

# Stockbridge Parish Council



## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023 AT 7:30PM AT THE STOCKBRIDGE TOWN HALL, STOCKBRIDGE

**Present:** Cllrs D Halle (Chair), A Marshall, D Smith, M Porter, R Foord

Cllrs D Drew

**Apologies:** Cllrs H Jackson, F Parr, B Powell, M Nadal, I Jeffery

**Clerk:** Belinda Baker

**Public attendance:** Four

**C/23/126** **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Jackson, Parr, Powell, Nadal and Jeffery. The Clerk said she would continue to advertise the Co-option position.

**Action: Clerk**

**C/23/127** **To receive declarations of pecuniary interests (DPIs) and other significant interests from members concerning items on the agenda**  
There were none.

**C/23/128** **Public Participation**

Three members of public were present to talk about item 5 on the Agenda. The third regarding a planning matter

**C/23/129** **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**a. To approve and sign the minutes of 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023.**

These were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

**b. To deal with matters arising not on the agenda**

- There was a TVAPTC meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> November. A Cllr was asked to attend.
- The Clerk showed the Council the list of S106 money available at TVBC that she had recently received.

**c. To deal with any correspondence**

Cllr Halle said he had written to the Scouts to ask for their help at Lancaster House.

**C/23/130** **River Test Pollution – Working Group with other Parishes**

Two Cllrs from Houghton PC spoke to say they had been approached by a resident who had asked the PC to purchase a Water Monitor to monitor the sewage spills that came through the village in the River Test. A Working Group had been set up to look into the causes of the spills and to determine the direct benefit of this equipment to the community. They wanted to set up a Pan Parish group from around the River Test, to explore ways the problem could be tackled

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and to speak to those discharging the waste with one voice. Cllr Halle commented that discharges from upstream did not go unnoticed in Stockbridge. He thanked the attendees from Houghton PC. The Council agreed unanimously that it was appropriate for Stockbridge PC to join the WG.

**Action: Clerk**

Three members of the public left the meeting.

### **C/23/131** **Borough and County Councillor Reports**

i Cllr Drew spoke to highlight the Meals on Wheels service and the Community pantry network. He said HCC was undertaking a post 16 school transport consultation. He said Adult Social Care was taking up a considerable proportion of the HCC budget. The HCC minerals and waste plan was being produced. He commented the Govt had revised the way household waste was to be collected. TVBC had a plan to go to 1-2-3 weekly collections but this was considered too complicated and the Govt was looking at ways the bins could be combined. He said it would involve more vehicles and be more expensive.

ii Cllr Jeffery had sent a report, there were no questions.

### **C/23/132** **Planning**

#### **a. New applications – to agree responses**

Number	Address	Description	Expiry Date
23/02838/FULLN	The Coach House Old London Road Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EJ	Replacement of conservatory roof, alterations to walls, new french doors and windows	8/12/23
The Council had no objections			
23/02673/FULLN	Beechdean Old London Road Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EJ	Install access door to rear, replace roof and roof lights.	17/11/23
The Council had no objection and supported the application			

#### **b. To note recent decisions**

Number	Address	Description	Result
21/02064/FULLN	Greyhound On The Test High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EY	Demolition and replacement of existing fishing hut (re-submission of 18/01444/FULLN)	Refuse

#### **c. To note decisions awaited**

Number	Address	Description	Date
23/02549/TREEN	Manor Farm House Trafalgar Way Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6ET	T1 - Yew - Reduce by up to 2m	27/10/23
23/02476/FULLN	Grosvenor Hotel High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EU	Retention of pergola over wood fired oven prep area	27/10/23

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23/02423/LBWN	Grosvenor Hotel High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EU	Regularisation application for creation of treatment room for hotel guests including addition of timber cladding to interior walls, a timber skirting board, plasterboard ceiling, power points, LED downlights and sink	23/02423/LBWN
23/02584/REJN	Kent Hill Hall High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EU	Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: Installation solar photovoltaics (PV) equipment on the roofs of a non-domestic building	03/11/23
23/02567/TREEN	3 Trafalgar Way Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6ET	T1 - Pear - Re-prune back to pre-existing cuts by removing the 1 metre regrowth shoots, T2 - Crab Apple - Re-prune back to the pre-existing cuts T3 - Victoria Plum - Re-prune back to the pre-existing cuts by removing the circa 0.5-1 metre regrowth shoots, and future cyclical management request	31/10/23
23/02259/FULLN	Green Place Little Somborne Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6HW	Erection of 1.5-storey extension, replacement of window to west-elevation and infill of void	29/09/23
23/02260/LBWN	Green Place Little Somborne Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6HW	Erection of 1.5-storey extension, replacement of window to west-elevation and infill of void	29/09/23

### d. Enforcement

There were none. The Clerk asked Cllr Drew if TVBC could adopt WCC method of notifying enforcement issues to the PC's.

The member of public left the meeting.

### C/23/133 Stockbridge High Street

#### a. Disabled parking signage

An email from Cllr Adams-King had been circulated before the meeting. He said that HCC would not be prepared to progress this matter. He said that TTRO's (C/23/109) were open to legal challenges. Cllr Drew explained that the problem wasn't a financial issue but a resource one. Cllr Halle said he did not accept this. He said this provision for disabled access was required in Stockbridge. The Clerk was asked to write to the MP Caroline Noakes and go back to Cllr Adams-King to request that the matter would be dealt with in due course.

**Action: Clerk**

#### b. Installation of crossing between Co-op and Greengrocer

HCC had asked the Council to engage with the Co-op to get their support because their delivery gate may be compromised. Cllr Halle said he had approached the Co-op Area Management for a meeting.

**Action: Cllr Halle**

#### c. Update on HCC's parking survey

There was no update from HCC.

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### d. **Update from VDS WG**

Cllr Nadal had written to TVBC to enquire if the changes she was proposing would be considered updates or would require a consultation process.

### e. **Paving outside Broughton Crafts**

The paving outside Broughton Crafts had been re-laid to match the original paving.

### C/23/134 **Safety Old London Rd Project**

Cllr Porter said he was setting up a meeting between the School, Old London Rd residents and the Cllrs.

**Action: Cllrs Porter, Halle and Powell**

### C/23/135 **Farmers' Market in Stockbridge proposal**

An email requesting that Stockbridge held a Farmers' Market was circulated before the meeting. Cllr Foord said the project would make parking even worse. Cllr Smith acknowledged there was a history of these events in Stockbridge but was not in favour. The Council was voted unanimously against the idea.

**Action: Clerk**

### C/23/136 **Resilience -Flooding preparation**

#### a. **Drainage**

Cllr Halle commented that when blocked drains were noticed it was important to refer them to HCC's Report It via their website. He said Stockbridge coped reasonably well with the recent downpours. The Clerk said the newsletter would carry an article about coping with winter rains.

**Action: Clerk**

#### b. **Consider proposal for new bund/dam north of Stockbridge**

Cllr Foord had circulated an email before the meeting requesting the Council considers installing a bund/dam to hold back floodwater. He said this would help deal with catastrophic flooding. Cllr Halle queried if the action taken after 2014 was sufficient but Cllr Foord said those mitigations had been dug to alleviate the problem at the time and had not dealt with the present situation. Cllr Foord suggested appointing a hydrologist to produce a report to assess the threats to Stockbridge and what could be done about them. Cllr Smith voiced support for this approach. Cllr Halle commented that the present defences were agreed with the EA but not with a hydrologist. The Clerk said flood defences were not a Parish Council's responsibility and a PC was not legally allowed to spend any money on such matters. She said she would verify this with the Auditor. The Council agreed unanimously to ask the Clerk to obtain 3 quotations from Hydrologists.

**Action: Clerk**

### C/23/137 **Christmas event**

The proposed expenditure for the Christmas lights was circulated before the

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meeting. This was agreed. It was noted that donations were less than last year. The Clerk said she had made a grant application to TVBC with Ms Lownie

C/23/138

### Cemetery

#### a. **Consider boundary for residential qualification**

Cllr Smith advised that the St. Peter's Church parish boundary differed from the legal Parish boundary. He asked the Council to use the Church boundary as a residential qualification for use of the cemetery albeit with a higher charge. This was unanimously agreed.

**Action: Cllr Smith, Clerk**

#### b. **Size of interments**

Cllr Smith asked the Council to agree that the ashes interments could be placed closer together for better use of space. He said the prices ought to rise in May. These proposals were agreed.

**Action: Cllr Smith**

C/23/139

### Infrastructure -update on Council projects

#### a. **Phone Boxes**

These had not yet been painted due to the weather conditions.

#### b. **Blandford Row Pocket Park**

Sparsholt College had invited Cllrs to see the student's work. Cllr Smith, Halle and Marshall and the Clerk would attend.

**Action: Cllrs Halle, Smith, Marshall and Clerk**

#### c. **Cycle Path**

The Clerk had contacted the probation service for those doing community service to undertake the clearing of the path.

**Action: Clerk**

#### d. **Defibrillator**

Cllr Halle confirmed the Football Club were getting an external defibrillator.

C/23/140

### Budget for 24/25

The proposed budget for 24/25 as agreed by the Working Group had been circulated before the meeting. Cllr Halle commented that the Clerk's salary included 2.5hrs for the newsletter he suggested putting this amount into the newsletter budget in case the newsletter was ever cancelled and the Clerk's hours could be reduced. The Clerk objected to this. She pointed out that 10hrs a week was reasonable in comparison with other Councils who had a similar precept. She said the Council should look at it that the Clerk did 10 hrs work for the Council and they got the newsletter for free. This was agreed. Cllr Halle asked that the HALC membership should be increased by £170 so it would include HR support. This was agreed and included in the budget. The Precept of £24320 was agreed unanimously for 24/25.

**Action: Clerk**

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- C/23/141**      **Community Asset – Fields south of the High Street**  
There was no update.
- C/23/142**      **SLR and Speedwatch**  
The Clerk and Cllr Halle had both chased an HCC officer to attend to verify the SID sites. The Clerk was asked to forward the emails to Cllr Drew to chase.  
**Action: Clerk, Cllr Drew**
- C/23/143**      **80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day**  
Cllr Halle confirmed he had no response from the National Trust concerning using Stockbridge Down as a venue for a beacon.  
**Action: Cllr Halle**
- C/23/144**      **Lancaster House**
- a. Agree Terms of Reference for Working Group**  
The terms of reference drawn up by the Clerk were agreed. The Council agreed the Working Group membership would be Cllrs Marshall, Halle and Smith. It was agreed to reach out to the community for other members. The Clerk had made contact with TVBC Nature Reserve officers and the Woodland Trust. These were to be forwarded to the WG.  
**Action: Clerk**
  - b. Consider signage requirements**  
The Council agreed a warning sign would be appropriate. The Clerk suggested using the wording on the sign at the Cemetery. She was asked to provide suitable wording from that source.  
**Action: Clerk**
- C/23/145**      **Council Communications**
- a. Agree December newsletter**  
Christmas lights, resilience and drainage, Shoots along Routes, Lancaster House, Community Market Surgeries, Meals on Wheels and Unity grocery were agreed.  
**Action: Clerk**
  - b. Engagement Surgeries at Community market**  
The Community Market had agreed to allow the Council to hold a Surgery there once a month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month commencing in February 2024. The Clerk was asked to draw up rota.  
**Action: Clerk**
  - c. Agree meeting dates and times for next year**  
The meeting dates for the following year were agreed. The Council agreed the move the start time to 7:15pm.  
**Action Clerk**
- C/23/146**      **Village Amenities to provide update**
- a. Lengthsman tasks and Maintenance**  
Cllr Marshall said that the bench outside the Church was being re-



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vanished.

**Action: Cllr Marshall**

### b. Receive playground inspection report

The quarterly inspection report from Vitaplay had been circulated before. Cllr Foord commented that the report was recommending that the boards would need replacing soon. Cllr Foord was asked to take the litter bin in the play area out of action.

**Action: Cllr Foord**

**C/23/147**

### Finance

#### a. Recent Transactions – to approve income and expenditure since last meeting

Income and payments 85-96 were circulated ahead of the meeting and were reviewed and approved. Income was from Stockbridge Town Hall and St. Peter's Church for the Xmas fund. Cllrs noted expenditure against bank statements.

Opening bank balance		77280.84
St. Peter's Church (Xmas fund)	Income	250
Stockbridge Town Hall	Income	1000
Hugo Fox (website)	85	11.99
B Baker (Salary + lengthsman -tax – pension)	86	707.06
Standard Life (Clerk's pension)	87	21.14
Derek Halle (Dog bags)	88	33.98
OVO energy (Milsom light)	89	18.92
Test Valley Parents Assoc (grant c/23/122d)	90	25
STHC (Hall Hire)	91	19.50
Oliver Hawkins (weed cut)	92	64
HCC (Street lighting)	93	762.94
Shane Ling (Lengthsman - Oct)	94	1739
Vitaplay (Playground inspection)	95	67.80
YMML (Clerk's Office)	96	36
Closing Balance		75023.55

#### b. To approve budget year to date.

Expenditure against budget was reviewed, approved and agreed.

#### c. Agree Clerk's pay increase as per NALC recommendations

The Council agreed to pay the Clerk the NALC agreed pay rise of £1 an hour. The Council agreed to back date this to the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

**Action: Clerk**

#### d. Agree new Council Savings Account

The Council agreed to apply for an Instant Access savings account with

Unity Bank.

C/23/151	<p><b><u>Items for next agenda and date of next meeting</u></b></p> <p>The next Council meeting is due to be held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at the Town Hall. At the December meeting the agenda is minimised. Items for the Agenda:</p> <p>Planning</p> <p>Newsletter</p>
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The meeting closed at 9:50pm.

Signed.....

Date.....