



**MINUTES OF STOW ON THE WOLD MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY 2018, AT THE YOUTH CLUB CENTRE, FOSSEWAY, STOW ON THE WOLD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE GL54 1DW AT 7.15 PM**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: B Eddolls (Chairman), C Smalley, A White, J Scarsbrook, S Green, P Day, J Davies, V Davies, S Clarke, & Mrs H Siphthorp, Clerk/RFO of council and 4 members of the public

**Also in attendance:** Ward County Cllr N Moor

**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: M Curtis, M Moseley & Ward District Cllr D Neill
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 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2018**  
**RESOLVED** – Proposed Cllr White, seconded Cllr Eddolls that the chairman should sign the minutes as a true and accurate record. **RECORD OF VOTING** – 7 in favour, 2 abstentions. **Motion carried.**
4. **TOFFS & TOTTIES CHARITY BIKE RIDE**  
Chairman brought forward this item on the agenda. A representative spoke saying that this year's bike ride will take place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2018 and asked if the council would help cordon off an area for up to 160 bikes to park up in the square around lunchtime. The chosen charity this year is Scoobie Doo.
5. **CLERK'S REPORT & MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF ABOVE MEETING**  
Badham's (Stow Pharmacy) had agreed to have a junction box fitted inside the building to power the defibrillator. Cost awaited from electrician. Clerk also reported that the original defibrillator had finally been picked up and will undergo a service to ensure it had not been damaged by the damp. Clerk had put in a formal proposal, to CDC Property Services, to ask if this council could take over the vacant building adjacent to the public conveniences in the High Street to use as a store. Clearing of ditches in Well Lane. Clerk had established that the works spoken about by a resident had actually taken place in 1994. Clerk to take this up with GCC Highways. The Police do not print crime prevention leaflets any more but there is an informative website. Clerk is now in possession of a key to the barrier at the CDC Mangersbury Road car park. Clerk confirmed that Stow Social Club had been booked for the Annual Town Meeting at 7.00 pm on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Clerk gave thanks to Stow's Brethren for their help in transporting the bags of salt from Back Walls to the Bier House.
6. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
None.
7. **POLICE REPORT**  
Members had been given a hard copy of the police report which gave details of all incidents for the 3 month period to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018. This showed an increase from 31 to 52 incidents if compared with the same period last year.



#### 8. REPORT FROM COTSWOLD DISTRICT CLLR D NEILL

Cllr Neill was unable to attend the meeting and had given her apologies. She had however sent in a written report which the clerk read out. She reiterated that no trees had been removed from the Liberty site, adjacent to Bretton House, apart from those already approved by the CDC Tree Officer. She spoke about the access to this site which has yet to be approved by CDC/GCC and the developer.

She had asked two questions at the last CDC council meeting. The first related to the apparent lack of support that Stow had received over areas that CDC can influence in the town which she attributed to the length of time it is taking to adopt the emerging Local Plan. The other was in relation to S106 contributions. The clerk had also asked what the New Homes Bonus amounted to and for 2018/19 it is £1,845,000, of which CDC will be getting £800K from the two new elderly care developments in the town. Council tax will not increase for new financial year. CDC will also be freezing car parking charges and the charge for green waste disposal.

The way the CDC income is funded is changing and more will be coming from the business rates paid locally and less from central government. CDC had recently consulted on its budget but was disappointed that only 34 residents in the District participated. She is still working with this council to improve the parking situation in the town and said that planning officers support the idea of finding a rural exception site for affordable housing. She ended by saying that a new Enforcement Officer had been employed and hoped that this would mean that any such issues would be dealt with more quickly in the future.

#### 9. REPORT FROM GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CLLR NIGEL MOOR

Cllr Moor began by saying that the budget had been set for the new financial year at £412M which will mean a council tax increase of 4.49% of which 2% is ring fenced for adult care. In addition GCC's capital budget, going forward to 2019, is almost £505M and includes the promised investment of £150M to Highways in addition to broadband, cycling and footways and other essential infrastructure including the roll out of electric car chargers across the county. The Lengthsman Scheme and Highways Local will continue as well as local community budgets for councillors. He urged members to get behind the A417 missing link consultation on the possible route options, organised by Highways England, from 15<sup>th</sup> February to 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018. This could be crucial for the town and the North Cotswolds as he believes with a fast route from M4 to M5 there will be an opportunity to divert HGV's presently using the A429. Following Highways England consultation on the national strategic roads network which did not include the A429, they are now consulting on what would be a second national tier – the major roads network. He went on to say that he was very pleased to advise that this also did not include the A429 as it is still to be classified as a Local Highway. The downside is that any road improvements along the A429 would need to be funded via GCC and S106 contributions but the upside is that the major road network will require signage and provide the opportunity to direct HGV's away from the A429 as map/satellite navigation companies are made aware of the new designation and the need to encourage traffic onto the major roads. He then went on to talk about the planning application for the former Stow Agricultural site saying he had objected to the parking arrangements. He moved onto the Liberty development, adjacent to Bretton House, where talks are ongoing in relation to the access to the site. He thanked the council for their "excellent letter" in relation to this matter which he had forwarded to GCC officers. He ended his report saying Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue carry out nearly 6,000 visits to homes to carry out a "Safe & Well" check. He said he wanted to flag this service up as he felt many in the town could benefit from such a visit. Cllr Moor then took questions. Chairman thanked Cllr Moor for his report and for his continued support and hard work on behalf of the town.

#### 10. TO DISCUSS AND ADOPT REVISED AND UPDATED VERSION OF COUNCIL STANDING ORDERS

**RESOLVED** – Proposed Cllr Day, seconded Cllr Scarsbrook that the council adopt. **RECORD OF VOTING** – All in favour. **Motion carried.**



**11. TO DISCUSS AND ADOPT REVISED AND UPDATED VERSION OF COUNCIL FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

**RESOLVED** – Proposed Cllr Smalley, seconded Cllr White that the council adopt. **RECORD OF VOTING** – All in favour. **Motion carried.**

**12. TO DISCUSS AND ADOPT REVISED AND UPDATED VERSION OF COUNCIL COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**RESOLVED** – Proposed Cllr White, seconded Cllr Eddolls that the Planning, traffic and parking committee membership is reduced from 9 to 6 members effective after Annual Council Meeting in May and that council adopt the document without any further changes. **RECORD OF VOTING** – All in favour. **Motion carried.**

**13. TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF CARRYING OUT A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON HAVING CCTV IN THE TOWN CENTRE**

This was requested to be placed on the agenda by Cllr Curtis. As he was not present it was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting. All in favour.

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

**a) Burial Board**

Cllr Smalley said that the board met on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018. The draft minutes had been circulated and he gave an overview of what had been discussed. He then asked council if the clerk could apply for a grant from the Tesco Carrier Bag fund to go towards the resurfacing of the cemetery pathway from Lych Gate to Bier House instead of towards the Christmas lights. All in favour.

**b) Finance & General Purposes Committee**

Cllr Moseley was not present so no report given.

**i) To approve bank reconciliation to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018**

**RESOLVED** – Proposed Cllr White, seconded Cllr Clarke that the bank reconciliation of £45,806.12 is approved. **RECORD OF VOTING** – All in favour. **Motion carried.**

**ii) To approve expenditure for February 2018 to date**

**RESOLVED** – Proposed Cllr Day, seconded Cllr White that expenditure is approved see Appendix 1 page 103. **RECORD OF VOTING** – All in favour. **Motion carried.**

**iii) Income and expenditure budget comparison with actual up to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018**

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

**c) Parks & Square Committee**

Cllr Green said the committee had not met since the January council meeting. She reminded all members that there was a meeting on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.00 pm to discuss the Christmas Tree Lights switch on event. A letter had been hand delivered to all the businesses in the town inviting them to attend to voice their thoughts/ideas on what the council should organise. Clerk thanked Cllrs J Davies, V Davies & P Day for delivering. She urged all members of council to attend if at all possible. She went on to speak about the Cotswold Clean Up and asked members of council to give consideration to what areas in the town they thought should be tackled and highlight the hot spots in the town for litter. Clerk had already been in touch with local organisations to ask for their help and said that the Community Payback Team could also get involved. The campaign runs from 3<sup>rd</sup> March to 29<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Anyone participating should take a photograph of the area before and after.

Clerk then spoke about Boden, a British fashion company, who want to do a photographic shoot in the town for their children's wear. Clerk suggested that a fee of £500 be requested from the company to go towards the town's Christmas lights. All in favour. Clerk then went on to say that she had been to a meeting with the VIC team earlier in the week. Clerk gave an overview of the meeting which highlighted many new ideas and ventures over the coming months.



**d) Neighbourhood Development Plan Group**

Cllr Day said the plan was currently still going through the Evidence Based Policy Review and Strategic Environmental Assessment. A Skype call with the consultant to be organised to discuss a few questions he has on the plan.

**e) Planning, Traffic & Parking Committee**

Cllr White said the committee had met twice since the last meeting. He said that the minutes had been circulated and had nothing further to add.

**15. DO MEMBERS WISH TO HAVE A COUNCIL MEETING IN AUGUST AND IF THE ANSWER IS NO THEN CONSIDER ADDING THIS TO STANDING ORDERS**

**RESOLVED** – Proposed Cllr White, seconded by Cllr Clarke that the council will not meet in August. Standing Orders will be amended accordingly to reflect this. **RECORD OF VOTING** – All in favour. **Motion carried.**

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

Cllr Day had attended a Local Enterprise Partnership “Gloucestershire 2050” seminar held at Cheltenham Racecourse. He gave an overview of the vision for Gloucestershire up to the year 2050. To name a few they hope to achieve is a Super City by combining Gloucester with Cheltenham, a new airport and a Cyber Park. It was mentioned that there is an influx of over 65’s in the county and it loses more than 400 young people than it attracts each year.

**17. TO DISCUSS THE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED BY COUNCIL**

North Cotswolds Locality Reference Group. It had been suggested by the Practice Manager at Stow Drs Surgery that the council may wish to put forward a representative to sit on this group as other neighbouring parish/town councils already attend. Cllr White volunteered and this was unanimously agreed. Clerk to take appropriate action.

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

None.

**19. MEETING CLOSED:** 8.41 pm.

**20. NEXT MEETING:** Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7.15 pm.

**Appendix 1**

Cheques/Direct Debits				
Cheque no/Direct Debit	Name	Description	Net	VAT
3037	Stow Times	3 advertisements in back issues	860.50	174.50
3038	GAPTC	"Parish on line" digital map seminar	5.00	
3039	Stow Motor Show Committee	Partial grant	1,000.00	
3040	Cottage Garden Services	Tree works in churchyard	1,895.00	379.00
3041	Mr J Wise	January play park litter pick	35.00	



3042	Mr A Chambers	IT support for office	150.00	
3043	Kendall & Davies	Professional fees	190.00	38.00
3044	Mrs C Stamburger	Power for Christmas lights	74.00	
3045	Lucy's Tea Rooms	Power for Christmas lights	74.00	
3046	Mrs G James	Power for Christmas lights	74.00	
3047	Cllr A White	Reimbursement of train fare	14.00	
3048	G Force Fireworks	Deposit firework display for 2018	300.00	
3049	Cotsweb	Hosting of council website plus updates	319.00	
3050	T20 Media	Visitor Information centre website amends	50.00	
3051	MDH Forestry	Removal of Christmas Tree	60.00	12.00
3052	Richard Cogan Ltd	Photocopying	6.59	1.32
3053	Cottage Garden Services	Various maintenance jobs for Parks & square committee	739.00	147.80
3054	Paper Station	Stationery	40.35	8.07
3055	Administration	Staff costs	2,565.68	
3056				
3057	Mr J Wise	Feb play parks litter pick	35.00	
3058	Ms L Burke	Deputy clerk expenses	18.14	
3059	The Old Stocks Hotel	Power for Christmas lights	74.00	
DD482018	British telecom	Phone and broadband	65.35	13.07
DD492018	Grundon	Cemetery waste	40.54	8.11
DD492018	Grundon	Office waste	52.76	10.55
DD502018	Charge card	Cherry picker hire to take down Christmas lights	244.80	48.36
			<b>8,982.71</b>	<b>840.78</b>

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_