



Chew Stoke Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5th December 2024 at 7.30 pm in The Village Hall, Chew Stoke.

Present: Cllrs Steven Read, (Chair), Rowan Coleman, Ali Cunningham, Carol Dyer, Steve Hicks and Nicola Wilson.

Ward Councillor Dave Harding

Clerk: Sarah-Jane Streatfeild-James

Minutes: 2024/12

1. **Apologies noted and accepted:** Cllrs Nicola Ainger, Nick Baker and Alex Cooke,
2. **Declarations of interest** – None
3. **Public participation** – 2 residents attended the meeting to comment on the planning application on the agenda.
4. **To accept the minutes of the meetings held on 7th November 2024,** unanimously agreed. A copy was given to the Chair to sign and returned to the Clerk.
5. **Ward Councillors report:**
 - We have delayed our meeting with the cabinet lead for planning until February due to the changing picture of the Local Plan Update.
 - More help has been made by B&NES for retrofitting advice and funding resident's homes. There is a solar buy in scheme and more help on this link: <https://www.energyathome.org.uk/>
 - BANES 2024-30 Housing plan will be out for consultation in January.
 - Council is to start auto-enrolment of all children eligible for free school meals to improve uptake.
 - It was interesting to get an update on the Climate Emergency Scrutiny panel around B&NES waste policy. It seems we remain well ahead the vast majority of local authorities in this area, but feel more improvement in managing food waste and soft plastics are needed
 - After these incredible times for flooding – we have been discussing with local parishes about what happened locally. We would always encourage residents reporting any

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blocked or problematic drains on Fix My Street and please consider adopting your own local drain.

A big thank you to all the Flood Wardens for working in Storm Bert and helping keep people safe.

- We met the Chew Valley Trail team on site on 28th November, along with the cabinet member for Climate Emergency. It seems the project has quite a lot of issues and has many roadblocks. We are really hoping that the feedback we gave the officers will help them create a business case to drive this long-awaited project forward!
- The council have created a fund of nearly one million pounds to help with low incomes over the winter. The costs can be energy support, food banks and holiday free school meals. Please circulate to any residents that might be applicable via this link information: <https://www.energyathome.org.uk/>

Please encourage residents to apply for the Winter Fuel payments- if born before 23rd September 1958 and receive one of the following benefits:

Pension credit

Universal credit

Income-related employment and support allowance (ESA)

Income-based jobseeker's allowance (JSA), and income support.

Welfare Support and Benefits Team on 01225 477277

<https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/apply-discretionary-crisis-scheme>

Community Wellbeing Hub 0300 247 0050

- Councillor Kevin Guy, leader of the council, joined us at the end of November to discuss ward issues. He met with our special, hard-working flood wardens and some local business owners. We conversed about important issues including the local plan, the local economy, our dangerous roads, anti-social driving, active travel and our vision for the future
- Chew Valley Area Forum had fantastic discussions on local energy, end of life care, a crime update from S&A police and planning. It is a great opportunity to meet people from the local region and discuss relevant issues. Please consider joining in the new year, the biscuits are very tasty as well!
- Bristol Airport - The airport is expected to lodge a formal application with North Somerset Council to increase passenger numbers to 15 million per year with a further increase in night flights.

6. **Planning applications:**

i) **Application Reference:** [24/04347/CLEU](#)

Application Address: Lake View , Stoke Hill, Chew Stoke, BS40 8XJ

Proposal: Use of land for residential purposes in association with the dwellinghouse (Certificate of Lawfulness for an Existing Use). *Councillors noted that although this is not a full planning application, (it is a CLEU), the land is within the AONB and the green-belt. Councillors would like confirmation as to whether this land is currently categorised as*

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agricultural. In the absence of any evidence that the land is not agricultural CSPC agreed unanimously to OBJECT to prevent the change of use from agricultural land. Agreed to seek confirmation of land classification prior to sending response to B&NES.

ii) **Application Reference:** [24/03874/FUL](#)

Application Address: Crossview , Pilgrims Way, Chew Stoke, BS40 8XB

Proposal: First floor extension over rear west elevation and two storey extension on south elevation. *CSPC submitted an objection to this application in November 2024 due to the lack of volume increase calculations being available. The calculations have now been provided, and CSPC reaffirms its objection due to the volume increase calculation of 59%. (The application has now been withdrawn).*

7. **Matters requiring a decision:**

- i) Road safety working group update – the WG have met and set some objectives, to:
 - Consider ways to tackle chronic speeding through the village
 - Speeding/antisocial driving of motorbikes and cars particularly on approach roads
 - Relook at feasibility of a footway from Stoke Hill to Woodford Lodge turning
 - Resurrecting the Community Speed watch, Cllr Hicks agreed to liaise with the WG to facilitate this, arrange training with A&S Police etc
 - Engage with B&NES about wider road safety initiatives inc nationally
 - Ask Ward Councillors for help in engaging with Highways at B&NES and local MP
 - Following up on leads via RoSPA.
- ii) No update on the National Grid pole that is to be situated near the ford in Pilgrim’s Way.
- iii) The Finance Working Group have met to discuss the draft budget, councillors agreed the budget for 25-26 and to request a precept of £23,000. This is a zero increase from 24-25. Clerk to submit precept request.
- iv) Agreed to a quote for pest control. Clerk to notify groundman.

8. **Finance:**

- i) To note standing orders:
 - a. SJ Streatfeild-James - clerks salary (November)
 - b. Hugo King – ground maintenance salary (November)
- ii) Agreed the following payments:

Date	Item	Payee	Net	VAT	Total
22.11.24	HP Ink (printing)	SJ Streatfeild-James	£4.17	£0.83	£5.00
24.11.24	Website support	JacksonBone	£60.00	£12.00	£72.00

9. **Matters of report:**

- i) Traffic calming/crossing proposal on Bristol Road update, this includes a change in road surface colour at the Quarry Hay junction, and building out the corners of Quarry Hay pavement. Bollards will also be erected along the pavement from The Stoke Inn to rectory Field to prevent pavement parking. Work anticipated to commence mid-December. B&NES enquired about the use of Quarry Hay by a coach recently, and what the impact of narrowed

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junction may have on this. CSPC believes coaches reverse into Quarry Hay and park before collecting children from the Primary School. Councillors believe this change in the junction won't adversely affect them. Also advised B&NES Highways to discuss with coach company and the school.

- ii) No update on Westaway Field and Cooks Meadow.
- iii) Update following PCAA meeting on Nov 21st – a new masterplan consultation is due to be released in January 25 seeking approval from Bristol Airport to further increase capacity to 15 million a year (current permission is now for 10 million a year). This could be paving the way for 20 million passengers a year by 2040. This would have huge implications for the local area and nearby villages in the Chew Valley. The PCAA are opposed to this and will give advice to local parish councils who are encouraged to respond individually as well as with the PCAA. An improved infrastructure to support this airport expansion is needed, eg rail link to Bristol, but this is unlikely to be feasible. A resident noted that night flights over Chew Stoke are due to air traffic to and from Cardiff Airport.
- iv) Update on the Recreational Trail – as discussed above in Ward Councillors report.
- v) Monthly update from Groundsman noted.
- vi) CSPC representatives to meet landowner of field on the Stoke Hill to discuss the boundary location and responsibilities. To report back in January.
- vii) 'Storm Bert' affected the UK 2 weeks ago, discussed the need for the village to have nominated Flood Wardens. Agreed that residents near the ford already flip the sign when the water level is rising and the road is shut. Agreed to publicise the 'River' app where residents can monitor the water level of the ford.
- viii) To note that the replacement sign for 'Hilary's Walk' on Bristol Road has been fixed to the wall.
- ix) B&NES have a small budget to fix areas where verges are growing onto the highways and reducing the width of the road, agreed to inform them about Walley Court Road near Glynn's Solicitors where the verge is very churned up.

10. Correspondence received - none

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Next meeting Thursday January 9th 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Chew Stoke.

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