

Stonehouse Town Council



MINUTES (subject to approval at the next Committee meeting)
OF A MEETING OF THE REGENERATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY 21ST OCTOBER 2013 AT 7PM IN THE TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET,
STONEHOUSE.

Present:

Councillors Rob Waite (Deputy Convenor of Committee)
Simon Lewis (Vice Chair of Town Council)
David Drew
Carol Kambites

In attendance:

Councillor Paul Stephens
Rick Jordan
Anna Creed (part)

K2/53 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

It was noted that Councillors Chris Brine and Clare Sheridan had forwarded their apologies.

K2/54 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Drew wished to record that he is a member of Stroud District Council's Development Control Committee and therefore will take no part in any discussions associated with current planning applications. He also wished to declare a possible interest in Agenda Item K2/60.

Councillor Waite declared an interest in Agenda Item K2/58.

K2/55 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16TH SEPTEMBER 2013

Following a proposition by Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Drew, the Minutes were approved as recorded.

K2/56 REPORTS FROM ACTIONS TAKEN

K2/41 a. CIRS scheme – Ian Crawley has now advised that the funding is only available for schemes which have been completed.

This information was noted.

K2.41 c. CLT Funding – a bid was submitted by the due date but has been turned down.

This information was noted.

K2/42 Javelin Park – a further submission has been made to the Appeals Inspectorate (attached)

This information was noted.

K2/56 Reports from Actions Taken (continued)

K2/43 Local Plan – a response has been sent to the Local Plan team at Stroud District Council (attached).

Having noted this information Members were also informed that the Town Clerk had submitted further comments with regard to difficulties trying to distinguish “1st Tier” and “2nd Tier” settlements due to the lack of easily identifiable colour variations on certain maps.

K2/57 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Councillor Stephens and Rick Jordan were in attendance to report that an Elm Road Community Project group has recently been formed with the intentions of drawing together local people who were keen to pursue a more acceptable solution to the former Church Hall site.

Councillor Waite felt that having held a public consultation to illustrate their revised proposals the developers had also become aware of the need to open up further discussions with the community in order to maximise the future use of the site.

Both Councillors Stephens and Waite indicated their willingness to liaise between the Town Council and the Community Group.

K2/58 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

To receive a report from the Working Group. The Group need to decide about hiring a professional adviser and complete an application for funding from Locality.

Councillor Waite remained in the Chair during the report from the Working Group but having declared his interest in this item he then left the meeting whilst the discussion took place on the hiring of a professional adviser and application for funding.

(1) Councillor Carol Kambites reported that the Working Group have met and agreed specific topics that the Neighbourhood Plan should be broken down into. Councillor Waite has produced a template showing the breakdown of topics – this can be found on “Google docs” – suggestion that Councillor Waite be contacted for assistance with accessing this.

Councillor Waite then left the meeting and Councillor Carol Kambites took the Chair for the second part of this item.

(2) It was noted that initial investigations into hiring a qualified planner had taken place but the candidate felt whilst he was willing to assist where possible he did not have the relevant experience/expertise for the more detailed work required on producing a Neighbourhood Plan. However, it had also been established that the GRCC (Gloucestershire Rural Community Council) are able to provide technical support and therefore it would be beneficial to establish the extent of this.

Following further discussion, **Members present Resolved (a) that GRCC should be commissioned to assist up to the current budget maximum of £3000 and (b) that an application for further funding should be submitted to Locality.**

K2/58 Neighbourhood Plan (continued)

It was also felt that the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group should consider the need to employ an administrator specifically assigned to the Group to co-ordinate all of the work that this particular project will involve. Members present agreed in principle that some of their funding should be used for such a role but will firstly seek further advice from GRCC on this matter.

As there was no further discussion required on this matter Councillor Waite returned to the meeting and resumed the Chair.

K2/59 ELM ROAD CONSULTATION

To receive a report from Councillor Waite on the possibility of community space provision following the public consultation with the developer.

See K2/57 above.

K2/60 RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

To consider a report from Councillor Waite.

Councillor Waite reported that he had been in communication with a renewable energy supplier with a view of looking at alternative ways for the Town Council to produce additional revenue from their premises and land.

It was agreed that this matter should be investigated, possibly with a Scoping Report undertaken by an independent expert. Members also felt that consideration should be given to the inclusion of a budget allocation for 2014/15.

K2/61 TO CONSIDER A DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2014/15

The following draft budget was agreed:

Neighbourhood Plan Professional fees/materials	£4500
Lorry Watch	500
Planning Appeal Support (to act as a Town Council Advocate)	3000
Renewable Energy	5000

K2/62 PLANNING RESULTS

13/1574/FUL	Schlumberger UK (Building B), Brunel Way Construction of 2-off concrete bases, installation of Condenser and Drying Unit, minor re-alignment of site fencing and gates. PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED (Comment)
13/1612/HHOLD	4 Glenthorne Close Extension to existing kitchen and construction of new dormer window. PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED (N.O.)
13/1599/HHOLD	7 Storrington Place Retrospective application for the erection of garden summerhouse. PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED (N.O.)

Continued -

K2/62 Planning Results (continued)

13/1895/TCA

3 Valley View, Lower Mills, Bridgend

Trees in Conservation Area – fell 1 Russet apple tree, 1 plum tree.

CONSENT GRANTED

(Comment)

K3/63 TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF A CHANGE TO THE APPEALS SYSTEM

Members noted the circulated information from the Head of Planning at Stroud District Council. Whilst it was accepted that the changes are being imposed by Central Government concern was expressed about the required timescales and the possible implications for Town Council responses. Bearing this in mind it was felt that the Development Control Panel should consider reverting back to holding meetings more frequently during the 6-weekly cycles in order to ensure that observations are submitted within the required date deadline.

K3/64 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

25 November 2013

This was noted.

No reports available under the headings Traffic Issues/Emergency Plan
