

Stockbridge Parish Council



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 17th APRIL 2025 AT 7:15PM AT THE STOCKBRIDGE TOWN HALL, STOCKBRIDGE

Present: Cllrs D Halle (Chair) D Smith, M Porter, A Lawrence,
M Norton, B Powell, H Jackson, T Cooke

Cllrs D Drew

Apologies: Cllrs L Ellis

Clerk: Belinda Baker

Public attendance: Three

C/25/001 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Ellis.

C/25/002 **To receive declarations of pecuniary interests (DPIs) and other significant interests from members concerning items on the agenda**
None were declared

C/25/003 **Public Participation**

The members of public wanted to speak about a specific item and a planning application 25/00720 and agreed to wait until that part of the Agenda.

C/25/004 **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20th March 2025**

a. To approve and sign the minutes of 20th March 2025.

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

b. To deal with matters arising not on the agenda

- The Council agreed to purchase a thank you gift for the volunteer who was clearing the High Street flint stones.

Action: Clerk

c. To deal with any correspondence

- The TVBC Mayor's office had sent a thank you note for the reception at the QE II memorial garden event.
- A letter from SOS making clear the group's opposition to a NDP had been circulated to all Cllrs

C/25/005 **Permissive Footpath from Stockbridge Down**

The member of public said drew the Council's attention to the fact that there was no connecting path from the Penny Lane exit onto the A3027 to take a walker into Stockbridge. He proposed a gate should be installed at a safe place opposite the Penny Lane exit and a permissive footpath installed along the inner hedge to take walkers to Stockbridge. The Council unanimously agreed

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to pursue this proposal. Cllr Norton agreed to approach one of the landowners and the Clerk the other. She was asked to email HCC's RoW team for advice.

Action: Cllr Norton, Clerk

C/25/006 **Borough and County Councillor Reports**

- i Cllr Drew had circulated a report before the meeting. He referred to the proposals for devolution in Hampshire and new unitary authorities. He said there was scope for a Mayor to make significant improvements for Hampshire residents. He noted that the Govt did not want to make significant changes to the borough borders because this would involve the Boundary Commission. He said there was £12.5m support available for the cost of living.

- ii Cllr Jeffery had sent a report but did not attend. There were no comments

C/25/007 **Neighbourhood Development Plans**

- a. **Agree whether to form a WG to investigate the appropriateness of a NDP for Stockbridge.**

The Council agreed not to form a WG.

Cllr Lawrence made comments against the appropriateness of an NDP for Stockbridge.

C/25/008 **HCC's Parking Survey**

Cllr Norton updated the Council to say over 250 responses had been received and they were overwhelmingly in favour of not having a paid parking regime. This included responses from the traders. Cllr Lawrence pointed out that a paid parking regime was mentioned in the contract advertisement as a motivation for the survey. Cllr Norton felt that having addressed the parking issue SPC could approach HCC for other improvements. The Council agreed the WG should work with the Clerk to draft a letter to HCC. Cllr Smith thanked the WG for their efforts.

Action: Parking WG, Clerk

C/25/009 **Recreation Ground and Playground**

- a. **Receive inspection report**

This was noted as not having any immediate concerns.

Action: Clerk

- b. **Update on tree work**

Cllr Porter expressed concern that the work on the trees that had taken place did not address the height of the trees. The Clerk had written to the neighbouring landowners but there had been no response yet.

- c. **Receive Recreation Ground Trust accounts**

These had been received and the contents noted.

- d. **Update on storage unit**

Cllr Powell confirmed that it was still possible to get hold of the storage unit but transporting it across the Recreation Ground was always going to be difficult without the consent of the Football Club.

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Cllr Lawrence left the meeting

- C/25/010 Resilience**
Cllr Powell said the idea behind the plan was to be able to contact the most vulnerable residents and ensure they were safe and he had focused on that aspect of the plan. He asked other Councillors to read through the plan before the next meeting and provide feedback. He had received permission that the Primary School could be used as a community muster point. He said that communication would be very important and suggested that the Council purchased walkie-talkie radios. He was asked to investigate the price of this. The Council thanked Cllr Powell for his efforts.
Action: Cllr Powell, All Cllrs
- C/25/011 Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Garden**
a. Update on lease of land
Cllr Halle agreed to order screws and earth anchors to secure the benches. The Council agreed to purchase a composter for £43. There was no update on the lease.
Action: Cllr Halle, Clerk
- C/25/012 Cemetery**
a. Memorials Policy
The Council agreed to refer the policy provided to the May meeting.
Action: Clerk
- C/25/013 River Test Pollution**
a. Consider purchase of water monitoring equipment
Cllr Ellis did not attend. The Council agreed to the matter to the next meeting.
- Cllr Jackson left the meeting
- C/25/014 Lancaster House**
Cllr Smith acknowledged that the site needed thinning of trees but said that the wind had been doing this work. He said that gradually the central plateau was becoming more open but the ivy was still rampant. He commented that the suggestion to use the site as a natural cemetery may be appropriate. Cllr Powell agreed to take a walk over the site with Cllr Smith.
Action: Cllrs Powell and Smith
- C/25/015 Infrastructure Projects**
a. New SLR
Cllr Powell agreed to investigate the downloading of data and the most appropriate SLR.
b. Phone Boxes

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The quotation from A Smith Painting and Decorating was accepted £2,000 + materials. As the quotation was higher than the reserve held for this work the Clerk was asked to approach the Town Hall for a grant. The Clerk was asked to enquire if planning permission was needed.

Action: Clerk

C/25/016

Council Communications

a. Content for June Newsletter

This was agreed as Trout 'n About's request for a road closure, the phone boxes and the permissive footpath.

b. Report from the community surgery

No one had been able to attend.

Action: Clerk

C/25/017

Village Matters and Maintenance

a. Lengthsman and Maintenance

It was noted that the finger post at the cycle lane needed replacing. The Clerk had met with Cllr Ellis to handover the lengthsman.

Action: Clerk

b. VE Day celebrations

Cllr Smith agreed to collect the flags and meet with the Clerk and the installer. The flags were to be installed weekend of 26/27 April.

Action: Cllr Smith, Clerk

C/25/018

Finance

a. Recent Transactions – to approve income and expenditure since last meeting

Income and payments 171 -182 and 1-6 were circulated ahead of the meeting and were reviewed and approved. Income was from the Rural England Development fund for the QE II garden, for the cemetery and the precept.

Opening bank balance		30948.77
TVBC (REPF)	Income	1462.16
Blackwell and Moody (cemetery)	Income	165
TVBC (REPF)	Income	10583.27
Haven Memorials (cemetery)	Income	165
TVBC (precept)	Income	11144
STHC (room hire)	172	21
Greenway Training	173	300
B Baker (survey and refreshments)	174	88.65
ADH Printing	175	248.2
Kiwi fencing (kissing gate)	176	2352
Infinity Playground (Quarterly inspection)	177	57
Infinity Playground (Repairs to playground)	178	162

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HMRC (Clerk's tax & Emp NI)	179	182.60
Hugo Fox (website)	180	11.99
B Baker (Salary + lengthsman -tax – pension + Staff Comm + back pay)	181	673.91
Unity Bank (Service charge)	182	6
Standard Life (pension both)	1	27.15
Prego Deli (refreshments)	2	118.25
HMRC (Clerk's tax & Emp NI)	3	240.77
Shane Ling (cemetery maintenance)	4	322
YMML (Clerk's office expense)	5	36
ICCM (Membership)	6	106
Closing balance		49514.68

Savings Account

Opening Balance		44690.61
Credit Interest		281.37
Closing balance		44971.98

- b. **To approve final 2024/2025 budget year to date.**
Expenditure against budget was reviewed, approved and agreed.
- c. **To approve 2025/2026 budget year to date**
Expenditure against budget was reviewed, approved and agreed.

C/25/019

Planning

a. New Applications – To agree

Number	Address	Description	Result
25/00772/CLPN	The Red Barn Somborne Park Road Stockbridge Hampshire	Application for lawful development certificate for proposed change of use of agricultural building to E(g)(i) use (office to carry out any operational or administrative functions)	24/04/25
The Council had no comment to make.			
25/00720/FULLS	Field North Of North Park Farm Somborne Park Road Little Somborne Hampshire	Installation of ground mounted solar panels	25/04/25
The Council supported the application			

b. To note recent decisions

Number	Address	Description	Result
24/02849/TPON	Cannon House Old London Road Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EJ	T1 - Horse Chestnut sp. (TPO.TVBC.0188A) - Cut back to pre- existing cuts 3m epicormic growth. Clean up stub cuts and rot pockets	Consent

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25/00395/TREEN	Inglenook High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EX	T1 Ornamental Pear tree - pollard up to 6m, T2 Silver Birch - fell	No Objection
24/02863/FULLN	Penny Lane Barn Penny Lane Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6JJ	Retrospective change of use of land to residential, construction of retaining walls, creation of access and associated landscaping	Refuse
25/00141/FULLN	Penny Lane Barn Penny Lane Stockbridge	Retention of 2 pumps air source heat	Consent
25/00255/LBWN	Kings Head House High Street Stockbridge	Replacement of five barred gate with automated opening gate and erection of fence	Consent

c. To note decisions awaited

Number	Address	Description	Date
25/00590/PDMA N	3 Clarendon Terrace High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EY	Application to determine if prior approval is required for proposed change of use from Class E (Commercial, Business and Services) to a single dwellinghouse (Class C3	05/04/25
APP/C1760/C/25/ 3362588	Grosvenor Hotel, High Street, Stockbridge, Hampshire	Appeal against without planning permission, the construction of a wooden framed building with a corrugated metal sheet roof	19/05/25

e. Enforcements

There were none.

C/25/020

Health and Safety

There were none reported

C/25/021

Items for next agenda and date of next meeting

The next Council meeting is due to be held on 15th May 2025 at the Town Hall. Items for the Agenda:
Election of Chair of the Council.
Water Monitoring
Cemetery memorial policy
SLR

Action: Clerk

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

Signed.....

Date.....