

STINCHCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 26TH MAY 2021 AT 7.30PM
IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present

Mrs M Shaw (Parish Councillor)
Mrs D. Davidson (Parish Councillor)
Mr S. Packer (Chair) (via Zoom)
Ms K. Hudson (Vice Chair)
Mr I. Kirkham (Parish Councillor)
Mrs N. Bradley (Clerk)

In Attendance

Ms C. Braun (District Councillor)
Ms L. Cohen (County Councillor)
Mr C. Oakhill (Resident)
Mr J. Pinch (Resident)
Mr R. Batty (Resident)
Ms T. Chinn (Resident)
Mr R. Cullimore

As Mr Packer could not be present in person, Ms Hudson opened the meeting and welcomed all present. She congratulated the village on the very successful Open Gardens weekend

1) Apologies

Mr G. James (District Councillor)
Mr K. Tucker (District Councillor)

2) DPI Declarations and Dispensations

Ms Hudson declared her involvement in the History Society and its plans for a Heritage Walk. It was agreed that this would not raise any problems. (130/21)

3) Approval of Minutes of the annual General Meeting Held on 26th May 2021

Acceptance of the minutes of the AGM was proposed by Mr Kirkham, seconded by Ms Hudson and carried unanimously. They were duly accepted and signed. (131/21)

4) Matters Arising From the Minutes

- The post of flood warden is still vacant. Ms Hudson has drafted a job description and will post it on Enews [Action Ms Hudson](#). (132/21)
- Mr L. Bradley has volunteered to represent the Council on Dursley United Charities. (133/21)
- Mr Packer has spoken to Mr Lawfull regarding the activity at the entrance and has agreed to allow him some extra time to clear the site. This is ongoing. [Action Mr Packer](#). (134/21)
- The second swing has been reinstated. (135/21)
- Mr Packer has looked into prices for a new flagpole. A wooden one would cost c. £1,200 - £1,300 while a steel or fibreglass one would be c. £150 - £200. It was agreed to buy a fibreglass pole and Mr Packer will continue to research and make a selection. [Action Mr Packer](#). (136/21)
- The Clerk has registered a complaint with Severn Trent regarding the leaks on Taits Hill Road and has received two assurances that this will be investigated with an update by 15th July. She will follow this up as necessary before the next meeting. [Action Clerk](#). (137/21)
- Ms Hudson posted an item on Enews about the possibility of Stinchcombe declaring a Climate Change Emergency but has received no responses. (138/21)

5) Reports by County and District Councillors

Ms Cohen's report is attached. (139/21)

The District Councillors' latest report is also attached. Cllr Braun adds that the recent Boundary

Commission plans have been generally well-received. The Cam and Dursley infrastructure plan for walking and cycling is not likely to include Stinchcombe, but associated changes in the wider area could help to improve road safety. (140/21)

6) Planning Matters

New since last meeting

- S.21/1598/P3Q, Barn At Taits Hill, conversion of existing agricultural building into two residential dwellings. Resubmission of S.20/1286/P3Q . (141/21)
- S.21/1563/HHOLD, Overdale House, Taits Hill, erection of garden room, retaining wall, extension and extension to driveway and patio. Installation of outdoor stores. There is considerable concern about the extent and scope of work involved which has been in progress for several months before registration of this application. It was agreed to raise this with Planning enforcement as well as to register an objection and ask for the application to be called in to the Development Control Committee if necessary. [Action Clerk.](#) (142/21)
- S.21/1231/TCA, Tumbling Fields, Echo Lane, T1 Willow Tree – fell. Approved. (143/21)

Decided since last meeting

- S.21/0860/HHOLD, Forge Cottage, Taits Hill Road, installation of window to first floor side elevation. Permission. (144/21)
- S.21/0852/OUT, land adjoining Churchfield House, Echo Lane, outline application for the erection of a single dwelling, all matters reserved except access. Refusal. (145/21)
- S.21/0931/HHOLD, Hillside House Stinchcombe Hill, Erection of conservatory. Permission. (146/21)
- S.21/0961/LBC, The Old Parsonage Wick Lane, restoration works to existing windows. Approved. (147/21)
- S.21/1209/CPL Forge Cottage Taits Hill Road, use of land to station a mobile home granny annexe for use incidental to the main dwelling (resubmission). Permission. (148/21)

Still Undecided

- S.21/1195/TPO Hillside House Stinchcombe Hill, Reduce 6 beech trees by roughly 4.5 metres to a height of 25.5 metres, fell beech tree with large wound half way up to a monolith. (149/21)

Mr Cullimore explained his plans to set up a football coaching business on approx two acres of family farmland between the Prince of Wales and LorrIDGE Farm on the A38 which would involve a change of use for which he has submitted a pre-application. He has seven years' experience of coaching with Cam Everlands, Forest Green Rovers and Cheltenham Town and plans to offer coaching and counselling to small groups (10-15) and on a one-to-one basis in school holidays and after-school hours with a focus on teenagers. Access is already available and in addition to a full-sized pitch he plans to install a storage container for equipment and a portable cabin for teaching etc. The plans were very well-received and the Council is supportive and looks forward to seeing the application. (150/21)

7) Footpaths and Rights of Way

The bridle path has become very badly overgrown and difficult to pass. The landowners, Mr Weston and the rugby Club are responsible for cutting back though this may not be possible while birds are nesting. Ms Hudson will get in touch with Mr Weston on receipt of his phone number from Mrs Shaw. [Action Ms Hudson and Mrs Shaw.](#) (151/21)

Mr Packer has spoken to Mr Kendall about the paths on his land at Standle Lane. Mr Kendall is keen to reopen the blocked footpath and wants to install kissing gates. Mr Packer will continue to liaise with him. [Action Mr Packer.](#) (152/21)

Mr Packer has also had a productive meeting with Ms Lawton about the ongoing problems regarding the use of footpaths on Piers Court land. (153/21)

Mr Pinch explained the History Society's plans for a Heritage Walk which would publicise the village's historical and architectural heritage. The walk, on pavements and existing public footpaths, would be marked on a map illustrated with drawings of 23 houses and landmarks displayed in the Village Hall with an anodised aluminium version in the phone box. It would be aimed at locals rather than to bring outsiders in. There would be a launch event, possibly including the sale prints of the original drawings. The owners of all the properties concerned are supportive of the project except Piers Court. After considerable discussion the PC asked Mr Pinch to delay introduction of the walk until September. Mr Packer will write to Ms Lawton to update her and ask if this would allow her enough time to look at the feasibility of re-routeing the footpath, with an invitation to attend the next PC meeting. Ms Hudson will contact the police officer who has dealt with Ms Lawton's complaints to establish the current situation. [Action Mr Packer and Ms Hudson.](#) (154/21)

8) Highways

Mrs Shaw has shown Cllr Cohen the small wall at the junction of Old Hill Lane and Clingre Down which is causing problems for larger vehicles and several drivers have scraped their vehicles whilst negotiating the corner. Cllr Cohen will speak to the landowner and point out the possibility of litigation if the wall is not removed and causes further damage. [Action Cllr Cohen and Mrs Shaw.](#) (155/21)

There is a recurrent problem with flooding in the area around the War Memorial, caused by a blocked drain there and another further up the hill. Cllr Cohen will liaise with Mr Kirkham and arrange for Mr Helbrow to come and look into the problem. [Action Cllr Cohen and Mr Kirkham.](#) (156/21)

Ms Hudson reported that the Speed Watch good practice meeting will take place on 29th July and thanked Cllrs Braun and Cohen for their support in setting it up. Ms Hudson and Mr Delafield, as Secretary and Chair of Stinchcombe Speed Watch, will attend on behalf of Stinchcombe. They hope the meeting will help to expedite the applications for a mobile vehicle-activated sign and for a review of the speed limit on Berkeley Road. Another aim is to develop partnership working and possibly equipment sharing with other parishes. [Action Ms Hudson.](#) (157/21)

The first Speedwatch AGM will take place on 29th September. Speed monitoring on The Street has begun with the assistance of veterans of the Taits Hill Road monitoring campaign. It is disappointing that only two residents of The Street are currently taking part Ms Hudson will ask for more help via Enews. [Action Ms Hudson.](#) (158/21)

9) Facilities

The litter bin has been ordered but there are delays in delivery times though receipt should be in three-four weeks. (159/21)

It was agreed that the broken noticeboard at Old Hill Lane should be replaced with another wooden one and the Clerk and Mrs Shaw have spoken to Mr Pinch about the possibility of his providing this. He is willing either to do it himself or to find someone else who can do it more quickly. This is ongoing. [Action Clerk](#) (160/21)

Ms Hemming has reported by email that there is now a good sized working party to take the projected playground improvements forward. The rugby club is very supportive and have agreed to provide the required land at a nominal rent. It was agreed that the PC should continue to be responsible for insuring the equipment and for the annual safety inspection. However, a Playground Warden should be appointed as a more comprehensive system of regular checking will be needed and it would make sense for this to be a member of the working group who are likely to be making regular use of the equipment. The PC has allocated £500 towards costs but the group should be responsible for further fundraising as well as for applying for planning permission. The Clerk will

respond to Ms Hemming's email. [Action Clerk](#) (161/21)

10) Environment

The survey of wildflowers on verges is ongoing with Wick Lane and the bridle path having been covered so far. Ms Hudson will post more information on Enews. [Action Ms Hudson](#). (162/21)

11) Financial Matters

The Statement of Receipts and Payments was signed by Ms Hudson. (163/21)

Authorisation for payment of £207.60 for the litter bin and an insurance premium of £424.08 was proposed by Ms Hudson, seconded by Mrs Davidson and carried unanimously. (164/21)

12) Councillors' Reports

Mrs Shaw pointed out that the verges on Old Hill Lane need cutting back and that the footway to Newnham House is impassable. (165/21)

13) Items for Website

Ms Hudson will post items on Enews about wildflowers and the Flood Warden vacancy. [Action Ms Hudson](#). (166/21)

14) Dates of Next Meeting

Wed 1st September 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Stinchcombe Parish Council

July 7th 2021

1. The last few weeks have mainly been taken up with the County Council AGM and the necessary introductions and training for the various committees. A full report will follow at the end of July.

I have been appointed to the Gloucestershire Health Overview Scrutiny Committee, The Planning Committee and The Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee. I am the Liberal Democrat's spokesperson for Education.

2. I intend to hold monthly meetings to allow residents to meet and discuss concerns and new initiatives. The first meeting will be at The Keepers on Symn Lane in Wotton on Saturday 17th July at 10.30am. It would be useful if this information could also be shared on the Parish Council website.

3. Greenway - I have attended the Greenway Project meetings and actively support the re-opening of Charfield Station and the creation of a walkway to link Wotton with Charfield and Kingswood.

4. Road safety / speed controls - I am involved in and support the initiative for parish and town councils across the district to share information and to explore best practice together. I have met with Paul Helbrow, Local Highways Manager to explore creative ways to use limited budget to best effect.

The recent incident in Charfield highlights the need for a proactive rather than reactive strategy. We need to be mindful of the changes of the use of our roads and be alert to resident and visitor behaviour patterns post lockdown.

5. Highways Local - This is an initiative which focuses on a safety led maintenance approach to keep our roads in as good a condition as possible. A 30k budget is available for Wotton and Berkeley Vale. Examples of use might include patching of paths or highways, winter or environmental maintenance, repairs to drains or repointing of walls or a contribution to capital projects. Much of this budget has already been committed to existing priority projects. A small amount has been ringfenced for use in Stinchcombe.

Decisions need to be made by July 16th and the programme of work completed by the end of December.

This is a very small budget to address a very extensive requirement and I will be ensuring that we maximise what we can achieve.

6. Oldhill Lane/Clingre Down Junction

I am meeting with Marian Shaw in advance of the meeting later today to review the problem of the small wall which is built beyond the boundary and is causing damage to larger vehicles 'negotiating' the corner. This is with a view to establishing what if any remedial action can be taken.

8. Covid – In the week Monday June 21st – Sunday 27th June there were 1186 cases of COVID 19.

Of these cases:

- 347 Gloucester
- 303 Cheltenham
- 259 Tewkesbury

- 122 Stroud
- 99 Cotswold
- 56 Forest of Dean

The rate of cases in the last 7 days per 100,000 is 178.3 in Gloucestershire.

In the week 12th -18th June, there was one death mentioning 'novel coronavirus' which is 1.0% of all deaths.

Please ensure my contact details are available on the Stinchcombe Parish Council website.
linda.cohen@gloucestershire.gov.uk . Mobile 07791110906

Stroud District Councillors' Report – July 2021

Report of meetings during June

All Stroud District Council and Committee papers can be found here:
<https://www.stroud.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/meetings>

Community Services & Licencing Committee – 24 June (Cllr Tucker)

The topics covered were:

- To consider the Council's Youth Work Strategy.
- To approve participation in the 'Hear by Right' Youth Award Programme on behalf of SDC and agree an officer/member Working Group to support the development of an application.
- The appointment of members as Performance Monitoring Representatives.
- The appointment of members to 'outside bodies'. Cllr Tucker is the representative of the Stroud Road Safety Liaison Group.
- A brief review of the proposed Committee Work Programme for 2021-22. (Additional considerations were made at a further meeting on 1st July).

Meeting papers can be found [here](#).

On 22nd June, all Committee members attended a compulsory virtual training session to update on all the legal aspects regarding Licencing and Licencing Appeals. This covered Licenced Premises, Premises Licence Holders, Taxies, Strip Clubs/Tattoo Parlours etc, Member's Clubs and Temporary Event Notices. On average, there are about 10 Appeals/year and each of the 12 members are expected to take it in turn to sit on the 3-member Appeal Panel.

Environment Committee – 17 June (Cllr James)

The main business of this meeting was the emerging Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for the Stroud Area, as presented to the meeting by Dr Dave Land and Sarah Williams of GCC. The plan is based on their consultation and desk based research and focuses on what they see as the main cycling desire lines from Stonehouse through Stroud and out to Chalford, and from Stroud to Nailsworth. The draft LCWIP is not being published yet, as it has not been internally approved, but the presentation can be viewed [here](#) (about two minutes in). Further LCWIPs will follow for other areas of the district, with Cam & Dursley next, and Wotton-Kingswood to follow.

The LCWIP is intended to support future funding applications for these major schemes – but there was no guidance on how the smaller routes to connect to these major routes might progress and be funded. Nor were the officers able to say what would be the expected percentage uptake in cycling as a result of the LCWIP being implemented, nor the carbon reductions it is expected to deliver. The officers' consultation remains open, so community groups can send their views and visions to David.land@gloucestershire.gov.uk.

The committee resolved to support the emerging LCWIP, work with GCC on the other LCWIPs for the district, continue to support local cycle and walking projects as identified in the Local Plan and Local Transport Plan, and delegate authority to Simon Maher (Senior Neighbourhood Planning Officer) and others to allocate funding to projects consistent with the above plans.

Appointments of SDC members to outside bodies were also agreed, including to the Cotswold AONB, Berkeley Nuclear Stakeholders and the Lower Severn Drainage Board. Meeting documents can be found [here](#).

Development Control Committee – 15 June

There was only one planning application on the agenda, which was refused:

S.20/2148/OUT | Redevelopment of the site for an industrial use (Use Class B2/B8) and retail use (Use Class A1) including the change of use of an existing dwelling house to office use (B1) with associated works, infrastructure and the creation of a new highway access onto the A38 with all matters relating to appearance and landscaping reserved | Sunnyside Nurseries Cam Dursley Gloucestershire GL11 5JA

Refusal was in line with the officer recommendation and the recommendation of county highways due to highway safety concerns in relation to the proposed new access onto the A38 in a 60mph zone, on the casting vote of the chair after a 5-5 tie.

SDC issues

- **Local Plan consultation – extended to 21 July**

Following approval by Council on 29 April, the SDC Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan (covering planning changes up to 2040) is out for consultation and the deadline has now been extended to midnight on 21 July. The documentation is published online – at www.stroud.gov.uk/localplanreview

No further changes will be made to the plan as a result of the consultation but all comments, along with the plan will be submitted for examination by an independent Planning Inspector, appointed by the Secretary of State. Cllr Tucker has delivered hard copies of this Pre Submission Draft Local Plan to WTC, NNPC and SPC representatives, along with a copy the current 2016 Local Plan for comparison.

Council meeting cancelled

The full Council meeting scheduled for 15 July has been cancelled because of the ongoing Covid restrictions and to avoid unnecessary cost of holding a meeting at Stratford Park Leisure Centre. Since the council is no longer legally allowed to hold remote meetings a meeting of all 51 councillors would need to take place in a bigger venue at the Leisure Centre which would cost more than £3,000 (mostly for the additional microphone hire). All business items have been deferred to the next meeting as there was nothing requiring urgent discussion.

Proposed boundary changes could change who represents you in Parliament

As you will be aware, the Boundary Commission for England (BCE) has published its initial proposals for new parliamentary constituency boundaries. The proposals and maps for the nine English regions have been published on the Boundary Commission's website and the eight-week public consultation period will close on August 2, 2021. It is proposed that Wotton-under-Edge and North Nibley parishes move back into Stroud Constituency. Stroud District Council's views will be discussed at the Strategy & Resources Committee meeting on 22 July.

Reference: www.bcereviews.org.uk.

Improving transport for young people

Stroud District Council is encouraging young people to participate in a travel needs survey – to help transport providers learn more about what young people need and what infrastructure needs to be put in place, including cycling and use of scooters. Stroud District Youth Council is working in cooperation with Gloucestershire Community Rail Partnership (GCRP) to seek the

views and opinions of young people (aged between 10-25) on transport and travel within the county. <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/GlosYouthTravelSurvey/>

Deadline for EU Settled Status applications

Stroud District Council stepped up the information campaign during June about the need for EU citizens to apply to the EU Settled Status Scheme before 30 June in order to keep their rights to live and work in the UK. Cllr Braun wrote to every resident with EU citizenship on the Electoral Roll within the Wotton Ward to inform them of the deadline. Most residents had already completed the EUSS application but one older resident was not aware of the scheme at all and was grateful to receive a letter, which enabled them to submit an application before the deadline. Elderly people are particularly at risk of exclusion due to the way the scheme is administered.

Tricorn House

On 18 June a tragic incident at the disused Tricorn House building in Stroud resulted in the death of a young person. Stroud District Council officers contacted the owners of the building and managed to secure access points to avoid any further access to the site. The council has granted planning permission for several schemes for the site although none have progressed.

Animal welfare issues

Stroud District Council's Animal Welfare Officers have noticed increased sightings of dogs with cropped ears and docked tails. There have been five reported cases within the district in the last two months. Ear cropping and tail docking is illegal in the UK unless performed by a vet for medical reasons, and is referred to as 'mutilation' under the Animal Welfare Act 2006. If residents see a dog with cropped ears and/or a docked tail, they are asked to contact SDC at 01453 766321 or environmental.health@stroud.gov.uk or the RSPCA at 0300 1234 999.

June council meetings from the previous report

Strategy & Resources Committee Meeting – 10 June (Cllr Braun & Cllr Tucker)

Brimscombe Port redevelopment was the main agenda item – and the Committee unanimously supported the proposals to take steps to give notice to the tenants on the former industrial site, to secure vacant possession. Much of the discussion focused on what additional support could be provided to the tenants (Rush Skatepark and Grace Network) to find new homes. Both of these organisations are social enterprises and deliver huge benefits to the community. The Grace Network runs Stroud Furniture Bank, The Long Table, Stroud District Kids' Stuff, Kick Off Stroud, The Bike Drop, Gloucestershire House Clearances and facilitates Stroud Foodbank. So far only Stroud Foodbank has definite plans to relocate. The Committee received a petition with over 3500 signatures in support of Rush Skatepark.

Redevelopment of the port is one of SDC's corporate priorities. It will be the destination at the eastern end of the canal – with the project delivering a reinstated canal and basin, a sustainable, new residential-led mixed use community. The redevelopment will also deliver better cycling and walking links, environmental improvements, a tourist destination, space for community and social enterprise. It will require new housing to be carbon neutral and include a minimum of 30% affordable homes. More information on the project can be found [here](#).

Brimscombe Port is a very complex and challenging site to develop and would be unviable without the significant amounts of public investment that have been secured. The tenants will need to vacate the site so that pre-demolition surveys can begin and the demolition of units can start outside of the main activity season for bats (between October to April). Works in the river required for the redevelopment are only permitted outside the fish spawning season (i.e. from June to September). Next steps on the [project milestones](#) include marketing of the development opportunity and stating the procurement for a developer.

The Committee also received updates on the following:

- the Property Review ([link](#)), which references the review of Public Conveniences, which has been deferred to autumn 2022 due to Covid.
- Report of the first meeting of the Regeneration and Investment Board, which covered the Levelling Up Fund bid (SDC need to apply – but as the Government have designed this fund for constituencies, funding would only cover Stroud Constituency), Canal Corridor strategy, a pipeline of capital investment and regeneration schemes and a further bid for One Public Estate funding. ([link](#))
- Corporate delivery Plan Progress, Corporate Peer Challenge progress and grant payments to the leisure provider SLM in Stroud. ([link](#)).

Housing Committee meeting – 8 June

Meeting papers can be found [here](#). As a follow up to the previous meeting, the committee considered the Council Housing Income Collection and Recovery Policy, Tenant Services Compensation Policy, Visitor Room Policy for Independent Living (formerly known as sheltered housing), the Cleaner Estates Strategy Action Plan and Service Standards Action Plan.