



STOKE GIFFORD

PARISH COUNCIL

Community Hall, Little Stoke Lane, Little Stoke, Bristol, BS34 6HR

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STOKE GIFFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Tuesday, 14th January 2025 at 19:00

at Little Stoke Community Hall, Little Stoke Lane, Bristol, BS34 6HR

EMERGENCY PROCEDURE

In the event of a fire all those present should leave the building calmly, breaking a fire alarm panel on the way out, and assemble on the far side of the car park at the assembly point.

Attendees are reminded to either switch off or make silent their mobile phones.

PRESENT:

Councillors D Addison, S Bandcroft, R Barber, M Brown, J Brunwin, K Cranney, N Das Gupta, M Gallagher, A Hyde, K Marsden, P Richardson, and A Shore.

In attendance was J Rendell [Parish Clerk] and six residents.

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| 1 | Welcome and apologies for absence. The Chair, Councillor Dave Addison welcomed all present to the meeting. | Actions: |
| 2 | To receive notification of any member's personal or prejudicial interest. None. | |
| 3 | Public Session [Maximum of 15 minutes, up to 3 minutes per person] Six residents were in attendance. SGC drainage maintenance schedule – a resident asked District Members if SGC have a drain maintenance plan in place considering the recent downpour where various areas through Little Stoke had drains blocked causing pathways and roads to flood following the heavy rainfall. The Parish Office reported the blocked drains and the SGC Operatives were in the area same day to rectify the issue, but the question was asked whether SGC operates on a reactive or proactive basis? | Clerk contact SGC Highways. |
| 4 | To approve minutes of the last Full Council meeting dated 12th November 2024. The Full Council minutes dated Tuesday 12 th November 2024 was agreed as an accurate record, proposed by Councillor Tony Hyde, seconded by Councillor Penny Richardson, | |

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| | proposal unanimously carried. | |
| 5 | <p>To approve the expenditure and general accounts for December 2024.</p> <p>The Clerk tabled financial correspondence for December 2024 which included payments totalling £75,158.47 for the Co-operative General Account, with a cash book balance of £465,861.72.</p> <p>Council noted the expenditure and bank balance for December, proposed by Councillor Sue Bandcroft, seconded by Councillor Penny Richardson, proposal unanimously carried.</p> | |
| 6 | <p>Investment options for 2025/26.</p> <p>The Parish Council currently have £80k in two separate savings accounts earning 3.6% AER (annual equivalent rate).</p> <p>Both accounts are with Lloyds Bank and will expire in February and April 2025, respectively.</p> <p>Interest on our current savings combined will be in the region of £6k after 12 months.</p> <p>To proceed again for a further one year period officers have carried out research on a Business fixed rate account (available at the time and rates may change):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Lloyd’s bank 12 months fixed term 2.65% 2 Virgin bank 12 months fixed term 4.35% 3 Royal Bank Scotland 95 day Notice account 3.49% 4 Nat West 95 day Notice account 3.49% <p>We have applied to open a Virgin account as per members request at the December Finance & General Purpose meeting.</p> <p>It is recommended to continue to keep two separate accounts of £80k, as up to £85k is protected by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.</p> <p>Following a discussion, Councillor Keiron Marsden proposed to open accounts with Virgin Bank and NatWest and proceed with £80k in each bank on a 12 month agreement, seconded by Councillor Richard Barber, a vote was taken, 11 for, 1 abstention, proposal carried.</p> | |
| 7 | <p>Update on Brooklands Community Hall.</p> <p>The Parish Clerk continues to meet with SGC obtaining building updates and payment plans.</p> <p>The items discussed at the last meeting with SGC include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clerk seeking additional funding source with SGN and SGC - Public Art. Meetings continue to take place on the design and consultation process - SGC to fund batteries added to the solar panel work schedule - Solicitors engaged to conduct legal checks (December 24) | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SG/ SGPC meeting to devise a Finance plan/ payment schedule - Café will have separate electrical meter - Schedule to advertise ownership of Café - Schedule to advertise site staff roles and potential start date. <p>The Clerk informed members £44k has been earmarked for public art. SGC approved an artist to research the history of the parish, conduct public consultation and link with the community groups and organisations on devising public art that will be a feature throughout the new building. Members felt £44k is a large amount of money that could be used on more essential areas within the building like towards the fitout costs. The Chair, Councillor Dave Addison acknowledged the general feeling of members, but this money has been set aside since the planning stage and once the building is handed over to the Parish Council the public art will be an impressive centre piece for the venue.</p> <p>The Chair, Councillor Dave Addison asked the Clerk to prepare the poster for the Café and when the Sub-Committee meet in February it can be arranged to start advertising.</p> | <p>Clerk to de- vise poster for Café tender.</p> |
| 8 | <p>Councillor Surgery Format & Dates for 2025.</p> <p>Parish Councillors are holding Councillor Surgery dates monthly throughout the year. Meetings are held at the Poplar rooms, Stoke Gifford and the Little Stoke Community Centre in Little Stoke (when available). Councillor Mike Brown is in favour of the surgeries taking place but believes the current format can be portrayed as being ran by the political party rather than the Parish Council.</p> <p>Members feel that once the Brooklands Community Centre is open a local councillor surgery can run from there giving residents in the south ward a chance to attend a local session and then surgeries can be held in all wards within the parish.</p> <p>Councillor Keiron Marsden feels the current format works well giving residents the opportunity to link with District and local members and agrees that once Brooklands Community Centre is open a third venue can be used for the surgeries.</p> <p>Councillor Keith Cranney informed members the Parish Council hold many meetings throughout the year and remains very accessible to its members. The Clerk (and staff) can be contacted in the office in person by email or by phone, all Parish Councillor details are on the parish website and current surgeries are advertised on the notice boards and parish website.</p> <p>Following a lengthy discussion, Councillor Mike Brown proposed for Councillors to hold a “Meet your local Parish Councillor” surgery at three different venues covering all the wards within the parish and the surgery is to be a local Parish Council Surgery, and in no way politically driven, seconded by Councillor Max Gallagher, a vote was taken, 5 for, 7 abstentions, proposal carried.</p> <p>Councillors Mike Brown and Max Gallagher will source a venue for the surgery in the north ward.</p> | <p>MB and MG to source venue in north ward.</p> |

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| 9 | <p>To receive updates from Parish Council Committees and to consider expenditure as required relating to budgets/external funding.</p> <p><u>Recreation & Leisure</u></p> <p>Councillor Penny Richardson informed members the Clerk is working closely with Balfour Beatty and will have an update at the next committee meeting on 21st January.</p> <p>FACE are holding a youth working group on Thursday 16th January and some members are keen to attend representing the council.</p> <p><u>Planning & Transportation</u></p> <p>Currently two applications are on the parish portal for discussion at the next committee meeting in November.</p> <p><u>Finance & General Purpose</u></p> <p>Councillor Keiron Marsden is pleased to report the budgets are looking good as we near the end of quarter four.</p> | |
| 10 | <p>To discuss and comment on current South Gloucestershire Council Consultations.</p> <p>Councillor Keith Cranney informed members the South Gloucestershire new Local Plan Phase 3 consultation is currently underway and SGC are holding numerous pop up meetings.</p> <p>The Chair, Councillor Dave Addison informed members the South Gloucestershire Council budget is due for approval in February 2025.</p> | |
| 11 | <p>To receive updates from South Gloucestershire Council Members within the parish of Stoke Gifford.</p> <p><u>Councillor Neel Das Gupta</u> Nothing to add that has not already been discussed on the agenda.</p> <p><u>Councillor Keith Cranney</u> Nothing to add that has not already been discussed on the agenda.</p> <p><u>Councillor Dave Addison</u> Nothing to add that has not already been discussed on the agenda.</p> | |
| 12 | <p>To receive Planning applications from South Gloucestershire Council.</p> <p>None.</p> | |
| 13 | <p>Any other business.</p> <p>Councillor Mike Brown - Farley Close planning concerns now rectified; site cleared.</p> <p>Councillor Andrew Shore – SGC Phase 4C waiting restrictions. Councillors and Clerk had met with SGC officers to offer input representing the Parish Council prior to the formal</p> | |

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| | <p>plans being put in place.</p> <p>Councillor Keiron Marsden – contact received from residents from the lower part of North Road, near Osborne Court and St Michael’s Centre, reporting intermittent train horn noise from Parkway Station during the early hours. Clerk to contact GWR and Station Manager.</p> <p>Councillor Tony Hyde – shared concerns that in previous meetings the public session has been running over time and asked members to focus more energy on ensuring the protocols are adhered to, where residents are given a maximum of three minutes and meeting adjourned for a total time of fifteen minutes for public session if required. Members acknowledged the public sessions have on occasion over run, but members are keen for the public to share their thoughts giving members the chance to respond accordingly. Councillor Keiron Marsden likes the informal approach taken at the parish meetings which is not the case at various other town and parish meetings, but Committee Chairs must endeavour to keep the agenda on track and be more decisive if necessary.</p> | <p>Clerk to contact GWR.</p> |
| <p>15</p> | <p>Date of next meeting.</p> <p>11th February 2025.</p> | |
| <p>16</p> | <p>CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS.</p> <p>To resolve, by the nature of the sensitivity of items, to exclude the press and public [Public Bodies Admissions to Meeting].</p> <p>None.</p> | |

Meeting closed 20:25

Signed: _____

Date: _____

D Addison (Chair)
On behalf of Stoke Gifford Parish Council