda as the meeting progressed.

3. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC***
   Members of the Public were given the opportunity to speak as the meeting progressed.

4. **MINUTES – TO CONFIRM AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 22nd JULY 2026.**
   RESOLVED to sign the minutes as a correct record**. Motion carried.**

5. **CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
   None.

6. **CLERK'S REPORT AND MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 22nd JULY 2026.**
   Council has received £500.00 from Hatwell's Funfair for hosting their event in May of this year.
   Council has received £20.00 stall fee for the coffee cart at the upcoming Bonfire event.

7. **TO NOTE THE FOLLOWING WORK THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE SINCE THE LAST PARKS & SQUARE MEETING:**
   - **COUNCIL'S 2 X NOTICEBOARDS ON ST EDWARDS HALL, HAVE BEEN WEATHER TREATED.**
   - **THE STOW INFORMATION BOARD AT MAUGERSBURY ROAD CARPARK HAS BEEN UPDATED AND WEATHER TREATED.**
   - **2 X WOODEN BENCHES HAVE BEEN REINSTALLED ON STOCKS GREEN.**
   - **3 X BEECH TREES ON QEII FIELD HAVE BEEN CUT BACK AND TIDIED.**
   - **2 X NEW PERCH BENCHES AND A WASTE BIN HAVE BEEN INSTALLED NEXT TO THE PUMP TRACK ON KING GEORGE'S FIELD.**
   - **THE UNPAID WORK TEAM HAVE BEGUN STRIMMING THE OVERGROWN FOLIAGE AND HEDGING ALONG THE AREA THAT RUNS FROM THE KGF PEDESTRIAN PARK ENTRANCE TO THE PUMP TRACK. IT WILL TAKE A FEW VISITS TO COMPLETE.**
   - **THE BROKEN FENCE OUTSIDE THE PAVILION HAS BEEN REPAIRED.**
   - **SOME REPLACEMENT PUMP TRACK SIGNAGE HAS BEEN PROFESSIONALLY PRINTED.**
   - **A DAMAGED SIGNPOST HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM NEXT TO KGF PLAYPARK AND THE LARGE 'WELCOME' SIGN HAS BEEN TEMPORARILY REMOVED FOR REFURBISHMENT.**

     Members noted.

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8. **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE BONFIRE EVENT.**
   A volunteer has been secured to build & light the bonfire. Most other preparations are finalised with only the drink quantities to be confirmed via Cllr Clarke. A few more volunteers would be appreciated, and the clerk will send out a list of what is required and who are allocated so far.

9. **TO NOTE THAT REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY FALLS ON 8TH NOVEMBER 2026 AND ARMISTICE DAY IS WEDNESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2026. PLANNING IS UNDERWAY.**
   Members noted.
   Rev'd Wellman has been approached regarding The Order of Service, which is in progress. The Clerk will check Council's wreath and follow up on Marshallers. The possibility of military vehicles being a part of the parade is being looked in to.

10. **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND SWITCH ON EVENT.**
    5 x parking spaces on the corner of Stocks Green and approx 4 x spaces along the front of St Edwards Hall will be closed for the event. If the weather is mild, the light switch on, only, will happen outside and afterwards move directly to the Hall for the children's singing, Father Christmas and the stalls.
    If the weather is poor, the *whole* event will be inside, with the light switch on being watched from the hall windows, over The Square.

11. **TO CONSIDER THE POTENTIAL DAMAGE TO STOCKS GREEN WITH THE EVER-INCREASING USE OF THE GREEN FOR PARKING BICYCLES, ELECTRIC BIKES AND MOTORBIKES UNDER THE TREES.**
    Cllrs suggested fencing off Stocks Green throughout the winter, whilst reseeding, but leave The Stocks accessible. Discreet signage could be placed nearby.
    The bike situation will continue to be monitored.

12. **THE CLERK HAS BEEN NOTIFIED THAT IT APPEARS IMPROVEMENT WORK TO THE PAVILION HAS STALLED, THIS IS NOT THE CASE, BUT THERE ARE MANY THINGS TO BE CONSIDERED BEFORE THE FACILITY CAN BE USED BY THE PUBLIC, AND CURRENTLY THERE ARE OTHER MATTERS TAKING PRIORITY. REST ASSURED THAT WORK IS BEING ADDRESSED AS AND WHEN POSSIBLE.**
    The Clerk is seeking quotes for a grasscrete parking area next to the Pavilion.

13. **TO NOTE THAT THE STOCKS HAVE SUSTAINED SOME DAMAGE AROUND A FOOT HOLE. ONE OF THE ORIGINAL RESTORERS CAME TO STOW ON 27TH AUGUST 2026, TO ASSESS THEM. THE CLERK WAS NOT AVAILABLE, SO HE WAS MET BY CLLR CLARKE. THE RESTORER SAID THAT HE WOULD CARRY OUT A LITTLE WORK THE FOLLOWING DAY AND THOUGHT THE SPLITS THAT HAD OCCURRED DUE TO THE EXCESSIVELY DRY WEATHER, WOULD CLOSE UP. IT WAS AGREED TO MONITOR THEM AND REVIEW/REPAIR AS NECESSARY, IN THE SPRING, AS THEY ARE STILL 'BEDDING IN'.**
    Members noted.
    The restorer will provide his recommendations regarding a maintenance plan going forward.

14. **TO NOTE THAT A NEW ROOF HAS BEEN INSTALLED ON THE COUNCIL CONTAINER, IMPROVING ITS APPEARANCE AND MEANING IT'S NOW PROTECTED FROM THE ELEMENTS. THE CLERK WILL CHASE UP THE CONTRACTOR FOR THE PAINTING TO BE DONE.**
    Members noted and commented that it looked much improved.
    Post meeting note: The painting has now been completed.

15. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – 4th November 2026

16. **MEETING CLOSED** – 7.23pm

Signed: _____ Chair Dated: _____

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