

# Stockbridge Parish Council



## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 20<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2025 AT 7:15PM AT THE STOCKBRIDGE TOWN HALL, STOCKBRIDGE

**Present:** Cllrs D Halle (Chair) D Smith, M Porter, A Lawrence,  
M Norton, L Ellis

Cllrs D Drew

**Apologies:** Cllrs H Jackson, B Powell

**Clerk:** Belinda Baker

**Public attendance:** Six, Mrs Tracy Cooke and two TVBC officers

**C/24/238** **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Jackson and Powell.

**C/24/239** **Co-Option of a Councillor**

Mrs Tracy Cooke had put herself forward for Co-option. She had provided information about herself that had been circulated before the meeting. There being no questions from Cllrs, Mrs Cooke was co-opted and welcomed to the Council.

**C/24/240** **To receive declarations of pecuniary interests (DPIs) and other significant interests from members concerning items on the agenda**

None were declared

**C/24/241** **Public Participation**

The members of public wanted to speak about a matter on the Agenda and agreed to wait until that part of the Agenda.

**C/24/242** **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

**a. To approve and sign the minutes of 20<sup>th</sup> February 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 National Trust had supplied water monitoring information C/24/203. It was agreed to defer the matter to April's Agenda.

**c. To deal with any correspondence**

There was none.

**C/24/243** **Neighbourhood Development Plans**

The TVBC officers addressed the Council to say that the NDP toolkit had been

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updated on TVBC's website. She said the toolkit didn't tell the PC how to do a plan but it provided helpful policy templates. She said an NDP worked best when communities came together to say what they wanted and there was ongoing community involvement. She said establishing steering groups was the best starting point. She said an NDP was a good way to get the community's voice heard in the Local Plan and it could be used to allocate green space and identify community assets. She warned that there was a significant uplift in in the Borough's requirement for new housing. Cllr Lawrence opined that the purpose of the NDP was to allocate land for housing, he pointed out that there was little available land in Stockbridge for housing and he said he believed a NDP could not override a Local Plan. He queried the changes that TVBC suggested were likely to happen. He pointed out that Longstock was included erroneously in the Local Plan as being part of Stockbridge. He asked if the conservation area could be re-appraised and suggested that the VDS could be used to provide the necessary protection. Cllr Drew suggested that this strategy was risky. He pointed out that the Planning Inspector might well allocate housing in Stockbridge even if the Local Plan did not support it. Cllr Norton proposed that there should be a further meeting in order to consider all the options. It was agreed to put the matter on the April Agenda.

**Action: Clerk**

**C/24/244**

### **HCC's Parking Survey**

Cllr Norton addressed the Council to say he was aware that there was a lot of "noise" regarding the survey (C/24/224) but he recognised that handing it out at the recent Court Leet hadn't been helpful. He said it was important to note that the survey was just the beginning of the process. He said an updated survey would be going out in the PC newsletter which was delivered to all. He said engaging with the traders had been problematic because there was no trader's association. He said it was the WG view that the balance of the economy in Stockbridge was quite delicate and installing parking restrictions may have a negative impact. He asked the PC to resolve that the Council did not support a paid parking regime in Stockbridge. This was unanimously agreed. A member of public queried why another survey was being undertaken, he said residents would wonder why it was needed. Cllr Halle explained that HCC had undertaken a survey and the PC was required to respond to it. Cllr Norton noted that although residents might be irritated it was important that the community wasn't corralled into a decision by HCC. The member of the public noted that the road needed improvements and fixing them would cost money which was HCC justification of charging for parking. It was noted that after parking charges were installed in Lymington there was a reduction of footfall by 20%. The Council agreed the contents of the survey and the online version.

**Action: HS Parking WG, Clerk**

**C/24/245**

### **Borough and County Councillor Reports**

a. Cllr Drew confirmed that the 4.99% HCC Council Tax rise did not even

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cover the increased costs. He said it was frustrating knowing that HCC had less to spend each year. He noted the capital spend allocation was on new and extending school buildings, bridges and transport schemes. He was unaware of any plans to install paid parking in Stockbridge and said no one wanted to see businesses damaged. He said that 90% of children got their first place secondary school. The Clerk confirmed that Cllr Drew's grant fund had given the PC £250 towards the Xmas lights fund (C/24/223). The Council thanked Cllr Drew for this support.

- ii Cllr Jeffery had sent a report which had been circulated. There were no comments.

- b. **Update on Devolution Proposals**

Cllr Drew said that the devolution proposals was about money coming from central Govt to be spent locally. He said more money could be spent on infrastructure and upskilling. He said that there was still a debate as to the number of unitaries there should be on the mainland.

Cllr Ellis left the meeting

### **C/24/246 VE Day Celebrations**

It was noted that there did not appear to be any plans for VE Day celebrations. The Council agreed to install the Union Jack flags along the High Street. It was agreed to pay £80 for the flags to be put up and taken down. The money would be taken from the Coronation Event reserve.

**Action: Clerk**

### **C/24/247 Playground**

Infinity had undertaken the remedial works. Cllr Porter felt that the tree work that had been undertaken by a neighbour did not go far enough because the height of the trees had not been dealt with. The Clerk was asked to write again to the neighbours to ask for the height to be reduced and include that the PC was able to offer a meaningful contribution towards the cost.

**Action: Clerk**

### **C/24/248 Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Garden**

- a. **Lease of the land**

TVBC had now removed the objection to SPC being allowed to cut back the hedging (C/24/226b), however there was still no agreement regarding the path and the level of indemnity required. Cllr Lawrence commented that TVBC was demanding a level of protection that would only be relevant in a commercial environment. Cllr Cooke commented that she was impressed with the space. Cllr Halle agreed to investigate fixing the benches permanently.

**Action: Clerk**

- b. **Grant application.**

The Clerk confirmed that the first application had been made and the first

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payment from TVBC was on its way. Only the claim for the invoice from Longstock Nurseries was outstanding.

**Action: Clerk**

**c. Opening event**

The date for the opening event was agreed to be 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 3pm. The Clerk was asked to organise refreshments through sale and return from Pregos. The budget would be up to £200.

**Action: Clerk**

Cllr Lawrence left the meeting

**C/24/249**

**Risk Assessments**

**a. Agree updated risk assessments**

The updated risk assessments for the Daffodil Run volunteers, the Lancaster House project, the Xmas tree installations, the playground, the newsletter delivery and the phone boxes were reviewed and agreed. The new risk assessment for the QE II Memorial Garden was agreed.

**Action: Clerk**

**b. Agree Financial Processes**

The updated financial processes and the risk assessment for the processes was agreed. Cllr Cooke agreed to become a bank authorisee.

**Action: Cllr Cooke, Clerk**

**C/24/250**

**Cemetery Policies/Forms to agree**

**a. Cemetery Policy**

The updated cemetery policy was agreed.

**Action: Clerk**

**b. Memorial Policy**

The Council agreed to refer this to the April meeting.

**Action: Clerk**

**C/24/251**

**Infrastructure Projects**

**a. New SLR**

Cllr Powell did not attend (C/24/230a)

**b. Kissing gate at RoW**

This was due to be installed the following week. The Clerk had been unable to close the path for the work. Access was agreed to be possible from the National Trust gate across the fields. Cllr Norton agreed to liaise with the contractor.

**Action: Cllr Norton**

**c. Phone Boxes**

One quotation had been provided. The Clerk was asked to chase for two others.

**Action: Clerk**

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C/24/252

### Council Communications

- a. **Report from the community surgery**  
None had attended.
- b. **Content for March Newsletter**  
This was agreed.

**Action: Clerk**

C/24/253

### Village Matters and Maintenance

- a. **Lengthsman and Maintenance**  
No tasks for the lengthsman were discussed. It was agreed that the member of public who had been clearing the flints on the High Street should be thanked with some chocolates. The Clerk was asked to arrange. The Clerk was due to meet Cllr Ellis to handover the lengthsman scheduling.
- b. **Training for RoW work**  
This was due to take place at the end of April.
- c. **Daffodil Run volunteers**  
The annual daffodil run was due to take place April 6<sup>th</sup>. Cllr Halle confirmed enough volunteers had come forward.

**Action: Clerk**

**Action: Clerk**

**Action: Cllr Halle**

C/24/254

### Finance

- a. **Recent Transactions – to approve income and expenditure since last meeting**  
Income and payments 156 - 171 were circulated ahead of the meeting and were reviewed and approved. Income was for the Xmas fund grant from Trout 'n About and HCC and the share of SLCC membership.

Opening bank balance		45166.30
HWPC (SLCC membership)	Income	160
HCC (Xmas fund)	Income	250
Trout 'n About (Xmas fund)	Income	500
B Baker (Salary + lengthsman -tax – pension + Staff Comm + back pay)	156	673.91
Hugo Fox (website)	157	11.99
ICO (Data Protection)	158	47
Unity Bank (service charge)	159	6
Standard Life (pension both)	160	27.15
G & M Jacobs (newsletter delivery)	161	125
HALC (Training crse)	162	117.60
STHC (room hire)	163	21
HWPC (Share of Clerk's HALC update)	164	24



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YMML (Clerk's office expense)	165	36
OVO Energy (Milsom)	166	21.79
Shane Ling (lengthsman Feb)	167	586.50
Waitrose (QE II garden)	168	12684.26
TVBC (dog bin emptying)	169	283.96
B Baker (travelling expenses)	170	67.90
B Baker (Sign and QE II maintenance tools)	171	394.25
Closing balance		30948.77

### Savings Account

Opening Balance		44690.61
Closing balance		44690.61

### b. To approve budget year to date.

Expenditure against budget was reviewed, approved and agreed.

### c. Agree the asset register

The QE II Memorial Park items had been included in asset register and 2 planters had been removed. The Asset Register was agreed.

**Action: Clerk**

C/24/255

### Planning

#### a. New Applications – To agree

Number	Address	Description	Date
25/00395/TREEN	Inglenook High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EX	T1 Ornamental Pear tree - pollard up to 6m, T2 Silver Birch - fell	
The Council had no objection.			
25/00590/PDMAN	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)	05/04/2025
The Council had no objection.			

#### c. To note recent decisions

Number	Address	Description	Result
25/00038/FULLN	The Hideaway, High Street, Stockbridge, Hampshire	Use of the property as a single dwellinghouse, provision of new access, parking, retention of 2 Air Source Heat Pumps and raised platforms	Withdrawn
25/00321/TREEN	Room 5 - 6 2 Clarendon Terrace High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EY	T1- Yew- Reduce overall canopy by 1-1.5m, raise canopy by 1m and raise tree line from fence line	No objections

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25/00315/TREEN	Fishmore House High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EY	(T1) Plane Tree - Reduce easterly limb by up to 2m to balance crown and reduce weight on limb	No objections
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

### d. To note decisions awaited

Number	Address	Description	Date
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	26/02/25
25/00141/FULLN	Penny Lane Barn Penny Lane Stockbridge	Retention of 2 pumps air source heat	26/02/25
25/00255/LBWN	Kings Head House High Street Stockbridge	Replacement of five barred gate with automated opening gate and erection of fence	07/03/25

### e. Enforcements

There were none.

C/24/256

#### Health and Safety

There were none reported

C/23/257

#### Items for next Agenda and date of next meeting

The next Council meeting is due to be held on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at the Town Hall. Items for the Agenda:  
HCC's Parking Survey.  
Water Monitoring  
Neighbourhood Development Plan  
Cemetery memorial policy

Action: Clerk

The meeting closed at 9.50pm

Signed.....

Date.....