



Chew Stoke Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 7th December 2023 at 7.30 pm in The Village Hall, Chew Stoke.

Present: Cllrs Steven Read, Nicola Ainger, Ali Cunningham, Carol Dyer and Steve Hicks.

Clerk: Sarah-Jane Streatfeild-James

Minutes: 2023/12

1. **Apologies noted and accepted:** Cllrs Nick Baker, James Edgerton and Alex Cooke.
Ward Councillor Dave Harding
2. **Declarations of interest** – none
3. **Public participation** – three members of the public in attendance. Comments included the village pond, general tidiness of the village, and a request for a '20' roundel to be painted on Bristol Road (north of the narrow section by Orchard House).
4. **To accept the minutes of the meetings held on 2nd and 14th November 2023,**
unanimously agreed. Copies were given to the Chair to sign and returned to the Clerk.
5. **Ward Councillors report:** not present
6. **Planning applications:**
 - i) **Application Reference:** [23/03470/FUL](#)
Application Address: Perryhouse Farm, Stoke Hill, Chew Stoke, BS40 8XG
Proposal: Erection of livestock shed attached to existing building. *No objection. Clerk to send response to B&NES.*
 - ii) **Application Reference:** [23/04377/TCA](#)
Application Address: Providence House , Pilgrims Way, Chew Stoke, BS40 8TY
Proposal: Removal of tree to enable repair of boundary wall. *No comment, agreed to leave decision to Planning Officer.*
 - iii) **Application Reference:** [23/04406/TCA](#)
Application Address: Chaucer House , 1 The Cedars, Chew Stoke, BS40 8TR
Proposal: T1-Horse Chestnut, fell due to bleeding canker T2-Horse Chestnut, reduce by 8m approximately to distinguish from mature oak. T3-Sweet Chestnut, reduce by 4m and

Signed by:

Date:

1

remove branch extending towards road. *No comment, agreed to leave decision to Planning Officer.*

iv) Application Reference: [23/04415/TCA](#)

Application Address: Brook House, Pilgrims Way, Chew Stoke, BS40 8XB

Proposal: T1-Beech, reduce by 2m. T2-Apple, reduce by 1m. T3-Acacia, deadwood and check cable bracing. *No comment, agreed to leave decision to Planning Officer.*

7. Matters requiring a decision:

- i) The draft budget was discussed and some changes to budget lines agreed. Clerk to finalise budget and precept request prior to January meeting for agreement.
- ii) Agreed to an annual grant request to Midsomer Norton Dial-a-Ride for £70.00.
- iii) Discussed the current condition of the pond in Pilgrims Way. The channel was cleared out this year by volunteers on the 'Big Help Out' day for the Coronation. Current advice from the Environment Agency is not to clear out the pond of silt and stones annually as this is immediately filled up again any after heavy rainfall. A second opinion is being sought from Bristol and Avon Rivers Trust (BART) on the 10th December regarding the pond maintenance. There are also conflicting views from residents about how much intervention there should be with clearing the pond, by leaving some vegetation and greenery it increases the biodiversity in the area. Agreed the weeds and other greenery growing on or around the bridge and walls should be removed. Clerk to report to B&NES via Fixmystreet.
- iv) Agreed to 9th May 2024 as a new date for the May 2024 monthly parish council meeting, (the hall is booked for Police Commissioner elections on the 2nd May). To also hold the Annual Village Meeting on the 11th April at 7.30pm.
- v) Agreed to permit a children's Fun Run to be held in Rectory Field on Saturday 16th December. To request evidence of public liability insurance.
- vi) Agreed to pursue the feasibility of running a Village in Bloom type competition during summer 2024. To ask the view of residents, and potentially sign up with the Royal Horticulture Society (RHS) Village in Bloom Scheme. To plan to hold meeting for residents in January or February. <https://www.rhs.org.uk/get-involved/britain-in-bloom>
- vii) The parish council noticeboard on Bristol Road requires some maintenance, agreed to seek a volunteer who may be able to help via the village Facebook Telegraph page.

8. Finance:

- i) To note standing orders:
SJ Streatfeild-James - clerks salary (November) To note the salary scales for April 23-24 have been agreed by the governing bodies, and a back payment has been made to the clerk.
Hugo King – ground maintenance salary (November)

- ii) To agree following online payments:

Date	Item	Payee	Net	VAT	Total
27.11.23	HP Ink (printing)	SJ Streatfeild-James	£4.17	£0.83	£5.00

Signed by:

Date:

2

27.11.23	Postage x 2 - legal docs	SJ Streatfeild-James			£6.90
27.11.23	SLCC Annual membership subscription	SLCC			£91.50

9. Matters of report:

- i) Awaiting details of the completion date from the solicitors for the Village Hall lease.
- ii) The hedge on Pilgrims Way opposite the village hall is now encroaching the road, further narrowing a narrow part. This hedge is managed by English Rural. Discussions have been taking place about cutting back the hedge and bank to the original boundary.
- iii) To note that the play park has been inspected on 23.11.23, clerk to report findings to groundsman for action.
- iv) Following the meeting with the Community Speedwatch team (CSW), awaiting information from Avon and Somerset Police about signing off the installation of the Autospeedwatch cameras. To discuss situation with local CSW team. Speed awareness courses are being offered to all residents.
- v) The fly-tipping on Walley Court Lane has been removed. Despite personal details found in the tipped waste, the police are unable to follow up investigations. Cllr Harding has discussed incident with B&NES.
- vi) Update on the shop rental – the shop has now been let, and new tenants are beginning to move into the premises.
- vii) Update on the Recreational Trail- vegetation on the trail has recently been cut back.
- viii) To note the Public Footpath Diversion Order from Mill Lane has been confirmed.
- ix) The next Clean & Green week will be w/c January 15th 2024, clerk to send photos and requests beforehand.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm

Next meeting Thursday 4th January 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Signed by:

Date:

3