



**MINUTES (subject to agreement at the next Committee meeting) OF A MEETING OF THE REGENERATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 20 MARCH 2017 AT 7PM IN THE TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, STONEHOUSE**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** Carol Kambites (Convenor)  
Tim Jackson (Deputy Convenor)  
Gwen Atkinson  
Ray Clegg  
Pam Swain (Deputy Chair of Council/Deputy Mayor)  
Theresa Watt (Chair of Council/Mayor)

**Committee Clerk:** Rachel Russell

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*Attendees are reminded that the Proceedings of this meeting may be filmed, photographed or recorded.*

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**K2/436 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES**

No apologies were received.

**K2/437 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**K2/438 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 6 FEBRUARY 2017**

The minutes were approved as a true record subject to "+ Nearby Roads" being deleted from Minute K2/418/2/a.

**K2/439 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no call for an adjournment.

**K2/440 HIGHWAYS ISSUES**

**1. Oldends Lane**

a) To report on progress towards road safety improvements.

The Committee Clerk reported that there had been a meeting at Oldends Lane on 23<sup>rd</sup> February attended by Cllrs. Atkinson and Callinan, County Councillor Lesley Williams and Dan Tiffney, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) Local Highways Manager. Dan Tiffney had proposed that GCC carried out 3 crossing surveys on the following areas: close to the level crossing, opposite the playground and near the entrance to Melbourne Road. Dan Tiffney confirmed that GCC did not think Oldends Lane an appropriate site for a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS).

b) To consider request from GCC for a £500 contribution towards the cost of 3 crossing surveys for Oldends Lane.

Dan Tiffney had requested a £500 contribution towards the cost of the 3 crossing surveys for Oldends Lane, total cost estimated to be around £1,000.

It was agreed that a £500 contribution would be made to come from the Committee's road safety budget for 2017/18.

**2. Gloucestershire County Council(GCC) Parking Review:**

a) To note progress towards a GCC Parking Review for Stonehouse.

The Committee Clerk reported that she had sent the Town Council's decision to request that the Parking Review consultation begins with the High Street only option presented by GCC to the GCC Parking Manager on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017 but had received no response to date.

b) To note any progress on improving signage to the town centre car park.

The Committee Clerk reported that GCC have reported that the signs have been ordered.

c) To note information received from Stroud District Council (SDC) regarding use of the town centre car park.

Information received from SDC's Principal Communities and Facilities Officer on 27<sup>th</sup> February was circulated with the agenda. It was agreed:

- to see what effect improved signage on use of the car park before requesting a long stay parking area.
- to ask what the income lost by introducing free after 3pm parking in Stonehouse would be as the data suggests there are few users after this time.
- to inform SDC that recycling bins are still blocking parking spaces and haven't been moved to the hatched spaces.

Cllr. Swain offered to phone the number on the recycling bins to ask for them to be emptied.

### **3. Traffic working group**

To receive a report from Traffic working group.

Cllr. Watt reported that the Traffic Working Group met on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March. The group were surprised to find out from the Stroud News and Journal that Stroud Town Council had made a successful application to the Commissioner's Fund for four VAS, locations to be decided through community consultation and by GCC. The Committee Clerk will find out when this application was made and also contact Dan Tiffney of GCC as different criteria seem to have been used to assess this application compared to Stonehouse Town Council's application.

Ebley Road is still on the police speed report list. Notes of the meeting will be circulated with the next Regeneration and Environment Committee agenda.

### **4. Pedestrian crossing on High Street**

To consider requesting a pedestrian crossing on the High Street between the Old Police Station and Co-op.

It was agreed a request for a crossing was not warranted at this stage as there seems to be growing awareness from road users of the Shared Space since last year's repair work and it was considered too early to make further alterations.

### **5. Proposed alterations to A419**

To receive report on meeting with GCC for alterations to A419.

Cllr Kambites reported on a meeting with Scott Macaulay-Lowe, Team Leader; Major Schemes, GCC Highways and Alex Howarth of Amey on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017 also attended by Cllrs. Atkinson and Watt and the Committee Clerk. The aim of the alterations is to increase the flow of traffic between the Horsetrough roundabout and Chipman's Platt through alterations to these junctions and those at Downton Road and Oldends Lane. The funding, available in 2018/19, for the £4million scheme will come from Gfirst Local Economic Partnership (LEP) and their permission is needed. The work to Chipman's Platt and Oldends Lane will be done first, then Downton Road and the Horsetrough roundabout.

GCC will hold public information sessions in May.

### **K2/441 THE COMMISSIONER'S FUND COMMUNITY FUND**

To note the progress of an application made to this Fund.

The Committee Clerk reported that an e-mail of 10<sup>th</sup> March had been received from the Commissioner's Fund advising that they will assess the Town Council's application for a portable Radar Counter but that all new funding requests will only be processed once the grants awarded last year have been finalised as they are awaiting approval from GCC Highways who are currently updating their VAS policy. The Town Council's application for a VAS will not be processed as it does not have GCC approval (see K2/440/1/a above).

### **K2/442 PROPOSAL BY WESTERN POWER TO RUN AN ELECTRICITY CABLE THROUGH STONEHOUSE TO JAVELIN PARK INCINERATOR**

To agree further actions needed.

Cllr. Kambites reported that she had attended a walk to discuss possible routes for the cable with County Councillor Lesley Williams and Ian Mawdsley from GCC; two routes were discussed:

- Regent St, Laburnum Field, Park Estate, Oldends Field, up Stagholt Lane. There could be some GCC funding for resurfacing of Park Road and Stagholt Lane.
- As above but going through Little Australia.

County Councillor Williams has also walked these routes with a representative of Western Power who expressed some concern about the number of junction and turns required.

Sue Hartley of Standish Parish Council has suggested a third route:

- Side of A419 to Grove Lane, follow maintenance track of M5, enter Javelin Park.

GCC will be agreeing route by the end of the month.

It was agreed that if the decision is to route the cable through the High Street that the Town Council will complain about the major disruption for those living and working in the town.

#### **K2/443 NETWORK RAIL APPLICATION FOR A RAIL CROSSING EXTINGUISHMENT ORDER**

To agree response to Network Rail's application under S118A of the Highways Act 1980 for footpath MST 26 crossing the railway line 185 metres southeast of Stonehouse station

It was agreed that the Town Council do not object to the closure of the crossing 185 metres southeast of Stonehouse station but request that a section of the alternative route on footpath MST 27 near to the entrance to Brown's Lane is resurfaced.

#### **K2/444 BRISTOL ROAD STATION FEASIBILITY STUDY**

To receive a report on progress towards a feasibility study.

Cllr. Watt reported that a timetabling study by Network Rail is due and will be released to GCC.

#### **K2/445 STATION TRAVEL PLAN**

To consider further action in response to information received regarding funding for a Station Travel Plan.

A Station Travel Plan was not considered necessary currently.

#### **K2/446 STATION LINK PATH PROJECT**

1. To receive progress report on work to resurface the section of footpath from the Globe Inn level crossing to the town centre car park and provide signs using to use the grant underspend and GCC Community Match Funding.

The Committee Clerk reported that the resurfacing of the section of footpath from the Globe Inn level crossing to the carpark was complete; the cost of this work would use up the remaining Great Western Railway Grant and around £100 of the £3,000 GCC Match Funding.

2. To receive progress report regarding work to improve accessibility of gate at Queens Road end of path.

The Committee Clerk reported that Gloucester Street Forge, the only contractor who quoted for the revised proposal to improve accessibility of the gate, was unable to do the work before the end of March. Alternative approaches to increasing accessibility had been discussed with Richings Ltd while they were on site. The Committee Clerk to liaise with Richings and Cllr. Powell to discuss proposals and to ask GCC if some of outstanding grant money could be used for this work after March 2017.

#### **K2/447 LIASON RE PLATFORM EXTENSION WORK BURDETT ROAD STATION**

To report on progress.

Cllr. Watt has spoken to a GWR Facilities Manager at the station to explain that the Town Council were concerned about the delay in completing work to build the new ticket office as completion had been promised by 22<sup>nd</sup> December.

The Committee Clerk will contact GWR's head office to express the Town Council's concern regarding the delay in completing this project as parking problems are exacerbated by the

temporary loss of spaces in the car park, causing inconvenience to nearby residents; also, the site looks poor with temporary fencing and toilets greeting those arriving at the station.

### **K2/448 BUS SHELTERS**

1. To report on progress of replacement and refurbishment of bus shelters on High Street and Gloucester Road.

GCC had informed the Committee Clerk that work will start on the Post Office bus stop, and possibly the refurbishment of the two Gloucester Road shelters on 24<sup>th</sup> March; the remaining High Street shelters to be replaced in April after electricity disconnected.

2. To report any response from GCC regarding residents' requests for bus shelters in Bridgend and on Ebley Road.

The Committee Clerk will chase a response from GCC to information she sent about residents' requests for shelters.

### **K2/449 CHANGES TO BUS ROUTES**

To consider response to information from resident that Stagecoach require Town Council response to changes to bus services (loss of afternoon service to Meadow Rd (64), alterations to 66E and S to Gloucester) before considering further changes.

Committee Clerk to contact Stagecoach asking them to look into residents' concerns about changes to bus routes.

### **K2/450 SURVEY OF BT KIOSKS**

To consider carrying out a survey of BT Kiosks in Stonehouse.

Committee Clerk to contact BT regarding the poor condition of the kiosk on the Town Green and to ask if it could be replaced, possibly with a red box.

### **K2/451 FUTURE OF TOWN CENTRES DRAFT REPORT FROM STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL (SDC)**

To consider an initial response to a draft report received from SDC.

The Town Clerk has arranged a meeting with David Lowin of SDC regarding this report at 5.15pm on 10<sup>th</sup> April. It was agreed that Councillors from the Regeneration and Environment Committees and Finance and Strategy Committees would meet at the Town Hall, 6pm, Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April to consider the report and possible actions to improve High Street vitality.

### **K2/452 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) PARISH /TOWN INFORMATION SESSION**

To receive report on Stroud District Council CIL information session of 7 March 2017.

Cllr. Kambites reported back from this session; a copy of the presentation was circulated with the agenda. The CIL policy will be in effect from 1 April 2017; parishes will receive 15% of CIL from relevant developments in their area, 25% where there is an agreed neighbourhood plan. CIL can be spent on larger infrastructure projects benefitting a whole area. Parishes must give a yearly report on receipts and spend within 5 years.

### **K2/453 HOUSING WHITE PAPER CONSULTATION**

To consider response to the current Housing White Paper.

Cllr. Kambites to respond on behalf of the Town Council supporting measures proposed to fill empty houses and second homes, discourage land banking and increase amount of affordable housing; also to suggest that affordable housing should stay affordable.

### **K2/454 GCC PLANNING WATERCOURSE MAPPING PROJECT**

To note any further information received.

Cllrs. Watt and Atkinson and the Committee Clerk met on 20 March with Peter Siret and Sophie Reid of GCC and David Lesser of SDC regarding watercourse mapping and possible Town Council involvement in identifying problems and advising riparian owners of their responsibilities.

It was agreed that the Town Council would not be contacting owners directly but would provide signposting information on the Town Council's website.

## **K2/455 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE**

To receive minutes and a progress report.

Minutes of 12 January 2017 and 9 February 2017 were circulated with the agenda. Cllr Kambites reported that the draft Neighbourhood Plan and submission documents had been submitted to Stroud District Council on 17 March 2017. Stonehouse Neighbourhood Plan Group and the Committee Clerk were thanked for their work to reach this milestone.

## **K2/456 COMMITTEE EXPENDITURE**

To check current balances against budget.

It was noted that current expenditure from the Regeneration and Environment Committee's budget was £9,975.66; current expenditure from grants received was £8,450.80. Total expenditure was £18,426.46.

It was requested that the title "Network Rail Grant" in the budget information be changed to "GWR Grant".

## **K2/457 PLANNING RESULTS (RECEIVED FROM STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL)**

(For Members' information - the letter in brackets are an indication of the Town Council observations. N.O. = No Observations/OBJ = Object/SUPP = Support/DNO or Supp = Do Not Object or Support)

**16/2088/FUL 60 High Street, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, GL10 2NA.**

Proposed conversion, extension and alterations of workshop to residential accommodation to be used as part of the existing dwelling house and roof alterations to existing kitchen.

**SUPP. CONSENT**

**16/2781/LBC 77 Regent Street, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, GL10 2AA.**

Demolition of boundary wall and erection of fencing.

**COMMENT REFUSAL**

**16/2890/TCA Double Lock Cottage, Ryeford Road North, Ryeford, Stonehouse.**

Trees in a Conservation Area: T1 Cherry - fell and replace. T2 Apple - fell and replace. T3, T5 and T7 Apple - prune to a more manageable size and encourage new growth. T4 Sycamores - coppice. T6 Apple - fell.

**CONSENT**

**15/0768 Land at Wharfdale Way, Bridgend**

Erection of 9 dwellings with associated hard and soft landscaping.

**COMMENT WITHDRAWN**

**16/2389/VAR Site Of Former Lyndian, Oldends Lane, Stonehouse,**

Variation of Condition 2 - Roof Tiles, ref. 15/1126/FUL

**N.O CONSENT**

**16/2762/FUL The Old Spa Inn, Spa Road, Stonehouse**

Divide dwelling to provide additional residential unit

**N.O CONSENT**

**16/2896/HHOLD 27 Ryelands Road, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, GL10 2PG.**

Single storey rear extension, dormer windows to front and rear roof slopes.

**N.O CONSENT**

**16/2850/LBC The Old Thatched Cottage, 1 High Street, Stonehouse.**

Replacement of existing windows with existing style. Single glazed thickness 4mm glass

**N.O CONSENT**

**17/0187/TCA Gloucestershire County Council, Bristol Road** Trees in a Conservation Area: T1-T23

Fell to ground level.

**SUPPORT CONSENT**

## **K2/458 DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS**

**2 May 2017**