



Parish Council Meeting - Minutes

Recorded by: Mandy Rossiter - Clerk

Date: 2nd March 2023

Meeting Commenced: 19:30

Meeting ended: 21:30

Present:

Parish Councillors:	Peter Lead (Chairman) Katharine McNealey Iain Dunbar Elizabeth Hasinski
District Councillors:	
County Councillor:	
Clerk:	Mandy Rossiter
Other:	Four Members of Public

Items

2023/23 To receive and accept any apologies for absence
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Noon, Cllr Baynham-Honri, Cllr Smith and Cllr Robinson

2023/24 To invite and receive any declarations of pecuniary interest in items on the agenda
There were none

2023/25 To offer an open forum to members of the public for discussions and questions
Four members of the public were in attendance and raised the following matters:

- A member of public asked if anything could be done about traffic exiting Beech Grove without giving way to traffic on Selsley Rd. Also concerns about parking and lack of clear site lines on Selsley Rd. Cllr Dunbar advised that the PC had no powers in this respect and that it was a police matter. PC cannot install the vehicle activated speed cameras without prior approval by GCC Highways and there are strict conditions relating to their location.

Initials.....

- A member of public reported that the road surface on Beech Grove was in very poor condition and should be re-surfaced. Clerk to report to GCC Highways via Steve Robinson and request that the works be added to the schedule of roads needing re-surfacing, should any funding become available.
- A member of public reported a dropped manhole cover on Southfield Rd, just outside Southfield Mill. Cllr Dunbar will report to GCC Highways for action
- Debris clearance still required along Selsley Rd. Clerk to contact contractor
- Overhanging branches at the concrete bus shelter on the A46 (Stroud to Nailsworth side). Clerk to report this to Highways
- A discussion took place regarding agenda item 2023/29 (a) in objection to the plans submitted. The council agreed to take the comments into consideration when making their comments to SDC. A representative of the Ram Supporters group expressed a number of concerns relating to the revised planning application for the house in the former Ram car park. These included some queries as to the accuracy of the boundaries of the site when compared to details held by the Land Registry.
National Grid also had concerns regarding site boundaries adjacent to the electricity sub-station. The chairman asked if these comments could be emailed to the Parish Clerk.
- A member of the public notified the Parish Council that the landlord of The Ram public house had died suddenly. PC members expressed their sympathy to members of Mr McAseys family.

2023/26 To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 5th January 2023
The minutes were approved by all and signed by chairman

2023/27 To receive County and District Councillor reports (appendix 1)
The chairman read the report in the Cllr Robinsons absence and the council commented on the following items:

- It was noted that due to a reduction in meal delivery services some members of the community had been voluntarily supporting individuals in need. The council commended the persons involved on their actions.
- Chair thanked Cllr Robinson for his offer to support Woodchester PC in funding a further Grit bin. It was agreed that one was required by the Village Shop. Clerk to email Cllr Robinson and also enquire about purchasing further bins at a discounted rate through GCC

2023/28 To receive the Clerk's report on actions and correspondence following previous Parish Council Meetings and agree any further actions (appendix 2)
Council confirmed receipt of the report and made the following comments:

- Minute reference 2022/140 action to investigate electronic storage for parish files has been adopted by the Woodchester Historical Society. Council thanked the society for their assistance.
- Cllr McNealey noted that her home number was currently out of use and requested Clerk to amend website to provide mobile number instead
- Council was unsure whether the snow plough operator had been reimbursed for the works carried out on behalf of the parish this winter. It was agreed that the council would fund the reimbursement if GCC refuse to make the payment. Cllr Lead to discuss with snow plough operator
- Chairman highlighted the note re the old school site and confirmed that the property would go to open market

Initials.....

- Minute reference 2023/3 action to check legal stance on permissive rights of way becoming public was discussed by chair who summarised that the PC has no authority in this matter.

2023/29 To consider and comment on the following planning applications/enforcements, decisions and appeals:
 a. S. S.23/0218/FUL | Erection of detached dwelling house. (Resubmission of S.22/2130/FUL). | Land To The East Of Ram Inn High Street South Woodchester Stroud Gloucestershire

Chair summarised application and considered the points made in the public session. It was agreed that the following comment would be sent to SDC:

Woodchester Parish Council agrees with the Conservation specialist. Whilst the applicant has listened to the advice of the planning officer, non the less the roof design is quite alien to the local architecture and would harm the conservation area. It is stated in the Design and Access Statement that the flat roof cannot be seen from the road. Whilst this may be true from adjacent to the proposed dwelling it certainly is not from higher in the High Street and Church Street.

The permitted development for the car park is now excluded from the red edged area and shown edged blue. The boundary wall and pedestrian access between the two parking areas has not been built as permitted in S.18-1039-FUL. It is important that this is built in line with the consent and as guided by the Highways Department.

The land edged blue includes the land owned by the National Grid and is referred to as land that is occupied under licence from the National Grid. The Estates surveyor for the National Grid is not aware of such agreement and has concerns that the proposed development could adversely affect the substation.

Whilst we note that the applicant has endeavoured to reduce the scale and appearance of the dwelling it still falls short of the quality of design required in a Conservation Area. On these grounds and with the knowledge of concerns raised by National Grid we cannot support this application and would ask you to refuse permission.

We wish to underline our concerns over the re-development of the car parking area and wish that all conditions attached to planning consent S.18-1039-FUL will still apply and be enforced.

b. S.23/0275/LBC | Replacement front door. | Woodchester Mansion Woodchester Park Nymphsfield Stonehouse Gloucestershire GL10 3TS

The council considered the application and agreed to make no comment

c. S.23/0100/HHOLD | Two storey extension | Old School House Atcombe Road South Woodchester Stroud Gloucestershire GL5 5EP

The council considered the application and agreed to make no comment

2023/30 To note decisions made by Stroud District Council on planning applications/enforcements and appeals since January 5th Meeting (Appendix 3)
 Noted – Appendix will be uploaded to website

2023/31	To receive an update on the Easter opening event for Woodchester Recreational Field and Play area and agree next steps
	<p>Cllr Dunbar gave a full report on progress with the play area and advised that the equipment has now been installed but requires a safety inspection which is due to happen on the 18th of March. The play area will remain closed until the official opening day on the 8th April. It was agreed to delegate authority to clerk to arrange insurance on the play area from the hand over date from installers.</p> <p>The council clarified that the Ash Dieback will be managed by GCC and they will be monitored annually. The PC will be responsible for routine maintenance.</p> <p>The council gave thanks to the Cotswold wardens who are funding and installing new gates at the recreation field. It was noted that they may not be ready before the opening event on the 8th April.</p> <p>The council discussed plans for the Easter event and agreed the following: The event will take place on the 8th April from 10am. At 10:30 there will be a football match, potentially Minchinhampton Rangers and the primary school. It was noted that Forest Green Rovers had been approached to support in the event but were regrettably unavailable, they have however offered some tickets to a future Forest Green match. The council agreed a catering budget of up to £100 and will offer free refreshments at the event. The official opening will take place at 12pm and the play area will be opened by County Councillor Steve Robinson. Cllr Dunbar will lead on advertising the event, Cllr McNealey will lead on the refreshments and treats for children as well as sourcing bunting and updating the Facebook page. Cllr Lead will arrange for a pop up café to attend (unfunded) and Clerk will add event date to website</p>
2023/32	<p>To receive an update on road safety matters and agree further actions</p> <p>Council reported that three speed watching sessions have now been completed on Frogmarsh Lane. 18% of vehicles exceeded the speed limit and the maximum speed recorded was over 80mph. The information has been sent to Police Community Support Officer for enforcement, however there has been no response. Cllr Dunbar will request enforcement sessions through the constabulary.</p> <p>Whilst reporting on road safety issues it was agreed that Cllr Dunbar will arrange for “slow down” signs to be placed along the cycle track on the approach to the new play area. This will be funded through the play area budget.</p>
2023/33	<p>To discuss and agree proposals to adopt SDC Parish and Town Council charter</p> <p>Clerk to share charter and add to next agenda</p>
2023/34	<p>To discuss upcoming events and agree actions</p> <p>The council discussed the possibility of supporting a community organised event for the King’s Coronation. Cllr Hasinski agreed to lead on this on behalf of the PC and has already been approached by a member of public who is willing to lead a working party. It was proposed that the event will take place on 7th May and the council agreed to fund up to £700 from the events budget.</p>
2023/35	<p>To approve expenditure and sign cheques as per payment schedule (appendix 4)</p> <p>The council agreed the expenditure and signed the cheques</p>
2023/36	<p>To note the latest financial statements (appendix 5)</p>

Initials.....

The bank reconciliation was viewed and approved. A copy was signed by the chair.

2023/37 To receive verbal reports from councillors
Cllr Dunbar – Still awaiting Speed Sign bin stickers, but have been promised that they will arrive soon
Cllr Lead – Discussed litter picking within the village and will add a note to his Woodchester Word insert encouraging residents to take pride in their village and keep it tidy. It was agreed that the clerk would deliver the litter pickers to chairman so that they can be more accessible to public wishing to use them.
A discussion took place about arranging a litter picking event in March and potentially a Litter Pickers Party in October. To be discussed by council further to agree arrangements.
Cllr McNealey reported fly tipping in layby on Selsley road. Clerk will report to SDC

2023/38 To note date of next meeting
The next meeting will be held on Thursday 11th May 2023 – This will be the Annual Parish Meeting starting at 7pm followed by the Annual Meeting of the council.

Initials.....