



MINUTES OF STOW ON THE WOLD MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2017, AT THE YOUTH CLUB CENTRE, FOSSEWAY, STOW ON THE WOLD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE GL54 1DW AT 7.15 PM

PRESENT: Councillors: B Eddolls (Chairman), M Curtis, A White, S Green, P Day, J Davies, J Scarsbrook, V Davies & Mrs H Siphthorp, Clerk/RFO of council and 2 members of the public

Also in attendance: Ms L Burke, Deputy Clerk of council, Ward County Cllr N Moor, Ward District Cllr D Neill & PC J Page

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Members of public present were given an opportunity to speak during the course of the meeting at the chairman's discretion.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs C Smalley, M Moseley & S Clarke

2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Members were reminded to declare any interests that may arise during the course of the meeting.

3. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 30TH NOVEMBER 2017**

RESOLVED – Proposed Cllr V Davies, seconded Cllr J Davies that the chairman should sign the minutes as a true and accurate record. **RECORD OF VOTING** – All in favour. **Motion carried.**

4. **CLERK'S REPORT & MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF ABOVE MEETING**

Decommissioned defibrillator on chemist exterior wall in the square. Badham's had kindly reconnected the electric supply to the box. Community Heartbeat Trust are loaning a machine to council whilst the original defibrillator is checked over by the manufacturer.

Clerk said that she had attended a training session on the new General Data Protection Regulations that come into effect in May 2018. This is an EU law and replaces the current Data Protection Act 1998.

CDC have finally confirmed that they would be happy to receive a formal proposal from council to take over the unused building adjacent to the public conveniences in the High Street for storage.

This was referred to the Planning, Traffic & Parking Committee.

Clerk ended her report advising she would be starting her CiLCA mentoring sessions in March 2018.

5. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman spoke about the adverse weather conditions and heavy snow fall which caused problems in the whole District. He said that the council will send a letter to all businesses and put a statement in a forthcoming issue of Stow Times in the New Year. This will give advice and ask for help from the community. The council will also review its procedures for adverse weather conditions to in relation to the town's Emergency Plan. The clerk & GCC Officer are also working on the GCC Winter Action Plan. This will be submitted to council for approval/adoption in the New Year. Stow Brethren will be checking all the grit bins in the town on Saturday and if appropriate will fill up.

6. **POLICE REPORT**

PC Page started by explaining about the restructure that had taken place which safeguards community policing. He said the North Cotswolds has two PC's and two PCSO's. PC Page is assigned to look after Stow. He talked about the increase in burglaries which he quickly said was not just Stow but everywhere in the District and the general consensus is that they are being carried out by gangs who are not local. He also said that the police had changed the way they recorded crimes in that dwelling burglaries also include shed burglaries of which four incidents had occurred in the town recently. He asked residents to be vigilant and report anything suspicious and to call



999. He also said that the most vulnerable time for dwelling burglaries is between 4 and 8 pm before people get home from work. The police can supply a time switch to the residents to allow the lights to come on before they get home. He was unsure if there was a cost for these but would investigate further. He then took questions. Chairman thanked PC Page for attending the meeting. PC Page left the meeting to resume his duties.

7. REPORT FROM COTSWOLD DISTRICT CLLR D NEILL

Cllr Neill gave an overview of the CDC council meeting which took place earlier in the week. She spoke about Publica the new company formed by the amalgamation of four local authorities. CDC had met with representatives from Bromford Housing. There are currently 113 houses/bungalows in the town. She had asked the direct question why when a tenant vacates Chamberlayne House the flats are not being re let. Bromford responded saying they are currently reviewing this property with a view to doing a major refurbishment programme. She talked about affordable housing for Stow and had asked if any action could be taken to address this major concern. She had been told that affordable housing cannot be delivered in Stow. As a result Cllr Stephen Hirst, CDC Cabinet Member for Housing, Health & Leisure had agreed to meet with Town Council and members of Stow Community Land Trust to try to ascertain if there is any suitable land that could be used for such housing. She went on to say that the CDC budget proposals are currently out for consultation and can be viewed on the CDC website. She ended her report saying that she and Cllr White would be meeting Mr Clifton-Brown MP, to raise various planning concerns, in January 2018. Chairman thanked Cllr Neill for her report and for her continued support of the council and the community.

8. REPORT FROM GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CLLR NIGEL MOOR

Cllr Moor said that GCC were currently consulting on their budget for new financial year and details can be found on their website. The consultation comes to an end on 17th January 2018. He said the proposal was to increase council tax by 1.99% and an adult social care levy of 2% on top. The latter levy means an additional £5.42 million for adult social care services that can only be spent on vulnerable adults paying for things like social and residential care.

£38 million will be invested into roads over the next four years as part of the council's £150 million investment in highways. There are also some one off investments including £30K for each local councillor to support projects through Growing Our Communities Fund over the next three years; continued support of the Lengthsman Scheme and an additional £2.74 million for the A417 highways safety improvement work.

He then talked about the resurfacing works in the square which have been postponed on a couple of occasions. These will be taking place 19th-30th March 2018. He reiterated that although it said a full road closure this was not the case and only the areas where the team were working would be closed off. Cllr Moor then spoke about the Liberty development on land adjacent to Bretton House. GCC and Liberty have been in discussion in relation to the access to the site which ultimately GCC will adopt if up to standard. The entrance had been moved slightly to the north and he felt this was a far better access point than that originally proposed. He confirmed that the 40 mph speed limit will start further down Stow Hill and that the Monarch's Way footpath would also be extended too. The bollards requested on verge opposite BP petrol station will be installed in January 2018. He ended his report by referring to the request by a member of public for a new cycle route south from Moreton towards Stow. He said that officers had responded to this request and he would send the clerk a copy of the report. This is being considered by the Planning, Traffic & Parking committee at their meeting on 9th January 2018.

Chairman thanked Cllr Moor for his report and gave thanks for his hard work and support of the town.



9. TO APPROVE DRAFT BUDGET AND SET THE PRECEPT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR EFFECTIVE 1ST APRIL 2018

RESOLVED – Proposed Cllr Eddolls seconded Cllr White that draft budget is approved at £151,088 minus £2086 from Local Council Support Grant and that Precept is set at £133,417. **RECORD OF VOTING** – All in favour. **Motion carried.**

At “Band D” this equates to £149.02 per annum, an increase of 80 pence per annum, or 2 pence per week when compared with current financial year.

10. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:-

a) Burial Board

No report given as Cllr Smalley had given his apologies for absence.

b) Finance & General Purposes Committee

Cllr Moseley was not present so no report was given.

i) To approve bank reconciliation to 30th November 2017

Clerk said that the current account was showing a higher balance than normal as the Lloyds Bond had matured and the money had been transferred back into the current account. The bond had made £525.49 over the year. Committee will discuss where to reinvest at their next meeting.

RESOLVED – Proposed Cllr J Davies seconded Cllr Day that the bank reconciliation of £119,282.92 is approved. **RECORD OF VOTING** – All in favour. **Motion carried.**

ii) To approve expenditure for December 2017 to date

RESOLVED – Proposed Cllr Green seconded Cllr Eddolls that expenditure is approved see Appendix 1 page 94 **RECORD OF VOTING** – All in favour. **Motion carried.**

iii) Income and expenditure budget comparison with actual up to 30th November 2018

RESOLVED – Proposed Cllr Eddolls seconded by Cllr White that the figures be approved. **RECORD OF VOTING** – All in favour. **Motion carried.**

c) Parks & Square Committee

Cllr Green thanked all those who helped with the Christmas tree lights switch on event. Despite the awful weather the event was once again a success. Nothing further to report except the next meeting will take place on 11th January 2018 at 7.15 pm.

d) Neighbourhood Development Plan Group

Cllr Day said the Group had met in relation to questions raised by the external examiners. This was quite a big job collating all the information they requested. Clerk said that she would be putting all the latest versions of the various documents onto council’s website.

e) Planning, Traffic & Parking Committee

Cllr White said that the committee had met on 5th December 2017 and gave a brief summary. He said that a meeting is being set up by Oxfordshire County Council with interested parties in relation to the possible weight restriction on the Burford bridge. He said he would attend on behalf of council and will report back.

i) Statement by council in relation to new waiting restrictions in the town

The council had received some correspondence in relation to the new waiting restrictions in the town. As a result the clerk had sent out a draft statement to members to consider. All agreed that the draft is approved without change. This will be published in the February issue of Stow Times and would also be put on the council’s website.

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

Chairman said he had attended the AGM of Cotswold Friends at the Moreton Area Centre. He said what great work these people carry out and many of whom are volunteers.



12. TO DISCUSS THE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

GAPTC – Asking for nominations of former members to be nominated to attend a Buckingham Palace Garden Party on Tuesday 5th June 2018 who can be accompanied by one guest.

RESOLVED – Mrs Sue Lane is nominated. **RECORD OF VOTING** – All in favour. **Motion carried.**

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS - ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE NEXT MEETING

Chairman thanked everyone for their help over the past year and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

14. **MEETING CLOSED:** 8.45 pm.

15. **NEXT MEETING:** Thursday 25th January 2018 at 7.15 pm.

Appendix 1

Cheques/Direct Debits				
Cheque no.	Name	Description	Gross	VAT
3002	Paperstation	Stationery	49.47	9.89
3003	Queens Head	Replacing for lost cheque no 2995	713.17	
3004	Cotswold Times	Insert	287.50	57.50
3005	Express Presentation	PA system Christmas event	90.00	
3006	Eastwood Pest Control	Moles on King George's Field	110.00	22.00
3007	MDH Forestry	Christmas tree	295.00	59.00
3008	Pear Technology	Annual support	225.00	45.00
3009	GAPTC	Clerk training	40.00	
3010	C Turner Electrical Services Ltd	Christmas lights & electrical work	4,088.39	817.67
3011	Stockwell Davies	Installation of tree lights inc materials	780.00	55.70
3012	CGS	Grass cutting & horticulture	420.00	84.00
3013	UK Life medics	Medics for Bonfire event	250.00	
3014	Administration	Staff costs	2,731.13	
3015				
3016	T20 Media	Visitor Information Centre Website updates	50.00	
3017	BGSW CRC Ltd	Community Payback Team	1,020.00	
3018	GAPTC	CiLCA mentoring sessions	395.00	
3019	Mrs H Siphthorp	Mileage & expenses	104.39	
3020	Richard Coglán Ltd	Photocopying	44.60	8.52
3021	Mr J Wise	December litter pick of play areas	35.00	
3022	Eastwood Pest Control	Moles in Cemetery	110.00	22.00



3023	Ms E Sajewicz	Office administrative help	179.22	
3023	Ms E Sajewicz	NHP administration support	78.75	
3024	Ms L Burke	Expenses	9.85	
DD372018	British Telecom	Phone and internet	74.18	14.83
DD382018	Charge card	Cherry picker hire & misc expenses	454.34	103.66
DD392018	Grundon	Cemetery waste removal	38.08	7.62
DD392018	Grundon	Office waste removal	42.48	8.50
DD402018	HMRC	Tax & National Insurance contributions	2783.85	
DD412018	Castle Water	Water supply for cemetery	40.45	
			15,539.85	1,315.89

Signed: _____ Chairman

Dated: _____