



Chew Stoke Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 11th January 2024 at 7.30 pm in The Village Hall, Chew Stoke.

Present: Cllrs Carol Dyer, (Vice-chair) Nicola Ainger, Ali Cunningham, James Edgerton and Steve Hicks.

Clerk: Sarah-Jane Streatfeild-James

Minutes: 2024/01

1. **Apologies noted and accepted:** Cllrs Nick Baker, Steven Read and Alex Cooke. Ward Councillor Dave Harding
2. **Declarations of interest** – none declared.
3. **Public participation** – no members of the public in attendance.
4. **To accept the minutes of the meetings held on 9th December 2023,** unanimously agreed. A copy was given to the Chair to sign and returned to the Clerk.
5. **Ward Councillors report:** sent ahead of meeting, please see appendix A
6. **Planning applications:**
 - i) **Application Reference:** 23/04668/LBA
Application Address: School House , School Lane, Chew Stoke, Bristol, BS40 8UY
Proposal: External alterations to include replacement of non-original plate glazing with Fineo vacuum glazing, repair existing fixed window and casement windows, remove secondary glazing, repair works to damaged stone within ground floor porch, replace existing doors to match existing, remove concrete surround, replace 2 windows at ground floor to match existing, and repair stonework and pointing. *No comment, agreed to leave the decision to the planning team for listed buildings. Clerk to notify B&NES.*
 - ii) **Application Reference:** 23/04770/FUL
Application Address: Foxfield , Scot Lane, Chew Stoke, Bristol, BS40 8UW
Proposal: Proposed car port and storage building set within private front garden. *No objection. Clerk to notify B&NES.*
7. **Matters requiring a decision:**
 - i) The budget for 24-25 had been discussed in the December meeting, at the January meeting it was agreed to increase the budget for treeworks back to £1000, but this

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can be done without changing the proposed precept. Unanimously agreed the precept request for £23,000. This is a below inflation increase, and the precept had remained unchanged at £22,000 for the last 2 years. Clerk to email precept request to B&NES.

- ii) Cllr Baker had received informal information that the green weed in the pond by the Packhorse bridge is not ecologically beneficial, but he is yet to meet with Bristol & Avon Rivers Trust’s river ecologist for their advice. Plan to arrange a group of volunteers to clear out the trough in front of the pipes which is completely full following the recent heavy rain. Clerk to report repairs and removal of weeds growing on the packhorse bridge to B&NES via Fixmystreet. To also request the road sweeper cleans the road where silt has been left after the latest rainfall.
- iii) CSPC agreed unanimously to nominate Nick Baker for the Chelwood Bridge Rotary Club Community Award, for his hard work and help in the community which includes his involvement with the Harvest Home and proactive work on the parish council for many years.
- iv) Rectory Field tree planting – A representative from Chew Valley Plants Trees has arranged a meeting with the Primary School on January 26th to get the children involved with the consultation and planning for the new trees.
- v) The bank on Stoke Hill is slipping and obstructing the pavement, clerk to ask B&NES to dig it back.
- vi) The Parish Council remains keen to pursue the idea to run a ‘Village in Bloom’ this summer, Cllr Ainger has contacted the Royal Horticultural Society but no response as yet. To arrange a meeting for residents to gauge support for the idea, to advertise this via the Telegraph and Parish Magazine. To liaise with local gardening groups and experts for support.
- vii) North Somerset Council are consulting on their Local Plan which, when adopted, will run until 2039. The consultation examines the Green Belt in North Somerset and includes the suggestion that Bristol Airport should be removed from the Green Belt. The Parish Councils Airport Assoc (PCAA) suggest objecting to this, CSPC to agree to this objection. Unanimously agreed to support the PCAA.

8. Finance:

- i) To note standing orders:
 SJ Streatfeild-James - clerks salary (December)
 Hugo King – ground maintenance salary (December)
- ii) The bank reconciliation for October-December was checked and signed by Cllr Cunningham
- iii) The following online payments were agreed:

Date	Item	Payee	Net	VAT	Total
02.01.24	HP Ink (printing)	SJ Streatfeild-James	£4.17	£0.83	£5.00
02.01.24	Website support	JacksonBone	£60.00	£12.00	£72.00
05.01.24	Hall hire, PC meetings	PCC			£75.00

The village hall currently has a separate website, this is to be amalgamated with the village website when the parish council takes on the lease for the hall. Cllr Edgerton is assisting

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with transferring the plugin for bookings, agreed to look at all options for web hosting going forwards to try and make savings.

9. Matters of report:

- i) Awaiting details of the completion date from the solicitors for the Village Hall lease.
- ii) To note that there is a vacancy for a Parish Councillor, the parish clerk will actively advertise the vacancy via the Telegraph on Facebook and the parish magazine and the noticeboards.
- iii) No update on the shop rental.
- iv) Update on the Recreational Trail – the flooding at the junction of Woodford Lane and the trail is B&NES's responsibility to resolve, Alison Sherwin from B&NES to address with the Highways team. Cllr Baker to follow up.
- v) The Clean & Green weeks have now been cancelled by B&NES due to financial pressures. All issues reported will be forwarded to the relevant departments.

Meeting closed at 8.18pm

Next meeting Thursday 1st February 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Chew Stoke

Appendix A Ward Councillors report

BANES Budget 24-25:

Need to find £24.5M extra next year due to increased costs from inflation, statutory social care work- especially SEND and SEND transport costs.

Govt. funding announced recently was not new money and leaves BANES (£190,000) worse off than was thought.

Expect max. rise in Council Tax etc next year and further cuts in non-mandatory services although consultation still open via B&NES website.

Clean and Green

The Clean and Green Weeks appear to have been cancelled as part of the cost savings (above).

Use beta.bathnes.gov.uk/report-problem-rubbish-or-environment or FixMyStreet.

Westlink consultation:

Closed 10th Jan. Smaller zones means no direct service to Bristol.

North Somerset Council Local Plan Submission

The plan relating to Bristol Airport has been submitted and the main sections SP7 Greenbelt and LP9 specifically relating to the Airport Greenbelt. NSC are planning to remove Greenbelt restriction meaning that Bristol Airport can build on Greenbelt without close scrutiny which could be of considerable detriment to the protection of landscape, wildlife such as bats and to those living in close proximity of the airport. At no stage has the removal of Greenbelt been a part of the Airport expansion plans and was not part of the Appeal.

I am also concerned that this allows more development and easier expansion of the airport.

BANES Highways:

Came top in the S West for resident satisfaction regarding road repairs! Resurfacing finished now

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(150,000 m2 of highway) patching (50,000 m2) and 7k potholes, Fix my Street potholes and routine surveillance continue as normal. Budget £2.1M.

Autospeedwatch:

Interested to know what's happening with Chew Stoke Autospeedwatch
Last Info I had was that PCC funding stalled, and there has been no follow up from PCC on trial in Bathford from May. Some concern regarding increased workload for road safety team.
Trying to establish what support for this currently look like.

The Ward Councillor Empowerment Fund:

Provides every ward councillor with the sum of £1,000 for 2023-24 and then an additional £1,000 for the following two years to address concerns or needs in their local communities. £6K total.
No applications yet.
Matched funding usually needed.

Resident Feedback:

None.

Anna:

Maternity leave.
Had a little girl, on 11.12.23, Cassie, 7lb 2oz. All going well.

Signed by:

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