



Minutes (subject to agreement at the next Committee meeting) of a virtual meeting on Microsoft TEAMS of the own Environment Committee held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 at 7pm.

**Present:** Councillors Debbie Curtis, Neil Gibbs (Chair/Town Mayor), Tim Jackson (Deputy Convenor), Carol Kambites (Convenor, Vice Chair/Vice Mayor), John Parker, Jennie Smith

**In attendance:** Rachel Russell, Deputy Clerk (Minutes)

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## **A G E N D A**

### **E/260 To receive apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr. Kevin Parsons.

### **E/261 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **E/262 To approve the minutes of the Town Environment Committee meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

The minutes of 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were approved as a true record. All in favour.

### **E/263 To comment on planning applications as listed**

**21/0198/LBC** 11 Court Farm Mews, Bristol Road, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire.

Replacement windows and doors

**SUPPORT:** The provision of windows and doors with improved insulating properties is supported.

**21/0290/VAR** Spa Inn, Oldends, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire.

Variation of condition 3 (Approved plans) of Permission S.16/2762/FUL.

Amendments include alterations to garage extension

No observations.

The following application was received after the agenda was prepared:

**21/0352/HHOLD** 55 Regent Street, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, GL10 2AA.

Single storey extension to rear and enlargement of dormer to rear.

**COMMENT:** No objections provided there are no objections from neighbours.

### **E/264 To receive a report on planning decisions received from Stroud District Council, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 to 12 February 2021**

The report was noted.

**E/265 To agree response to pre-application planning consultation on Land North West of Stonehouse**

The following response was agreed:

The development should include a direct walking and cycling route to Stonehouse rather than relying on access to the town through the Oldends Lane level crossing.

Existing hedgerows, trees, public rights of way and footways should be retained.

Tree planting and landscaping schemes should be high quality and sustainable. All trees and planting should be appropriate for the location, and aftercare and maintenance must be considered. Trees and other plants should be sourced from nurseries with appropriate biosecurity credentials; UK-grown where possible or, if imported, then quarantined for an appropriate period of time.

The outline map shows play areas and all green public spaces located on the edge of the development. Play areas should be better integrated into the development within sight of housing. Further green space should also be incorporated within the housing development, including public green space.

Careful consideration should be given as to whether a new school is required. There is a new primary school in Great Oldbury and existing schools in Stonehouse.

Consideration should be given to ensuring that the design of the housing aims for zero carbon development, sustainable construction techniques and provision of renewable or low carbon energy sources in line with draft Local Plan Strategic Objective SO5: Climate Change and Environmental Limits and draft Core Policy CP8 New Housing Development.

The scheme should incorporate appropriate Sustainable Drainage Measures (SuDs).

**E/266 To receive update on Safer High Street temporary parking order and consider revised quotation for construction of planters**

The report was noted.

The quotation from Share and Repair of £2,124 to provide the six planters was approved, subject to confirmation that the cost of £400 for labour still stands. Additional spending on capillary matting also approved so long as it within the Street Furniture budget. Stonehouse Town Council Maintenance team will add the reservoirs and piping. All in favour.

**E/267 To receive an update on progress towards re-opening Stroudwater (Bristol Road, Stonehouse) Station.**

The report was noted. Cllr Kambites reported that Cllr Watt had recently given talks on the proposed station at the Stonehouse Community Climate Action Forum Online event and a Stroud District Youth Council meeting.

**E/268 To receive a report on the Committee budget**

The report was noted.

**E/269 To receive a report on the proposal for air pollution monitoring received from the Stonehouse Community Climate Action Forum and approve order.**

The report from the Deputy Clerk confirmed that Somerset Scientific Services were a specialist supplier so alternative quotations were not required: Stroud District Council advised that using this supplier would ensure the results would be consistent across Stroud District, Stroud Town Council and Stonehouse Town Council.

The quotation from Somerset Scientific Services for monitoring 10 sites at £696 exclusive of VAT with a one off cost of £22 and £7.95 postage was **approved** provided there is no significant increase in cost since the quotation was obtained. All in favour. Stonehouse Climate Action Forum to confirm sites for monitoring.

**E/270 To note award of grant from GWR Communities Fund**

The award of £2,000 for tree planting around Stonehouse Station was noted. Councillor Parker was thanked for his work on the application. The project needs to be completed within a year of receiving the grant; planting will be in Autumn/Winter 2021.

**E/271 To receive report from meeting with Creative Sustainability on Canal restoration, tourism and economic development.**

Councillors Kambites, Swain and Watt and the Deputy Clerk met with Hannah McDonnell of Creative Sustainability on 12<sup>th</sup> February mainly to discuss respective walk mapping projects (Canal walking route maps, Wild Towns Walking maps). Hannah gave some outline information regarding proposed Tourism Officer post.

**E/272 To agree attendance at a Great Oldbury community meeting 8 March 2021**

Councillor Kambites' offer to attend was accepted.

**E/273 To receive reports from working groups:**

**Events, High Street, Transport and Highways**

No reports were received. Events group due to meet soon. Highways issues are being dealt with by Local Highways Manager, so no urgent need for a working group meeting.

**E/274 To receive an update from In Bloom**

Councillor Curtis reported that Stonehouse In Bloom had held an AGM. Gary Powell stood down as Chair; Councillor Swain is now Chair of In Bloom.

**E/275 Date of next Environment Committee meeting: 22 March 2021**