MINUTES OF STOW-ON-THE-WOLD MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 29th OCTOBER 2026 AT STOW YOUTH CENTRE, FOSSEWAY, STOW-ON-THE-WOLD GL54 1DW AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Cllrs A Tighe (Chair), J Scarsbrook (Vice Chair), J Davies, B Eddolls, A White, V Goddard and A Wright (arrived at 7.18pm).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Miss M Pawley, Clerk & RFO of Council, County Cllr D Corps & 5 x Members of the Public.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
   Cllrs S Clarke, V Davies & M Stracey.
   Ward District Cllr D Neill.
   Cllr Silcock was noted as absent.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
   Members were reminded to declare any interests that may arise during the meeting.

3. **CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
   Cllr Tighe informed members that the new temporary Fire Chief reported a success for the recruitment banners that have been displayed around the area, bringing in 5 x successful applicants.

4. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC***
   Members of the public were given the opportunity to speak at the appropriate time during the course of the meeting.

5. **MINUTES - TO APPROVE AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 24th SEPTEMBER 2026**
   RESOLVED that the Chair should sign the minutes as a true and accurate record. **Motion carried.**

6. **CLERK'S REPORT AND MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 24th SEPTEMBER 2026**
   Following up on the poppy displays in Chipping Norton. There has been a lot of work put in by the RBL over several months, this is not something that Stow Town Council can replicate in the remaining short space of time, so the Clerk has arranged for the instalment of the metal Soldier on Stocks Green and ordered some large poppies to be attached to signs/lampposts around the town. These cost £75.00 for 10, the remaining £25.00 has been donated as a cash amount.
   2 x extra quotes are being sought for restoration work to The Wells. The Clerk has been in contact with one contractor on Monday 26th October 2026, quote to follow.
   The date for the post gypsy fair SAG meeting has not yet been determined. This will be emailed out to those concerned when notification comes through.
   The Polio event that was planned for this year has had to be cancelled due to a clash of dates.
   Field Marshaller volunteers, inc. helping on the gates are still required for Bonfire event from 5.00pm – 7.45pm and clean up helpers on Saturday morning 10.00am – 11.00am.
   A couple of extra names have been determined.

7. **POLICE REPORT**
   No Police were in attendance and there was no report, due to staff shortages.

8. **REPORT FROM COUNTY CLLR D CORPS, COTSWOLD DIVISION** (Departed at 7.29pm)
   Cllr Corps spoke to his report and said that as of the afternoon of 29th October 2026, Government plans have reverted to the original Council Devolution, and the revised commencement date will be from 2029. He also mentioned that he'd followed up on Back Walls' double yellow lines issue.

9. **REPORT FROM WARD DISTRICT CLLR D NEILL**
   Cllr Neill sent her apologies, and Cllr Tighe spoke to her report.

10. **TO CONSIDER A GRANT APPLICATION FROM HEADSPACE OF £900.00 TOWARDS TRAVEL & REFRESHMENTS FOR THE YOUNG PERSON'S COMMUNITY MENTORING PROGRAMME.**
    RESOLVED that Council approve the full amount requested of £900.00. **Motion carried.**

11. **TO CONSIDER A SUGGESTION FROM THE CHAIR OF COUNCIL REGARDING THE STOW SQUARE TOILETS. THE IDEA IS FOR A LETTER TO BE FORWARDED TO LOCAL HOSPITALITY BUSINESSES INVITING THEM TO JOIN THE 'STOW OPEN TOILETS SCHEME' WHEREBY THEY OFFER THEIR TOILETS FOR PUBLIC USE, WHILST THE STOW PUBLIC TOILETS ARE AWAITING A REFURBISHMENT.**
    Overall, the consensus was not in favour of this idea, although Cllr White suggested that perhaps hospitality businesses could be approached with regards to making a small contribution towards the toilet's refurbishments.

12. **LOCAL PLAN REGULATION 19 CONSULTATION – TO CONSIDER COUNCIL'S DRAFT RESPONSE.**
    RESOLVED Cllr White said that the letter was excellent, and members agreed to proceed with the draft response. **Motion carried.**

13. **TO NOTE THAT FURTHER TO STOW TOWN COUNCIL BEING PREVIOUSLY INFORMED THAT THE ESTIMATED COST OF A CONTESTED ELECTION IN OUR AREA WAS £7,175.51 COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED AN ERROR AND SENT OUT A CORRECTION NOTICE THAT THE COST IS ACTUALLY £4,109.18**
    Members noted.

14. **TO CONSIDER THE FACT THAT COUNCIL'S YOUTH CLUB LEASE IS UP FOR RENEWAL IN NOVEMBER 2027. WOULD COUNCIL LIKE TO RENEW OR EXPLORE OTHER OPTIONS.**
    Members expressed a wish to stay put, dependant on cost.

15. **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE AND REQUEST MORE VOLUNTEERS FOR THE BONFIRE EVENT.**
    The Clerk reported the plan so far and gained another 2 volunteers, although more would be welcome.

16. **THE REMEMBRANCE PREPARATIONS HAVE BROUGHT TO LIGHT SEVERAL ISSUES OF NON-CONFORMITY REGARDING TOWN & PARISH COUNCIL'S EXPECTED COMMITMENT TO REMEMBRANCE EVENTS. TO THIS END, FROM NEXT YEAR ONWARDS, STOW COUNCIL WILL FOLLOW A NEWLY DEVISED, STRUCTURED SET OF PROCEDURES TO AID IN THE SMOOTH RUNNING OF RELATED EVENTS.**
    Members agreed this would be a welcome change.
    A member of the public suggested that perhaps local cadets would be willing to take up the roles of Parade Sgt and Standard Bearer.

17. **TO NOTE THAT PROGRESS REGARDING IMPROVEMENTS TO STOW SQUARE TOILETS IS SUBJECT TO AN IMMINENT SURVEY.**
    Members noted.
    Post Meeting note: A survey took place on Tuesday 3rd November 2026. Council awaits feedback.

18. **TO REVIEW COUNCIL'S INVESTMENT STRATEGY.**
    RESOLVED to review and approve as shown. **Motion carried.**

19. **TO NOTE AN UPDATE ON THE AMUSEAPP FOR THE STOW HERITAGE FUND PROJECT.**
    Members noted and expressed their thanks to the project organiser.

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20. **TO NOTE THAT COUNCIL'S SECOND INTERNAL AUDIT WAS CARRIED OUT ON WEDNESDAY 21st OCTOBER 2026 WITH NO SIGNIFICANT ISSUES.**
    Members noted.

21. **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REGARDING THE STATUS OF CGS EXPENDITURE TO DATE, AGAINST BUDGET.**
    The Clerk informed members of the expenditure to date for CGS, both contractual and non-contractual, explaining that budget is on track.

22. **TO RECEIVE A BRIEF REPORT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR:**
    i) **TO APPROVE BANK RECONCILIATIONS TO 30th SEPTEMBER 2026**
    ii) **TO REPORT BALANCE IN CCLA ACCOUNT AS OF 30th SEPTEMBER 2026**
    iii) **TO REPORT BANK RECEIPTS TO 30th SEPTEMBER 2026**
    iv) **TO APPROVE EXPENDITURE FOR OCTOBER 2026**
    There was nothing to report from the Finance committee.
    RESOLVED to approve. **Motion carried.**

23. **TO RECEIVE A BRIEF REPORT FROM THE CHAIRS OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE MEETINGS SINCE 24th SEPTEMBER 2026:**
    a) **PLANNING TRAFFIC & PARKING: 29th SEPTEMBER 2026 – CLLR SCARSBROOK**
    b) **PLANNING TRAFFIC & PARKING: 20th OCTOBER 2026 – CLLR SCARSBROOK**
    Cllr Scarsbrook reminded members that there will be 2 x consultations for the parking review, dates to be confirmed.

24. **REPORT ANY MEMBERS WHO HAVE HAD A MEETING OR ATTENDED ANY EVENT ON BEHALF OF COUNCIL.**

Cllr Eddolls	19/10/26 – Oddington Road Site Meeting
Cllr J Davies	19/10/26 – Oddington Road Site Meeting
Cllr Tighe:	01/10/26 – Cotswold Friends
	08/10/26 – Stow Primary School
	19/10/26 – Oddington Road Site Meeting
	29/10/26 – Cotswold Friends (Handbook release)

25. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Thursday 26th November 2026 at 7.00 pm in Stow Youth Centre.

26. **MEETING CLOSED** at 7.50pm

Signed **……..** Chair of Council Date ……

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Payment Type	Name	Description	Net	VAT	Gross
BACS	HMRC	M6 PAYE/NI	£1,741.91	£0.00	£1,741.91
BACS	Cottage Garden Services (CGS)	Contract Maintenance (September)	£4,026.25	£805.25	£4,831.50
BACS	Cottage Garden Services (CGS)	Non Contractoral - KGF & Shrubbery	£836.38	£167.28	£1,003.66
BACS	L Salleh	Stow Office Cleaner	£56.00	£0.00	£56.00
BACS	Administration	Administration	£4,022.10	£0.00	£4,022.10
BACS	TechTonic IT Solutions Ltd	IT Maintenance & Support (September)	£110.30	£22.06	£132.36
BACS	Oxforce Building	Repair Fence at front of Pavilion	£475.00	£95.00	£570.00
BACS	Colin James Decorator	Container Painting	£740.00	£0.00	£740.00
BACS	Kopyrite	Town Signage	£103.00	£20.60	£123.60
BACS	Stow Rugby Club	Ladies/Girls Changing Facilities Grant	£4,000.00	£0.00	£4,000.00
BACS	North Cotswold Rotary	Transition Drama Workshop	£250.00	£0.00	£250.00
BACS	SLCC	Annual Subscription	£379.00	£0.00	£379.00
BACS	PKF Littlejohn LLP	Annual External Audit	£630.00	£126.00	£756.00
BACS	Cotswold Electrical	STC Office CCTV System	£1,180.00	£0.00	£1,180.00
BACS	Centre 67 (SYC)	Office Hire & % of Bills	£3,281.37	£0.00	£3,281.37
DD	Richard Coglan Ltd	Photocopier Monthly Plan	£73.81	£14.77	£88.58
DD	PWLB Lending Facility	Loan	£1,701.78	£0.00	£1,701.78
DD	Richard Coglan Ltd	Paper Delivery	£134.37	£26.87	£161.24
DD	Richard Coglan Ltd	Photocopier Monthly Plan (October)	£73.81	£14.77	£88.58
DD	Eon Next	Pavilion Electricity	£17.68	£0.88	£18.56
DD	Grundon	Office Waste Collection	£45.25	£9.05	£54.30
DD	Grundon	Cemetery Waste Collection	£61.99	£12.40	£74.39
DD	Lloyds Bank Chargecard	Amazon, CDC, Co-Op, Crock, SNews	£70.28	£0.00	£70.28
DD	Sirus Telecom	Phone Charges - (September)	£112.30	£22.46	£134.76
DD	NEST	Pension Contributions (October)	£277.85	£0.00	£277.85
DD	Castle Water	Pavilion Supply	£5.76	£1.15	£4.04
DD	Propel Finance	Phone Equipment Hire	£38.78	£7.76	£46.54
DD	Lloyds Bank Community Account	Transaction Fees	£4.67	£0.00	£4.67
		TOTALS	**£24,449.64**	**£1,346.30**	**£25,793.07**
			Check	£25,795.94	

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