

# Stockbridge Parish Council



## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 16<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2025 AT 7:15PM AT THE STOCKBRIDGE TOWN HALL, STOCKBRIDGE

**Present:** Cllrs M Porter (Chair) H Jackson, D Smith,  
M Norton

Cllrs I Jeffery

**Apologies:** Cllrs B Powell, A Lawrence, L Ellis, D Halle  
D Drew

**Clerk:** Belinda Baker

**Public attendance:** None

### **C/24/197** **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Lawrence, Powell, Ellis and Halle and Cllr Drew. The resignations of Cllrs Marshall and Parr were acknowledged. The Clerk had posted the notices of resignation. She said co-options could be held from 20<sup>th</sup> February.

**C/24/198** **To receive declarations of pecuniary interests (DPIs) and other significant interests from members concerning items on the agenda**  
None were declared

**C/24/199** **Public Participation**  
None attended.

**C/24/200** **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024**  
**a. To approve and sign the minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024.**  
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**  
There was none.  
**c. To deal with any correspondence**  
There was none

**C/24/201** **Borough and County Councillor Reports**  
**i** Cllr Jeffery spoke to say that the government was proposing to implement devolution in Hampshire. IoW and the Solent area and that the present authorities had requested that this proposal should be fast tracked. It would not be known if this had been granted until the end of January. The re-organisation would entail the disappearance of Borough Councils and creation of unitary authorities with populations of over 500,000. Cllr Jeffery said he felt it was likely

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there would be 4 unitaries in Hampshire. There was no agreement on how these authorities would be made up but he was keen that TVBC would not be forced to join another borough that was in financial difficulties. He said that adult social care will sit with the new unitaries. He said that this new form of local government would be imposed but he was keen that things should be done in the right order and the mayor should be elected first.

- ii Cllr Drew had sent a report. There were no comments

### **C/24/202      HCC's Parking Survey**

The final version of the parking survey had now been received and circulated. As it had only been received the day before the meeting it was agreed that the Clerk should inform HCC that the Council was unable to respond until after the March meeting. The Council agreed to set up a Working Group. It was agreed that Cllr Norton would Chair. Cllr Porter agreed to join the group. Other members from the community would be invited to join the group.

**Action: Cllrs Norton and Porter, Clerk**

### **C/24/203      River Test Pan Parish Forum**

Cllrs Ellis and Jackson had attended the recent meeting. Cllr Jackson reported that the water quality monitoring device in Houghton was proving effective. It was queried if it was appropriate that Stockbridge should have a similar device because the water seemed to be contaminated at different points. Cllr Porter suggested contacting the National Trust because he understood that they tested the water around Stockbridge. The Clerk was asked to contact the National Trust.

**Action: Clerk**

### **C/24/204      Town Hall Representative**

Since Cllr Parr had resigned there needed to be a new representative as a Town Hall trustee. Cllr Porter put himself forward and was agreed.

**Action: Cllr Porter, Clerk**

### **C/24/205      Playground**

#### **a.      Receive quarterly inspection report**

The recent quarterly inspection report was noted. The Clerk was asked to write to the neighbouring property to ask them to prune the trees which were now stretching over the playground and taking away the light.

**Action: Clerk**

#### **b.      Agree any improvements**

The recommendations raised in the inspection report were discussed. The Council agreed for Infinity Playgrounds to undertake repairs to the gate. The lengthsman would be asked to power wash the equipment and surface.

**Action: Clerk**

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- C/24/206**      **Christmas Lights Project**  
The budget from the Christmas lights project was agreed. Donations were still expected from Trout 'n About. The Council agreed that the carry over funds of £907 should remain as earmarked reserves for Christmas 2025.  
**Action: Clerk**
- C/24/207**      **Resilience**  
Cllr Powell did not attend. There was no update on the plan.
- C/24/208**      **Cemetery**  
**a. Confirm of tree work**  
There was no date provided on the agreed tree work.  
**Action: Clerk**  
**b. Proposal for a volunteer day**  
This was not taken forward.
- C/24/209**      **Lancaster House**  
**a. Consider setting up Trust for the site**  
The Council agreed not to pursue this.  
**b. Any matters to be considered after the recent storms**  
Cllr Smith said the recent storms had taken down some old and diseased trees. He had cut back fallen trees from the road and had made the area safe. He said some woodland areas were now more open. The Council thanked him for his work.
- C/24/210**      **Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Garden**  
**a. Update on S106 money**  
The Clerk said that she had still not had confirmation from TVBC (C/24/189) that the S106 money could be used for the project. She pointed out that time was running out. Longstock Nursery was due to start work on 27<sup>th</sup> January. She had sent a chaser email to Mr Ferrier copied to Ms Caroline Nokes MP. Cllr Jeffery said he would take the matter up with Mr Ferrier the next day. He hoped to be able to resolve it. The Clerk said that TVBC wanted to arrange a lease for the land for up to 10 years at no cost to the PC. The Council agreed unanimously to take on the lease (which was a condition of the REPF funding). Cllr Jackson and Porter agreed to be signatories and were asked to have their identity and signatures verified by a solicitor.  
**Action: Clerk**  
**b. Confirmation of tree work**  
The tree work had been completed. The Clerk had collected the necessary information for making the application for funding from the REPF.  
**Action: Clerk**  
**c. Date for opening event**  
The Clerk said that there needed to be an opening event to show engagement with the community as part of the REPF fund. The Council

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agreed the date of April 3<sup>rd</sup> in the afternoon.

**Action: Clerk**

**C/24/211**

### **Budget 25/26**

The Council considered if any changes needed to be made to the budget agreed in November C/24/150b. There were none. The Council confirmed the precept request to be £22288.00. The Clerk was asked to inform TVBC.

**Action: Clerk**

**C/24/212**

### **Infrastructure Projects**

#### **a. SLR**

There was no update on how the data could be downloaded (C/24/152b).

**Action: Cllr Powell**

**C/24/213**

### **Council Communications**

#### **a. Content for March Newsletter**

This was agreed as the QEII garden, reduction of the precept, HCC parking survey and Hampshire devolution.

**Action: Clerk**

#### **b. Promotion of the Village WhatsApp group**

The Council agreed to promote membership within the community as an important communication resource.

**Action: Clerk**

**C/24/214**

### **Village Matters and Maintenance**

#### **a. Lengthsman and Maintenance**

No tasks for the lengthsman were discussed. The Clerk said that Goodworth Clatford had applied to join the cluster. There were no objections to this. She pointed out that this would affect her income which would affect the new Employers NI requirement (C/24/150a). She said it was unfair that Stockbridge residents would be asked to pay this new NI charge on the "co-ordination" money she received from HCC and therefore she suggested asking the parishes to pay for this from the money received from HCC. The Council agreed that £15 should be requested from each parish.

**Action: Clerk**

#### **b. Purchase of equipment for RoW**

The Clerk had purchased the equipment. She would organise training for the volunteer.

**Action: Clerk**

#### **c. VDS – agree approach**

The Clerk pointed out that the new planning legislation may mean that greater emphasis would be placed on ensuring that new developments "fitted in" with existing the community. The Council recognised that it may be worth considering re-looking at the entire VDS.

**Action: Cllrs Lawrence, Jackson**

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- d. **Consider if appropriate a new village Neighbourhood Watch group**  
The Council agreed not to take this proposal forward.

### C/24/215 Finance

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

Income and payments 118 -141 were circulated ahead of the meeting and were reviewed and approved. Income was for the Christmas fund from 2 donors and 2 businesses as well as for the cemetery.

Opening bank balance		49982.62
Evans and Partridge (Xmas fund)	Income	100
Myddleton and Major (Xmas fund)	Income	100
Donor	Income	50
Donor	Income	50
S & J Maddocks (cemetery)	Income	265
ICCM (training)	119	174
Donor to Lutyens restoration (return of donation)	120	100
RBIL (wreaths and donation 2023 & 2024)	121	200
Geosphere	122	72
STHC (room hire)	123	21
YMML (Clerk's office expense)	124	36
Kent Hill scout grp (room hire)	125	20
OVO Energy (Milsom)	126	23.58
STHC (room hire)	127	21
HMRC (Clerk's tax and Emp NI)	128	182.6
Ichthus (Xmas lights)	129	4862.4
B Baker (travel expenses)	130	39.85
Hugo Fox (website)	131	11.99
B Baker (Salary + lengthsman -tax – pension + Staff Comm + back pay)	132	673.91
Unity Bank (service charge)	133	6
Standard Life (pension both)	134	24.26
B Baker (RoW) equipment	135	1118.09
OVO Energy (Milsom)	136	24.51
ADH Printing	137	157
YMML (Clerk's office expense)	138	36
B Baker (MS Office)	139	79.99
Shane Ling	140	492

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HMRC (Clerk's tax and Emp NI)	128	182.6
Closing balance		41988.84

### Savings Account

Opening Balance		44414.74
Interest		275.87
Closing balance		44414.74

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

Expenditure against budget was reviewed, approved and agreed.

C/24/216

### Planning

#### a. New Applications – To agree

Number	Address	Description	Result
24/02907/FULLN	Kings Head House High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EU	Replacement of five barred gate with automated opening gate and erection of fence	22/01/25
The Council had no objection			
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	07/02/25
Stockbridge PC objects to this application. The proposal is to use a non-commercial, not-publicly owned residential access which has 4 parking spaces for nearby properties. This access is too narrow and cannot sustain cars passing each other. Therefore, use of this access is already problematical and greater use by more cars is considered dangerous. A greater number of cars using the access to enter onto the High Street should also be queried as the number parked cars on the High Street obscures views of oncoming cars. .			
25/00097	Stockbridge Sewage Treatment Works Marsh Court Road Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6JH	T1 - Ash - Remove, T2 - Conifer - Cut back overhanging limbs by 1.5m to a height of 5m from ground level	06/02/25
The Council had no objection			
25/00096	Kimbers 4 East End Cottages Romsey Road Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6HH	(T1) Bay Tree - Crown reduce by up to 4 metres (T2) Silver Birch - Crown reduce by up to 5 metres	06/02/25
The Council had no objection			

#### c. To note recent decisions

Number	Address	Description	Result
24/02594/TREE N	Public Toilets High Street Stockbridge	Tree works as detailed on Application Form	No objection



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24/02359/FULLN	Grosvenor Hotel High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EU	Erection of wooden pergola (retrospective)	Refuse
24/02593/TREEN	Springfield Old London Road Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EJ	T1 - Cherry - Crown thin by up to 20%, reduce any overextended branches by up to 2m, T2 - Sycamore - Fell to ground level	No Objection
24/02543/LBWN	Grosvenor Hotel High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EU	Removal of modern timber panelling to internal walls of treatment room within stable block, and replacement with timber stud frame and plasterboard fixed to existing walls, retention of existing plasterboard ceiling with spotlights and retention of existing tile floor.	Consent
24/02444/FULLN	Water Meadows, High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EU	Alterations to fenestration - replacement of all UPVC windows with timber casement windows, replacement of concrete roof tile with a standing seam zinc, decking	Permission
24/02315/TREEN	Mulberry House High Street Stockbridge	T1 - Arbutus - Fell	No Objection

### d. To note decisions awaited

Number	Address	Description	Date
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	07/01/25

### e. Enforcements

There were none.

C/24/217

### Health and Safety

There were none reported

C/23/218

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

The next Council meeting is due to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at the Town Hall. Items for the Agenda:

HCC's Parking Survey.

The QE II garden

Co-option of Councillors

**Action: Clerk**

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed.....

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Date.....