

STINCHCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2023 AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present

Dr A. Macfarlane (Chair)
Mrs M. Shaw (Parish Councillor,)
Mrs T. Legg (Parish Councillor)
Mr I. Kirkham (Parish Councillor)
Mrs N. Bradley (Clerk)

In Attendance

Mr A. Beamish (Neighbourhood Warden)
Mr S. Lane (Playground Group)
Mr & Mrs J. Thomas (Residents)

Dr Macfarlane opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

Before the meeting proper, Mr Beamish explained the function of the Neighbourhood Wardens.

There is currently a review of the service under way, but at present there are four wardens covering four areas of Stroud District. They work Monday to Friday and are the “eyes and ears” of the community and SDC, working in the community with the Police, Social Services, community hubs, the Fire Service, schools etc and with SDC mainly with Environmental Health and Housing but also all Council departments.

They deal with minor antisocial behaviour, fly-tipping, work with vulnerable groups dealing with careline equipment and making referrals as necessary, talk in schools to discourage littering and other anti-social behaviour, support the Elections team and keep the Council connected with the various community groups mentioned.

More information on the work of the Neighbourhood Wardens is available on the SDC website.

Mr Beamish's talk was very interesting and informative, and Dr Macfarlane thanked him for his visit.

1) Apologies

Mr K. Tucker (District Councillor)
Ms C. Braun (District Councillor)
Mr G. James (District Councillor)
Ms L. Cohen (County Councillor)

2) DPI Declarations and Dispensations

There were no declarations.

3) Approval of Minutes of the Meeting Held on 19th September 2023

After a correction of the date of the previous meeting's minutes, acceptance of the minutes of the meeting was proposed by Mrs Shaw, seconded by Dr Macfarlane and carried unanimously. They were duly signed. (216/23)

4) Matters Arising From the Minutes

All matters arising are covered later in these minutes.

5) Reports by County and District Councillors

Cllr Cohen's report is attached. (217/23)

The District Councillors' report is also attached.. (218/23)

6) Planning Matters

New since Last Meeting

- S.23/1576/FUL, Development Site Behind Hounds Green', The Avenue, Change of use of land from agricultural to residential. It was noted that a group of residents have purchased the land in order to establish a garden and to prevent building. (219/23)
- S.23/2018/TCA, Pentire Wick Lane, Reduction of maple tree canopy by approx. 2-3m.

(220/23)

- S.23/2001/VAR, land At Hill House Wick Lane, variation of condition 2 (approved plans) from S.22/0225/FUL - alteration to the design including addition of two dormer windows, increase to the size of the garage and rear extension (221/23)

Decided Since Last Meeting

- S.23/1000/VAR, land At Hill House Wick Lane, non-material amendment to S.23/1000/VAR, alteration to garage and erection of dormer windows. Refused. (222/23)
- S.23/1716/TCA, 2 The Buildings, Cherry Tree - 3 metre crown reduction. Consent. (223/23)

Still Undecided

- S.23/1448/FUL, land adjacent To LorrIDGE Farm, alterations to access and widening of access track (retrospective) (224/23)
- S.23/1503/FUL, land adjacent To LorrIDGE Farm, change of use to agricultural yard (retrospective) and erection of agricultural building (225/23)
- S.23/1399/FUL, LorrIDGE Farm, change of use of land to commercial yard (retrospective) and erection of new commercial building. Resubmission of S.22/2702/FUL.(226/23)

Update on concerns about: -

- 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. Planning enforcement are aware of the concerns and are looking into the matter under reference EN23/0238 but there has been no further development as yet. (227/23)
- 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. Planning enforcement are aware of the concerns and are looking into the matter under reference EN23/0237 but there has been no further development as yet. (228/23)
- 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. Planning enforcement are aware of the concerns and are looking into the matter under reference EN23/0215 but there has been no further development as yet. (229/23)
- 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. Dr Macfarlane attended the appeal hearing on 10th October when evidence was presented about the function and viability of the project as well as Highways issues and possible visual impact. No date is yet set for a decision.(230/23)

7) Footpaths and Rights of Way

No decision has yet been reached about the rerouteing of footpaths CST19 and CST20. Dr Macfarlane has spoken to all parties about the Council's position. (231/23)

The plant growth on Old Hill Lane bridleway has now been cut back on both sides and passage is has been restored to full width. Both Old Hill Lane bridleway (Stinchcombe Bridleway 35) and Stinchcombe Bridleway 12 at Clingre Down have been reported to PROW and are on their list for inspection after concerns have been expressed about their surfaces. Dr MacFarlane has looked into registration of the Old Hill Lane bridleway with the Land Registry but the absence of title deeds means that this does not seem feasible. He has asked the Rugby club to store the bollard until it can be reinstated. Mrs Shaw has been in touch with Sarah Macauley-Lowe who has agreed to prioritise the replacement of the bollard at the Northfields entrance to Old Hill lane bridleway. Dr Macfarlane has asked the Rugby club to store the bollard until it can be reinstated and will speak to Sarah Macauley-Lowe about its location. . [Action Dr Macfarlane](#) (232/23)

The maize which was blocking one footpath has now been cut and the landowner has given an assurance that such a blockage will not occur again. However, a stile is missing and the ensuing gap is becoming encroached by growth. (233/23)

There is currently a dispute between neighbours about maintenance of a stile on CST 33 and accessibility of the path. An offer to install a kissing gate has been refused and solicitors are now involved. (234/23)

Mr Kirkham is willing to co-ordinate a quartile system of caring for footpaths if four dog-walkers are willing to take on monitoring the relevant areas. (235/23)

Mrs Shaw has been on touch with Gigaclear again as the damage done on the Old Hill Lane triangle has not been properly dealt with. She has been assured that it will be rectified and that replacement daffodils will be planted. (236/23)

8) Highways

The installation of the traffic-calming measures is now scheduled for the week beginning 6th November. The clerk will check with the contractor and Ms Hudson as to whether any council involvement will be required. [Action Clerk](#) (237/23)

The Council supports Ms Hudson's suggestion of finding out what level of support there would be in the village for a 20mph speed limit. She will be invited to update the council after the Speedwatch AGM on 3rd November. Nothing has been heard about warnings or restrictions on Taits Hill but the PCSO will be invited to attend a meeting in the New Year. [Action Clerk](#) (238/23)

There have been complaints about cars parking on the pavement on the Avenue at the recent Rugby club festivals. The Police have suggested using “no parking” bollards or cones along the relevant stretch. Dr MacFarlane will speak to residents of the buildings. [Action Dr Macfarlane](#) (239/23)

The current agreement with Highways that cutting of the Avenue verges should be delayed while wildflowers are blooming is not working and it was agreed to allow it to lapse even though this may mean flowers being cut back slightly earlier than necessary. [Action Dr Macfarlane](#) (240/23)

9) Facilities

There can be no further progress on the Church Field playground until the lease is finalised. The Clerk ask Ashford's for an update. [Action Clerk](#) (241/23)

Mr Pinch has drawn up plans of the Rugby Club play area to attach to the lease which can hopefully now go forward. The Club will take responsibility for the third gate to block the gap between the gatepost and wall. The council will be responsible for the fence and two other gates and Mr Pinch is looking into costs. Mr Lane kindly offered to look into the possibility of some grant funding from the Community Ownership Fund. [Action Mr Lane](#). (242/23)

Mr Pinch has confirmed that it would cost £50 to raise the level of the Avenue planter to make the plants more visible. Dr MacFarlane proposed and Mrs Legg seconded going ahead with this and the motion was carried unanimously. (243/23)

10) Environment

Nothing has yet been heard back from the Ash Dieback Project' but the Clerk has passed on concerns that any planting in front of the Swedish houses should not block visibility at the junction with the bridleway. (244/23)

It was felt that the Hedgehog Highway Project is more suited to a more urban environment but that it would be useful to highlight the issue in Enews. Mr Kirkham will ask Mrs Kirkham to write something. [Action Mr Kirkham](#). (245/23)

11) Financial Matters

The statement of payments and receipts was signed by Dr MacFarlane. (246/23)

Authorisation for payment of the Clerk's salary of £394.95 and annual donations of £300 each to the Village Hall and Stinchcombe Hill Trust was proposed by Mr Kirkham, seconded by Mrs Shaw and carried unanimously. (247/23)

12) Councillors' Reports

Mr Kirkham has cleared the ivy from the Avenue trees. (248/23)

13) Data Protection

There were no Data Protection issues.

14) Training Possibilities

GAPTC have several training opportunities which might be useful. The Clerk will check and circulate the latest schedule. [Action Clerk](#) (249/23)

15) Councillor Vacancy

Mrs Davidson has resigned from the Council because of personal commitments. The Council is grateful for her contribution over the last two years and she will be missed. The Clerk will check on whether Mr Davidson intends to continue as Footpath Warden. [Action Clerk](#) (250/23)

It was suggested that more publicity is needed about what the Council does and has achieved in order to encourage more interest in joining. Mrs Legg will co-ordinate this. [Action Mrs Legg](#) (251/23)

The Clerk does not intend to continue in post after the next AGM. (252/23)

17) Possible D-Day Celebrations

The History society has no plans to mark D-Day but will be organising an event for VE Day. Mr Kirkham is willing to organise a beacon and Mrs Shaw will ask the Village Hall committee if they have any plans. [Action Mrs Shaw](#) (253/23)

18) Items for Website

Mr Kirkham will arrange with his wife to post an article on hedgehogs and Mrs Legg will liaise with Mr Bartlam about updating Council details. [Action Mr Kirkham and Mrs Legg](#) (254/23)

19) Dates of Next Meetings

Wed 6th Dec 7.00pm

Wed 10th Jan 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.55pm.

