

STINCHCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2023
AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

AGENDA

PCSO Richard Payne will be present to introduce himself to the Council before the meeting begins.

1 – Apologies

2 - Declarations of Personal Interests

3- Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 19th July 2023.

4 - Matters arising from Minutes

5 - Reports by County and District Councillors

6 - Planning Matters

New since Last Meeting

- S.23/1448/FUL, land adjacent To Lorr ridge Farm, alterations to access and widening of access track (retrospective)

- S.23/1503/FUL, land adjacent To Lorr ridge Farm, change of use to agricultural yard (retrospective) and erection of agricultural building

Decided Since Last Meeting

- S.23/1000/VAR, land At Hill House Wick Lane, variation of condition 2 (approved plans) from S.22/0225/FUL - alteration to the design of plot 2. Permission

- S.23/0752/HHOLD, Roselands Tait's Hill Road, proposed two storey side extension, single storey extension, raised decking with access steps & creation of new parking area. Permission

- S.23/0193/LBC, Rough Hill Cottage Wick Lane, Demolition of modern additions & extensions. Refurbishment & extension of listed cottage. Consent.

- S.23/0192/HHOLD, Rough Hill Cottage Wick Lane, Demolition of modern additions & extensions. Refurbishment & extension of listed cottage and conversion of outbuilding. Permission

- S.23/1194/HHOLD, Overdale House, Retrospective planning application for First Floor Bathroom extension to existing property. Permission

Still Undecided

- S.23/1399/FUL, Lorr ridge Farm, change of use of land to commercial yard (retrospective) and erection of new commercial building. Resubmission of S.22/2702/FUL.

Update on concerns about:-

- S.22/2700/FUL, Parford Farm, Wick Lane, Temporary rural workers dwelling and erection of agricultural buildings with yard which was refused. Concerns about the arrival of a large mobile home, a septic tank, multiple containers, ground work machinery including concrete going down and the road gateway tripling in size. Planning enforcement are aware of the concerns and are looking into the matter under reference EN23/0215.

- S.22/1043/FUL, Land At Stinchcombe opposite Yercombe Lodge, erection of agricultural building. Concerns that a concrete pad has been installed cut into the hillside facing south just off the brow of the hill to position a bench upon. Also that a shepherds hut has been located on the site for several months now and is believed to be providing accommodation.

- S.22/1730/FUL, land At Wick Lane, erection of an Agricultural Building for the storage of

machinery and fodder. Concerns that a section of protected hedge has been removed along the west boundary of the barn location and that a historical ditch which ran within the hedge line which joins to the remaining boundary hedge ditch has been filled in with soil & stone and the barn is to be located over it which was not the agreed location of the barn on the planning permission.

- Concerns about works at Manor Cottage on Wick Lane which do not have any planning permission at all or listed building consent and removal of a number of trees along the boundary with Rough Hill.**

7- Footpaths and Rights of Way

DRFC plans to reroute footpaths CST19 and CST2

Blockages on bridle way

Footway on The Avenue

Stile on CST19

8- Highways

VAS and Village Gateways update.

20mph speed limit

Speed warnings at Tait's Hill accident site

9- Facilities

Church Field playground

Rugby Club play equipment

10- Environment

Ash dieback

11- Financial matters

Statement of Receipts, Payments and Authorisations

12- Reports by Parish Councillors

13- Data Protection

14- Items for Posting on Website

15- Dates of Next Meetings

**E.N Bradley
Clerk to the Council
29th August 2023**

STINCHCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING OF 19TH JULY 2023
STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS AND AUTHORISATIONS

Building Society balance on 6th June £ 16,517.08

Receipts since 6th June

Donation to cost of Village Gateways £ 1,000.00

Payments since 6th June

GAPTC subscription £ 130.96

Building Society balance on 19th July £ 17,386.12

Authorisation is sought for

Clerk's salary, May/June/July £ 394.45

Prepared by

Approved by

E.N. Bradley
Clerk & RFO
2023

Chairman

Vice Chairman 19th July

County Councillor Report – 2nd July 2023

Prepared by Cllr Linda Cohen

Introduction

This report is not so much a report as information about the key issues and priorities for the next couple of months.

We all know that the county's budgets are under more pressure than ever before. However, there are ways we can ensure that the council is focussed on the priorities but also be involved supporting our critical services, helping those in our community most in need. Often it can be as simple as sharing information.

Buses 84/85 (and all other services)

Most people will know that we have a 3 month reprieve for the 84/85, until the end of August.

Currently a stripped-down service is running which is flexing to need identified by the drivers of the buses.

On Monday 3rd July I met with the campaign organisers who have been conducting forensic analysis of the response of residents to the new service. We prepared a 'best case' plan which we took to officers and the Cabinet member for Gloucestershire County Council for their consideration. We hope to secure the funding that might be needed to complement the core funding from South Glos which will allow us to save the service. It's important to remember that this service is the responsibility of South Glos and not Gloucestershire County Council. I will update on progress.

We are launching a holiday promotion to encourage regular use of the buses and to ask non bus users to consider making an occasional trip. I would ask that everyone considers using the bus where possible to demonstrate use and value and to ensure that we maintain these vital links to education, work, health providers and our social network.

I have also asked the council to talk to bus service providers about a cross provider ticket which can be used on all buses.

Free Family Holiday Activity and Food Programme

This scheme is open for registrations and I would ask everyone to promote as widely as possible. It's important that all families know that there are sessions in which they can take part whether or not their children qualify for school meals. I have attached photos with this report for use on social media.

The Holiday Activities and Food programme is returning this summer for four weeks during the school holidays to help keep children in Gloucestershire happy, healthy, and entertained with free activities.

Families who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals can register now for the summer Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) funded by the Department for Education.

This summer, using grant funding, Gloucestershire County Council is once again able to extend fun, enriching holiday activities to all children and young people in the county, through its Holiday Activities Programme (HAP).

Both the HAF and HAP programmes will run for four weeks during the school holidays. Families are encouraged to:

- Register for the Children's Activities Booking System (CABS) now to make sure their account is ready for when activity booking opens on Wednesday 5 July. Some activities get booked up very quickly.
- Follow their district lead on social media to see what is happening in their area.

There are lots of great options to choose from again including drama and science workshops, sports and games, art, and crafts, as well as the ever-popular ticketed attractions. More information is

available at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/haf.

To help families who may require additional support to allow them to book or attend HAF activities, we have introduced six new HAF Community Connectors, one for each district of Gloucestershire. [Find out more about Community Connectors](#).

Families eligible for benefits-related free school meals can apply for Holiday Free School Meal vouchers, which the council is providing for two weeks. Parents will receive £30 per child (£15 per week, per child) from reception to year 11. Families will be able to find out more at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/holiday-school-meal-vouchers/.

Parents who have registered previously are automatically included and do not need to reapply. Families whose circumstances may have changed, can find out about [eligibility for free school meals on our website](#).

Anyone who needs additional support over the summer can apply to the [Household Support Fund](#) which supports households in the most need with food, energy and water bills and other essential items. The council's [Support Hub](#) also includes links to helpful information and advice including tools to help save money, and look after health and wellbeing.

Highways Have Your Say

My inbox is predominantly taken up with concerns about the conditions of our roads and the safety of our highways. It's time for everyone to have their say. You can comment here until August 1st. Please also use the Report It function to report any repairs that you feel need urgent attention. Gloucestershire residents are being asked for their views on all things highways this week after a new survey was launched. The survey asks residents for their views on road condition, grass verges, pavements, street lighting, road signs and more.

Gloucestershire County Council want more detail on what residents think at a local level. They're also offering anyone who completes the survey the opportunity to take part in further focus groups to offer more detailed feedback.

[Access the highways survey](#) before it closes midday 1 August 2023. Offline submissions also available on request.

Reporting highways issues can be done online [Your Highways - Report it - Highways \(gloucestershire.gov.uk\)](#)

Consider a career in the caring professions – help our NHS, Education and Social Services

The county council hosted a careers and coffee drop-in event for local people to discover career opportunities in health and social care.

The careers and coffee drop-in aims to showcase the wide variety of health and social care career opportunities available across Gloucestershire, working with adults who have care and support needs.

Information is available with career and training advice from services across the NHS and Gloucestershire County Council including:

- Proud to Care

- Adult Education
- Gloucestershire Employment and Skills Hub

People who are interested in working in care can:

- Find out what roles are available across the sector
- Learn what training and development opportunities there are
- Seek career advice and guidance and receive support to develop CVs
- Sign up to the Proud to Care jobs board

If you are like working with people, and have a desire to help others, the council has rewarding, flexible jobs available in your community.

Working in social care offers job security and fresh opportunities to develop a rewarding career.

If you are looking for a career change, are returning to work, or just starting out, there's a role in care that is perfect for you

Visit www.proudtocareglos.org.uk

Fostering

30% more children were taken into care last year. More than 800 Gloucestershire children are now in care. There is a chronic shortage of caring foster homes across the county which allow children to stay in their schools, maintain friendships and remain in the area they know. More than 25% of our children are sent out of county.

If you have ever thought about fostering and would like to find out about the range of ways you could be involved please go to [Fostering - Fostering \(gloucestershire.gov.uk\)](http://Fostering - Fostering (gloucestershire.gov.uk))

Every week is Refugee Week in Gloucestershire

Gloucestershire County Council, as part of the local Strategic Migration Partnership, is celebrating the contribution refugees have in the county and beyond.

Refugee Week took place 19 – 25 June, however for public and voluntary sector partners every week is for supporting and celebrating refugees and asylum seekers.

Currently, Gloucestershire is committed to resettling 35 Afghan families under the government's Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP), with 31 families currently resettled in the county. This means adults can get their lives back on track, while their children can flourish in welcoming and supportive local schools. There are also people being offered a safe place to live under the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme.

Gloucestershire has welcomed nearly 1500 Ukrainian guests, including more than 300 school-aged children. While some have chosen to move on or go back to Ukraine, others have stayed and settled in the county. Currently there are 356 households hosting Ukrainian guests in Gloucestershire; opening their family homes to welcome those displaced by war.

In addition to those from Ukraine and Afghanistan, a further 89 families (364 people) from Syria have so far been supported to resettle in the county, under the Gloucestershire Refugee Resettlement Programme (GRRP).

Gloucestershire's Strategic Migration Partnership

All resettlement schemes are over-seen by the Strategic Migration Partnership, made up of representatives from many of the public sector organisations in Gloucestershire. The partnership works with local charities and aid workers to establish local support as asylum seekers navigate their way to a safer environment to live in. They make sure asylum seekers get access to medical treatment, emotional support, and practical help, such as housing and clothes.

How can you help?

The Homes for Ukraine scheme is always looking for new hosts who are able to share their home with Ukrainian guests. Find out more about becoming a host at <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/your-community/ukrainian-support/gloucestershire-homes-for-ukraine-sponsor-guide/>

Gloucestershire Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers are looking for landlords who would consider renting to a refugee family resettled in Gloucestershire, through the Home Office Resettlement schemes. Find out more about GARAS at <https://www.garas.org.uk/>

Contact

If you have any ideas that you'd like to discuss or community / personal issues that need my help please get in touch. Email linda.cohen@gloucestershire.gov.uk 07791110906

My remit includes: Education, Highways, Children and Families Services, Health and Social Care, The Environment, Apprenticeships, Employment and Business, Fire and Rescue, Police, Trading Standards and Waste Disposal (not collection).

Stroud District Councillors' Report – July 2023

Report of meetings during June 2023

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 Council's You Tube channel (Live recordings):

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeH_AmF0s-TShcYIM8Stweg

Development Control Committee – 13th June

The Committee considered five applications and reviewed the planning and enforcement statistics.

- Land South of, Symn Lane, Wotton-Under-Edge, Gloucestershire S/23/0525/VAR
Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) & 4 (landscaping) from S.19/1722/VAR to provide additional landscaping in lieu of parking. Refused.
Wotton Town Council had argued in favour of deferment. Cllr Braun & Cllr Tucker argued that the application should be deferred / refused.
- Richmond Cottage, Rockstowes, Uley Road, Dursley S.23/0335/HHOLD
Erection of first floor extension, alterations to existing house, new rear terrace & external car port/ battery store. Refused.
- The Lodge, Moor Court, Rodborough Common, Stroud S.23/0295/HHOLD
Single storey rear extension (Resubmission of S.22/2421/HHOLD). Refused.
- Land At 24, Oldends Lane, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire S.23/0480/FUL
Demolition of existing outbuilding/canopy and erection of single bungalow. Refused.
- 6 Weir Green, Elmore, Gloucester, Gloucestershire S.22/2771/HHOLD
Erection of two storey extension, single storey extension and new garden room (resubmission of S.20/2403/HHOLD). Permitted.

The Committee also considered the recent planning and enforcement key performance indicator statistics ([link](#)) with a list of the Enforcement / Breach of Condition notices that have been issued, including one for Wotton parish and two in North Nibley parish.

Community Services & Licensing Committee – 22nd June

Taxi fares - the committee voted to adopt new taxi fares, which will come into effect after a period of public notice, with the public able to comment. The fares were raised in consultation with the taxi trade, who gave feedback on how they were being affected by the cost of living crisis, but also expressed concern that raising fares too much would be a barrier to their customers and those who rely on taxis.

Communities Grant - The committee approved the proposed allocation of the £150,000 Strengthening Local Communities Grant which SDC has been awarded from the NHS / Integrated Care Board to improve the health and wellbeing of people in the county. The funding will be allocated to the areas where it will have the most impact in improving health and wellbeing across the district as follows:

- Stroud District Community Hub Development Programme - £20k
- Children and Young People Wellbeing Programme - £50k
- Place based targeted Health Interventions - £20k
- VCS Targeted Intervention Fund - £20k
- Activity on Referral Development - £20k
- Social Prescribing VCS Capacity Building – £20k

Leisure Management - The committee unanimously agreed to create a new Leisure Services Team, and for Stratford Park Leisure Centre and the Lido in Stroud, to be brought in house and managed by the Council, when the current contract with Sports & Leisure Management (SLM) expires on 31 October 2024. This will bring leisure management for the Stroud leisure centre, in line with the existing management by SDC of The Pulse leisure centre in Dursley. Previously a Local Authority Trading Company (LATC) had been proposed to manage both leisure centres, but due to recent changes to VAT rules by HMRC, the business case was revised. The in-house option that has been chosen, is similar in many ways to a LATC, but will be simpler to deliver (as The Pulse is already managed in house) and it provides the council with full control on how the service will operate.

Revised Street Trading Policy - Following consultation the new policy was adopted. The main change is a new decision-making process for contentious applications, or cases where a consent may be revoked, to enable them to be considered by a licensing hearing panel.

Other reports - the following reports were noted:

- Museum in the Park (Cowle Trust)
- Police and Crime Panel
- Cost of Living Information Sheet
- Salix Project Update (Air Source Heat Pump installation for the leisure centres and museum)
- Update on Play Review Spending Allocations Information Sheet
- Safer Street 4 Funding Information Sheet
- Safeguarding Information Sheet

Housing Committee – 27th June

Canalside Site, A419, Stonehouse

Last July the Council agreed to review the use of the Canalside Site in Stonehouse (the former Ship Inn site) which is included in council housing new build programme. Following community and stakeholder engagement led by consultants, a 'Common Ground in Stonehouse' report has been produced, which sets out the opportunity for the Council to work with the local community on future uses for the site.

The Housing Committee agreed a recommendation for the site to be appropriated from the Housing Revenue Account (overseen by Housing Committee) into the Council's General Fund. This will enable an option to be granted to the community, to transfer the site for community use, subject to a further report. Capital funding received for the site would be used to invest in affordable housing in the local area. Work will continue with the local community, led by a working group which will look to co-design building concept options to explore scale, potential and phasing, to inform business planning for a

community focused use of the site.

Independent Living – The Committee adopted a new strategy (for 2023-27) for independent living accommodation for people aged 55+ and received an update on the service changes for Independent Living scheme tenants with district heating systems.

Damp & Mould – following the tragic death of a young boy in Rochdale of a respiratory disease caused by severe and prolonged exposure to mould in his home, there has been a much greater national focus on damp and mould in social housing. SDC has formed a working group to develop a Damp & Mould policy, and create an action plan to resolve instances of damp and mould in residents homes. The actions from the working group have been shared and discussed with tenant representatives.

The Committee also received reports on the financial outturn position and capital programme, from the tenant representatives, updates on the Cleaner Estates programme and performance monitoring.

Other news

Free of charge summer holiday activities

Summer holiday activities for children who live in the Stroud district will be available to book from mid-day on 5 July. These will include activities for sport, dance, drama, music, craft, and other activities during four weeks of the school summer holiday from 26 July to 1 September. Some of the activities will be reserved for children from reception to year 11 who receive benefits-related free school meals (the Holiday Activity and Food programme, or HAF).

<https://www.stroud.gov.uk/news-archive/on-your-marks-get-set-to-book-free-of-charge-childrens-summer-holiday-activities>

Consultation on controlling dogs in public

Stroud DC is seeking views on a proposed change to a Public Spaces Protection Order, which would mean dogs would still have to be under control but not necessarily on a lead on designated cycle tracks and on canal towpaths.

Since 2017, Stroud District Council has used four Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) to assist in control of dogs. These PSPOs must be reviewed every 3 years and, as part of that review, a public consultation is carried out. Currently, the four PSPOs require dog owners to:

1. Pick up dog faeces
2. Put dogs on leads when directed to do so by an officer
3. Keep dogs out of areas signed as exclusion areas, e.g. children's play areas
4. Keep dogs on leads in designated areas such as allotments, cemeteries, car parks, canal towpaths and designated cycle tracks.

The Council proposes to extend the use of PSPOs for a further 3 years, the maximum period allowed, from October 2023, leaving the first three orders unchanged but to make one change to the fourth order by removing canal towpaths and designated cycle tracks from the designated areas. This amendment stems from enforcement experience which has highlighted a very strong perceived unfairness among dog owners in respect of having to put dogs on leads in what are regarded as "shared spaces", particularly when they feel that their dogs are under control. Exercising off the lead is accepted as an important benefit for dogs and the requirement for dogs to be on leads on a cycle track or towpath provided for leisure and recreation is perceived as disproportionately prohibitive.

Serious uncontrolled behaviour, where identified, could still be addressed by other means, for example by utilising the order directing that dogs be put on a lead. This is proposed as a proportionate and targeted approach to the issue, taking into account that few complaints are received in this regard.

The consultation period will end on 18th August 2023. For further details: www.stroud.gov.uk/PSPOs

Survey for Veterans

Stroud DC's Armed Forces Champion group marked Armed Forces Day (24 June) by launching a survey to find out more about the needs of veterans in the Stroud district. Veterans, members of the armed forces and their families can complete the survey online here <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/af-consult> or request a paper copy by post by phoning 01453 766321. The deadline for completed surveys is Monday 31 July.

Flash flooding in Stroud – 12 June

Stroud DC officers supported the local emergency response to help residents and businesses in Stroud who were affected by the flooding on the evening of 12 June. An unprecedented 65.5mm of rain fell in half an hour, leading to flash flooding in a number of areas centred around Stroud town, Cainscross and Rodborough.

New Night Safe Officers

A new team of Night Safe Officers will patrol key locations in Stroud town centre on Friday and Saturday nights, to make it a safer place to enjoy a weekend night out. The two officers will also support venue door staff and marshal the taxi rank on King Street at peak times. They are part of a new scheme introduced by the Stroud Community Safety Partnership, of which Stroud DC is a member with funding provided by the Gloucestershire Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner's Safer Streets Fund.

Bands for Stratford Park in Stroud

Stroud DC is looking for bands to complete the outdoor performances line-up this summer at Stratford Park in Stroud. The Sunday afternoon events are open to all, and aim to provide an opportunity for families and friends to gather on the lawns and enjoy time together. The last Sunday the bandstand event will be running is 24 September. Bands will be paid a small donation. For further information or to find out how a band can play at one of the events, email stratfordpark@stroud.gov.uk

Reducing plastic waste

16 June was World Refill Day, when millions of people around the world put the spotlight on plastic pollution and what we can all do to tackle it. Every year, the plastics industry produces more than 400 million tonnes of plastic and half of this is single use. Less than 10% of the plastic created has ever been recycled. Stroud DC is phasing out single use plastics and there are a growing number of places to eat, drink and shop with less plastic - you can find them all on the [refill app](#) with more ideas and information from [Stroud District Action on Plastic](#) .

<https://www.stroud.gov.uk/news-archive/its-world-refill-day-and-this-is-how-you-can-help-cut-plastic-waste>

Tennis courts refurbished

Stratford Park's public tennis courts have been resurfaced with new nets put up, and an online booking system and keyless entry introduced. For a one off annual payment of £35, a household or groups of family or friends of up to six people can play at the courts, or an hour's play is charged at

£6. This work has been funded by a grant of £115,000 from the UK Government and LTA Tennis Foundation and £12,000 invested by Stroud DC. Players can book up to five hours of sessions per week at www.lta.org.uk/play.

SDC apprenticeships

Two open evenings were held in June to promote the apprenticeships available at Stroud DC. These provide an opportunity to earn a recognised qualification while gaining practical work experience and receiving a salary with an award-winning employer. The seven apprenticeship vacancies cover a range of services. For more details see <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/news-archive/learn-about-being-an-apprentice-at-our-open-evening> or email recruitment@stroud.gov.uk .