



MINUTES OF STOW ON THE WOLD TOWN COUNCIL'S PARKS & SQUARE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24TH JULY 2024, AT STOW YOUTH CENTRE, FOSSEWAY, STOW ON THE WOLD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE GL54 1DW AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillors: A Tighe (Chairman), B Eddolls (Chairman of Council), J Davies, V Davies, A White, S Woods & S Clarke

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Advisor: N Surman and 4 x Members of the Public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr J Scarsbrook (Vice Chairman).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

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 12TH JUNE 2024

RESOLVED to sign the minutes as a correct record. **Motion carried.**

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

6. CLERK'S REPORT AND MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 12TH JUNE 2024

Allotments – Council is in the process of sending letter to tenants who are not working their plots.

ROSPA annual play area safety reports have been reviewed by a working group and a list of priorities has been identified.

CDC consulted Council regarding the placement of a new dog poo bin at the grass triangle at Broadwell turning. Is the committee happy to support this? Members expressed their full support.

Members of the committee have had a look at possible locations for the Battlefield Trust's information board. Council has confirmed it is happy with the preferred location on the grassed area south of the fountain. The Battlefield Trust are now liaising with CDC to progress this.

The Christmas lights have been checked by the Electrician and are set for use, with the exception of a few that were inaccessible at the time. These will be done at a later date.

The Clerk and Cllr Davies have spruced up the noticeboard on St Edwards Hall, with a new cork covering and re-oiled the timber frame.

7. REVIEW OF HATWELLS FUNFAIR AND COMMENTS RECEIVED

Council received a few negative comments, from businesses. Attendance was estimated at approx 200-300 each night and slightly more at the weekend.

Members believe that the funfair is about residents. It is regarded as a tradition to be upheld, bringing people together and involving surrounding villages, but it is important to maintain an equilibrium with the businesses.

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday were considered acceptable.

It was agreed to keep the funfair contained to one side of The Square in future.
Committee members recognised that the Funfair proprietors are very accommodating.
A suggestion to relocate the funfair to King George's Field was considered to be non-practical.
Post Meeting Update: The dates for 2025 fair have been confirmed as 19-21 June, which avoids the dates of the Farmers Market.

8. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM MUSIC AT STOW TO INSTALL ROADSIDE BANNERS TO ADVERTISE THE FESTIVAL IN SEPTEMBER, AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: STOCKS GREEN, THE SHRUBBERY AND WRAGGS ROW GREEN

RESOLVED that Council approves, but with the caveat that they be removed by the posters immediately following the event and that no stickers are to be placed on lamp posts. **Motion carried.**

9. TO REVIEW THE GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT IN THE LIGHT OF THE FORTHCOMING RETENDERING

It was suggested that cutting be delayed until mid-May, to avoid the disturbance of wildlife habitat, but others thought that residents would object to the overgrowth, particularly around the cemetery.

10. TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO INCREASE ALLOTMENT RENT TO £33.00 PER ANNUM

A member of the public questioned the amount, stating that it would collect more than the allotment water bill. It was explained that the Council has numerous other expenses associated with the allotments.

RESOLVED that the allotment rent for 2025 be increased to £33.00. **Motion carried.**

11. TO CONSIDER ANY NEED FOR IMPROVING THE SURFACE OF THE GROUND AT THE GATE TO THE NEW CEMETERY

There was discussion over the effectiveness of possible solutions.

RESOLVED that woodchip would be placed at the site and monitored. **Motion carried.**

12. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM PAGEANT MASTER TO LIGHT A BEACON ON 8TH MAY 2025 TO COMMEMORATE THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY

RESOLVED that the Council votes a unanimous 'YES'. **Motion carried.**

13. TO CONSIDER A REPORT RECEIVED REGARDING THE PAVILION

A report had been submitted by a volunteer. The advice about the need for flame regulation was noted and the options discussed.

RESOLVED that quotations be obtained for the plasterboard option. **Motion carried.**

It was noted that a ramp would be required.

14. CORRESPONDENCE – TO NOTE COMMUNICATON RECEIVED FROM MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC ABOUT ELECTRIC FENCES ON ALLOTMENTS

A member of the public spoke in favour of electric fences on allotments and asked that the prohibition be reviewed. Members noted that it had been decided as a responsible safety measure.

15. TO REVIEW AND ADOPT UPDATED POLICY FOR THE HIRE OF THE QEII FIELD

RESOLVED that the Council approves the policy as circulated. **Motion carried.**

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 4TH SEPTEMBER 2024

17. MEETING CLOSED – 20:02

Signed: _____ Chairman Dated: _____