

STINCHCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 27TH JULY 2022 AT 7.30 PM  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL

**Present**

Mr S. Packer (Chair by video link until 8.30))  
Mrs M Shaw (Parish Councillor)  
Mrs D. Davidson (Parish Councillor)  
Ms K. Hudson (Vice Chair)

Mr I. Kirkham (Parish Councillor)  
Mrs N. Bradley (Clerk)

**In Attendance**

Ms L. Cohen (County Councillor)  
Ms C. Braun (District Councillor)  
Mr G. James (District Councillor)  
Mr N. Forsyth (Playground Group, 8.10-8.30)

Mr Packer opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

**1) Apologies**

Mr K. Tucker (District Councillor)

**2) DPI Declarations and Dispensations**

There were no declarations.

**3) Approval of Minutes of the Meeting Held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June022**

Acceptance of the minutes of the meeting was proposed by Mrs Shaw, seconded by Mrs Davidson and carried unanimously. They were duly accepted and signed. (107/22)

**4) Matters Arising From the Minutes**

- Cllr Braun has provided the link to SDC's new policy on litter bins (<https://stroud.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s5201/Item%206%20-%20Appendix%20A%20-%20Litter%20Bin%20Policy.pdf>) (108/22)
- Ms Hudson and the Clerk both sent letters in support of SDC's application for levelling up funds. (109/22)
- Ms Hudson has replied to Ms Lawton's offer of bonfire wood. (110/22)
- Mrs Shaw now has the Walks Leaflets memory stick. (111/22)

All other matters arising are dealt with later in these minutes

**5) Reports by County and District Councillors**

Cllr Cohen's report is attached. (112/22)

Cllr Cohen added that she has four week's worth of Lengthsman funding for work on paths, highways etc. she is also exploring the possibilities of a community bus service. (113/22)

The "Meet the Councillors" event will be held on the morning of Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September. The Clerk will book the Committee Room. Action Clerk (114/22)

The District Councillors' report is also attached. (115/22)

**6) Planning Matters**

New since Last Meeting

- S.22/1354/LBC, land at The Old Parsonage, conversion of ancillary outbuilding to self-contained dwelling. The clerk has posted the council's concerns about parking. It was felt that the diagrams of the drive are very misleading. (116/22)
- S.22/1353/FUL, land at The Old Parsonage, conversion of ancillary outbuilding to self-contained dwelling. (117/22)

Decided since last meeting

- S.22/0225/FUL, land At Hill House Wick Lane, erection of two houses Resubmission of S.21/2301/FUL. Permission (118/22)

Still Undecided

- S.22/1228/HHOLD, Park House Stinchcombe Manor, erection of side extension. (119/22)
- S.22/0817/AGR, Land At Stinchcombe, erection of agricultural building. Prior Approval or EIA required (120/22)
- S.22/1020/HHOLD, Bluemead, Echo Lane, erection of garage, rear extension, garden room and driveway extension. (121/22)

Cllr Braun will forward photos of the work on Overdale House to Planning Enforcement. [Action Cllr Braun](#) (122/22)

There has been some recent activity at the Swedish Houses and it was felt that the PC should be kept informed of plans in order to deal with residents' queries. Cllr Braun will ask for more information. [Action Cllr Braun](#) (123/22)

## **7) Footpaths and Rights of Way**

Mr Davidson has agreed to take on the role of Footpaths Warden. (124/22)

There has been no progress on the problem of dog mess but Mr Packer has done some initial research on pricing notices to put on gates, stiles etc. These are c£20 for steel ones and c£10 for laminates. It may be possible to buy c40 and sell some to landowners though Mr Davidson would need to check on their contact details (Mr Thomas should be able to provide these.) [Action Mrs Davidson and Mr Packer](#) (125/22)

## **8) Highways**

Vale Vets have agreed to have a VAS sign near their entrance, solving the parking problem at The cottage. Ms Hudson has submitted the signed legal agreement but is waiting for Highways' signature before purchasing equipment. She has identified two possible contractors and is working on the contract wording. (126/22)

Cllr Cohen will support Ms Hudson's application for a PCC grant towards the cost of traffic monitoring at Berkeley road and Yercombe Lodge. [Action Ms Hudson and Cllr Cohen](#) (127/22)

GCC has requested comments on its Draft Road Safety Policy and Ms Hudson will formulate a response which she will circulate for councillors to add to. [Action Ms Hudson and All](#) (128/22)

## **9) Facilities**

Mr Lawfull has agreed to install the new notice board and Mrs Shaw will liaise with him. [Action Mrs Shaw](#). (129/22)

Mr Forsyth explained that progress on the new playground has is at a standstill until pre-planning advice is received from SDC. Once agreement is received in principle and it is known what is possible and allowed, it will be possible to produce firm plans and hold public consultations. The group is investigating the possibility of training for some members to be able to monitor and report

on equipment and is also looking into potential traffic and parking problems. Mr Forsyth will ask Mr Lane to forward the current plans to the Council. [Action Mr Forsyth.](#) (130/22)

## **10) Environment**

The Japanese knotweed on Standle Lane has been added to the contractors' list but any on private land is the responsibility of the landowners. (131/22)

Clearing the ivy on the Avenue tree is ongoing. [Action Mr Kirkham.](#) (131/22)

SHT will be putting up an information board near the car park giving information on rights of way, history, expected behaviour and QR codes for walks. A similar, more nature-based board is planned for the Village Green. (132/22)

Ms Hudson has received complaints about bonfires at a property on The Street. She will post an item on Enews providing a link to SDC's guidelines. [Action Ms Hudson](#) (133/22)

## **11) Financial Matters**

The Statement of Payments and Receipts was signed by Ms Hudson. (134/22)

Authorisation for payment of £336.25 for the Clerk's salary and £300 for the annual donation to the Village Hall was proposed by Mrs Davidson, seconded by Ms Hudson and carried unanimously. (135/22)

Although the Jubilee celebrations were not intended to make a profit, there is a surplus of c£1,000 and the VHC has suggested that this be split equally between the Hall and the PC for use for the benefit of the village. Acceptance of this suggestion was proposed by Ms Hudson, seconded by Mrs Davidson and carried unanimously. (136/22)

Investigation into a possible change of bank account is ongoing [Action Cllr Braun and Clerk](#) (137/22)

## **12) Councillors' Reports**

Mrs Shaw has been informed that the water main for Tait's Hill, Tait's Hill Road and Clingre Down will be replaced in the autumn. (138/22)

## **13) Possible Neighbourhood Plan**

Ms Hudson has been in touch with Barbara Pond at GRCC which can help arrange a presentation to explain the idea to residents and establish the level of support. Ms Pond suggested also inviting Simon Mather from SDC who can provide an overview. Possible dates are 7<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> October and the Clerk will check availability of the hall. It was agreed that it would be useful to meet with Ms Pond in advance, either at the next PC meeting or separately and Ms Hudson will liaise about this. [Action Ms Hudson and Clerk](#) (139/22)

## **14) Data Protection**

There were no Data Protection issues.

## **15) Items for Website**

Ms Hudson will post the item about bonfires. [Action Ms Hudson](#) (140/22)

## **15) Dates of Next Meeting**

Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Sept 7.30pm

Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Oct 7.30pm

Wed 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

STINCHCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING OF 27TH JULY 2022  
STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS AND AUTHORISATIONS

Building Society balance on 22<sup>nd</sup> June £ 12,273.84

Receipts since 22<sup>nd</sup> June

Nil

Payments since 22<sup>nd</sup> June

Nil

Building Society balance on 27<sup>th</sup> July £ 14,396.36

Authorisation is sought for

Clerk's salary, May/June/July £ 336.25

Annual donation to Village Hall £ 300.00

Prepared by

Approved by

E.N. Bradley  
Clerk & RFO  
27<sup>th</sup> July 2022

S. Packer  
Chairman

K. Hudson  
Vice Chairman

Stinchcombe Parish Council

19th July 2022

**1. Highways / Paths**

A fortnight of lengthsman activity is planned in August to tidy hedges, footpaths and pavements.

This will be agreed in advance with the Parish Council to ensure that all the areas of concern are included.

There will also be a focus on clearing drains in good time before the change in the weather. We will be rerunning the Leaf It Out campaign and would ask all residents to help where they can by clearing leaves and weeds from drains near their properties.

A reminder that residents can report any issue related to: potholes; lights, signals and signs; damage to pavement or kerb; road markings and stud issues trees, hedges and vegetation; drainage and flooding; spillages or obstructions on the road; Winter Maintenance - Grit and PROW - public footpaths & bridleways (not pavements).

issues can also be logged here:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/highways/roads/your-highways-report-it/>

**2. Buses**

The Bus Services 84 and 85 are under threat of being withdrawn as they are subsidised by Bristol, Bath & North East Somerset and South Gloucestershire Councils . These services are vital for surrounding villages and for the people of Wotton who shop in Yate and get connections into Bristol and Hospitals.

Following my contact with the leaders of B&NES and South Glos the councils have delayed suspension of the services for 7 months to give time to meet with colleagues from GCC to look at new and improved but sustainable 'on demand' / community services – creative solutions to solve the issue rather than accept the loss of these bus services. I would welcome hearing from residents and members of

the Town Council with thoughts about how we might design a new service.

In addition to this development I met with my fellow County Councillor in Dursley as well as District Councillors in Berkeley and Berkeley Vale and Wotton and Wotton Town Council to explore a new community bus service linking Wotton, Hillesley, Kingswood, North Nibley, Stinchcombe, Alkington, Ham and Stone, Dursley and Berkeley. There will be a particular focus on creating a service which aligns with other public transport timetables e.g. services to and from Cam and Dursley station and in the longer term the proposed Charfield service.

Meetings have already been arranged with officers from GCC and South Glos and existing community bus service operators to inform the process.

### **3. Road Safety**

#### **New Fund**

A new fund has been launched to help create a greener, safer and healthier county, as part of a partnership between Gloucestershire County Council and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC).

The £600,000 Community Speedwatch Safety Fund will give communities the tools they need to combat speeding in their areas.

The fund aims to make the county's roads safer for the pedestrians, cyclists and motorists that use them.

Applications can be made for a range of measures, including Road Safety Officer support, speed surveys, 'Twenty is Plenty' wheelie bin stickers, vehicle activated signs to encourage drivers to slow down, and community speedwatch cameras.

Bids must be supported by the local county councillor and submitted by 31 August.

For more information on the fund, visit:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/your-community/the-community-speedwatch-fund/>.

#### **Back To School Safety**

This campaign will launch the week before children go back to school and will include road signs, a social media campaign and work with schools and parents.

Full details in the August Report.

### **4. Cost of Living Crisis / Fuel Poverty**

I am acutely aware of the difficulties that families in the community are already facing due to the increase in the cost of living and the challenges that are yet to come when fuel prices rise again in October.

I spoke in support of the motion last week at the County Council meeting to ask the council to lobby the Government to reduce VAT and to also use the windfall tax to help support families this winter.

I will ensure that all residents are given as much information as possible about help that is available and will continue to push for effective support to be in place well in advance of the cold season.

#### 5. **HAF**

The holiday and activities food programme is open for registrations. The scheme offers free entertainment and lunches for children receiving free school meals and also provides tickets for free activities for all children across the county.

Find out more here about what's on offer:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-haf/>

#### 6. **Meet the Gadgeteers with Gloucestershire Libraries**

Gloucestershire Libraries are inviting children to meet the Gadgeteers this summer and get involved in a science and innovation-themed Summer Reading Challenge. The national event, which is led by the Reading Agency charity in partnership with public libraries, is being launched on Saturday 9 July and runs until 30 September 2022.

It aims to encourage children to enjoy reading and visit their local library and a range of free events and activities is being held in libraries around the county throughout the summer.

Children aged four to 11 will be able to join six fictional Gadgeteers by taking part, with free materials available from libraries and online via the challenge website.

The characters - brought to life by children's writer and illustrator Julian Beresford - use their curiosity and wonder to understand the science behind a range of interests, from fashion and technology to cooking and music.

Summer Reading Challenge events at Gloucestershire libraries can be found here and you can find out which services are available for families to enjoy here.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-july-2022/meet-the-gadgeteers-with-gloucestershire-libraries/>

7. My contact details [linda.cohen@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:linda.cohen@gloucestershire.gov.uk) . Mobile 07791110906

# Stroud District Councillors' Report – July 2022

## 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> Recordings of meetings are available via the Committee meeting webpage on the Council's You Tube channel:  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeH\\_AmF0s-TShcYIM8Stweg/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeH_AmF0s-TShcYIM8Stweg/videos)

### Strategy & Resources Committee - 9 June

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**Levelling up bid** - The Committee approved the District Council's bid to the Government's Levelling Up Fund (Round 2). The bid will be for the value of around £16 million (final figure to be confirmed) and will be submitted in July. If the bid is successful, all funding must be spent by March 2025, so there has been a focus on projects which can be delivered within this timescale. There are 3 project themes within the bid each delivering a number of smaller projects:

#### 1. Gateway spaces

- Wallbridge green space - the transformation of this canal side public realm into a welcoming green space to provide a strong sense of arrival to the town, to welcome people, to be a space for picnics, festivals and events and an attractive place for people to walk, cycle and travel by boat through
- The Sub Rooms Town Square - For decades the space outside the Subscription Rooms has played an important part in Stroud town life. This project is to transform the space into a true "Town Square" to be used and enjoyed by all.
- Incubator units - the creation of 12 new small, start up, energy efficient office units in the town centre, with support from SGS college and Growth Hub
- Purchase of brownfield land and associated costs for the development of homes in the town centre on a strategically important site.

#### 2. Cultural Landmarks

- Lansdown Hall and The Sub Rooms - ramped access and internal improvements to make these heritage arts venues accessible for all.
- Brunel Goods Shed - the purchase, ramped access and internal improvements to make this heritage arts venue accessible for all.

#### 3. Connections

- Improved pedestrian and cycle routes around Wallbridge, surrounding streets, underpass under Dr Newtons Way and up Rowcroft.
- Improvements to the end of the Nailsworth to Stroud cycle route at Bath Road, Rodborough to make it safer and more accessible for cyclists and pedestrians and to link it through to the improvements around Wallbridge.
- Improvements for cyclists and pedestrians around the town centre at the Sub Rooms/ George Street triangle and light touch around the town centre, London Road, Russell Street and Station Street.
- Real Time Passenger Information at Stroud Railway Station and Merrywalks Bus Station. These would 'link' both locations so the travelling public would have travel information for onward journeys.

- Brunel Mall - opening up the car park to the station to add additional station car parking and reducing the traffic in the town centre.

It is hoped that this work will be the catalyst for wider master planning of Stroud station – with separate funding to be secured in the future for station improvements. In line with the rules of the Levelling Up Fund, the bid has been supported by the MP for the Stroud parliamentary constituency. We expect to hear in the autumn if the bid has been successful.

**LGA Corporate peer Challenge** – the Committee discussed feedback from the Local Govt Association which was reported to the council in May and agreed an action plan which will include the ongoing work to improve customer services and progress the Working Together Project with Town and Parish councils. This includes adopting the Town and Parish Charter which will set out Consultation, Communication, Engagement and Resource commitments. SDC will also enhance the regular forums already in place and consider the role of Town & Parish Councils during emergency response.

The Committee reviewed the Quarter 4 Performance Monitoring report and received updates on the Brimscombe Port project, and from the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee and Scrutiny Committee.

### **Development Control Committee – 14 June**

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- Parcel H13, H14 & H15 Land West of Stonehouse, Grove Lane, Westend, Stonehouse S.21/2814/DISCON - Discharge of condition 46 on permitted application S.14/0810/OUT – Area Masterplan Document for Areas H13, H14 & H15 - Approved
- Phase 4B Land West of Stonehouse, Great Oldbury Drive, Great Oldbury, Gloucestershire S.21/2815/REM Phase 4B Primary Infrastructure (Highway) – Approved
- Land at, Pike Lane, Nailsworth, Gloucestershire S.21/1523/VAR - Variation of Condition 1 of S.17/0883/REM – Changes to detailed house designs of plots 1 & 8 - Refused

### **Environment Committee – 16 June**

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The Committee approved the sections relating to Stroud District to be included in the Environment Agency's **Flood Management Plan** – inclusion in this Plan gives a basis for possible future funding (the primary SDC initiative funded to date in this way is the very successful Natural Flood Management programme). As part of this, an amendment proposed by Cllr Norman Kay was accepted, giving the officer the task of discussing with the EA how the Plan would be reviewed and if necessary, amended in the light of the recent report into likely heightened flooding/coastal erosion around the UK, including parts of Gloucestershire.

The Committee approved the Council's new **Litter Bin Strategy**, which codifies the process for approving a bin (type/location). The Committee thanked the Litter Free Group for their input into the strategy, and members were pleased that officers had chosen to engage with this local voluntary group for their input.

The Committee **appointed representatives** to a number of external bodies for the year, and heard reports from the Stroud Regeneration Committee, the Strategic Planning Advisory Board and our Performance Monitors. Cllr Norman Kay requested that the annual **air quality report** should be added to the Forward Plan, and it was noted that members had previously requested that this year's be further reaching than last, with the emphasis on going beyond what is statutorily required and looking at remediation for local pollution hotspots/issues.

## **Community Services & Licensing Committee – 23 June**

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The committee discussed the Corporate Care Standards, which will now be known as the **Service Standards**. The committee resolved to accept them, after some discussion on response times by SDC to queries and requests from the public. It was emphasised that a ten-day response was the maximum, and all queries were answered as soon as possible.

The committee also resolved to approve a **rise in taxi fares**. This was in response to the taxi trade telling SDC it was becoming unviable as a living, due to the current cost of living crisis. In addition, taxi fares have not been raised at all for a number of years. Fare increases will be available on the website and are due to come into effect on 18th July.

**Woodchester Mansion** had approval for a grant of 50k for essential maintenance works. The heritage of this fascinating local building was discussed, and its importance to the people of Stroud District.

Also discussed were the recent improvements to the **Lido in Stratford Park**. Credit was given to officers, members and staff at the Lido who are working to improve accessibility and the swimmer experience (including looking at raising the temperature of the water).

The **Housing Committee** meeting planned for June was postponed and will now take place on 5 July.

### **Other issues**

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#### **New council homes in Nailsworth**

The official opening was held on 16 June for twenty energy efficient new homes that were built on the site of a former sheltered housing scheme at Ringfield Close. The new homes are a mix of 15 houses and flats for affordable rent, and five houses and bungalows for shared ownership. The properties are highly insulated, fitted with air source heat pumps and solar panels, resulting in an energy-efficient EPC rating A.

#### **Shared Prosperity Fund**

Stroud District Council has been allocated £1.37 million through the UK Shared Prosperity Funding (UKSPF), a national funding pot with the aim to build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK through the support of high-quality skills training, improving pay, supporting employment and productivity growth.

The District Council must submit an outline Investment Plan, for review by Government before 1st August 2022 to secure the funding, which is to be spent over the next 3 years. Local parishes, towns and community groups are being invited to submit Expressions of Interest. The decision on priorities will be decided at the Council meeting on 21 July.