



Chew Stoke Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 6th March 2025 at 7.30 pm in The Village Hall, Chew Stoke

Present: Cllrs Steven Read (Chair), Nicola Ainger, Nick Baker, Rowan Coleman, Alex Cooke, and Steve Hicks

Clerk: Sarah-Jane Streatfeild-James

Ward Councillor: Dave Harding

Minutes: 2025/03

1. **Apologies noted and accepted:** Cllrs Ali Cunningham, Carol Dyer and Nicola Wilson.
2. **Declarations of interest** – Cllr Cooke declared an interest in Item 6i.
3. **Public participation** – 1 member of the public present.
4. **To accept the minutes of the meetings held on 6th February 2025,** unanimously agreed. A copy was given to the Chair to sign and returned to the Clerk.
5. **Ward Councillors report:**
B&NES Council Tax will rise by 4.9% next year, which is the 3rd lowest in SW England. This includes a social care precept, and £6.5m allocated to social care. £19m has been allocated for major transport and road safety. £1.9m has been allocated for potholes. An additional £280k is to be allocated to the Clean & Green Teams, please report all work via www.fixmystreet.com
New speed limit changes due to come into force along the A368 imminently.
Bins will continue to be collected weekly and not change to monthly.
6. **Planning applications:**
 - i. **Application Reference:** [25/00433/CLEU](#)
Application Address: Land Behind Lake View, Stoke Hill, Chew Stoke, Bristol,
Proposal: Mixed use of land to include residential/domestic overspill, recreational, storage of feed/materials, forestry (e.g. storage of firewood), equestrian, and hobbyist agricultural (Certificate of Lawful Existing Use) *Parish Councils are not statutory consultees for Certificate of Lawful Existing Use planning applications, unlike they are for a full planning application. Parish Councils are not obliged to respond, the decision rests on matters of law, of which they are not experts. Based on the previous response submitted by CSPC for land at the same address, unanimously agreed not to comment (5 votes). CSPC noted it is important to differentiate between this type of application and*

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full planning applications where the applicant is seeking to change the use of agricultural land to residential.

- ii. **Application Reference:** [25/00640/TCA](#)
Application Address: 2 Church Cottages, Church Lane, Chew Stoke, BS40 8TU
Proposal: Yew Tree - pruning up to 1 metre and a crown lift. *No objection.*
- iii. **Application Reference:** [25/00432/FUL](#)
Application Address: Rose Cottage , Stoke Hill, Chew Stoke, BS40 8XQ
Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension (*To note, discussed at February meeting*)

7. **Matters requiring a decision:**

- i) Discussed the feasibility of/need for a Housing Needs Survey in Chew Stoke. Feedback from B&NES advises not to proceed at present, but to establish how the village will be considered following update of the Local Plan. Agreed to arrange meeting with Gary Ward and George Blanchard from B&NES to find out more. (It is possible a village like Chew Stoke may be required to increase housing by 5%, which would be approx 20 houses over the life of the Local Plan. The benefits of undertaking a survey or assessment at a later stage would provide evidence of the type and size housing needs of residents).
- ii) Agreed the date of the Annual Village Meeting for ~~Thursday 15th May at 7.00pm~~. **Update – the date has changed to May 22nd**. Agreed to ask the following groups if they would like to participate: Community Bloom, Road Safety Working Group, Bioblitz Event, WI, Village Hall Committee, Chew Stoke Scouts.
- iii) Chew Stoke village has entered Community Bloom 2025. Chew Stoke Primary School have also entered the ‘In Your School’ category, and there is a keenness to get other groups involved if they would like to eg Scouts. A doodle poll has been set up so volunteers can sign up to help, please contact the Clerk if you would like to be involved. A Duke of Edinburgh Awards student is also helping out as part of the volunteering section, please contact us if you know of anyone else interested in being involved. A Bioblitz event is being planned with both schools for Monday 28th April 12pm to 10pm in Rectory Field. To contact local wildlife experts to ask for their involvement.
- iv) The Road Safety Working Group are due to start the Community Speedwatch (CSW) Scheme. PC agreed to request collection of speed data using speed strips from A&S Police. Agreed to 2 locations at a cost of £125 per location, Walley Court Road and Stoke Hill. Discussed purchasing either CSW cameras or a vehicle activated sign (VAS). To consider costs. To submit a Freedom of Information request to A&S Police for historic speed data (Cllr Cooke). Concern raised about cars parking on zigzag lines outside the Primary School at drop off time, to contact the school to let them know and seek help from PCSO’s. Clerk to contact PCSO’s regarding speeding on Herons Green (accident at this location last weekend).
- v) No update on the National Grid pole that is to be situated near the ford in Pilgrim’s Way and agree further proposals from National Grid.
- vi) Agreed to add 2 new signatories to the bank mandate, Cllrs Coleman and Cooke.
- vii) Agreed to adopt the draft Internal Audit Plan.

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- viii) Considered the Somer Valley Links Consultation. Discussed the proposal to have a walking and cycling hub at Pensford, but agreed this was not relevant to Chew Stoke and not to respond.
- ix) CSCP had received two emails about parking in the village, advised residents that any illegal parking should be reported, but the PC is trying to encourage responsible and legal parking in safe areas.
- x) Agreed to purchase a new 50 litre bin for Bilbie Road footpath.

8. Finance:

- i) To note standing orders:
 - a. SJ Streatfeild-James - clerks salary (February)
 - b. Hugo King – ground maintenance salary (February)
- ii) To note a balance of £141.80 credit on PAYE account.
- iii) Agreed the following payments:

Date	Item	Payee	Net	VAT	Total
19.02.25	HP Ink (printing) Salary underpayment (Jan & Feb)	SJ Streatfeild- James	£4.17	£0.83	£5.00 £0.40
19.02.25	Fence repair Quarry Hay	Martin Giles			£130.00
19.02.25	Dial-a-ride grant	MSN Dial-a-ride			£70.00
24.02.25	2 x bleed kits	A&S Police	£398.00	£79.60	£477.60
27.02.25	50 litre bin	Glasdon	£194.25		£233.10 (£50.64 credit)

9. Matters of report:

- i) Chew Medical Practice have agreed to have a bleed kit sited on an external wall at the practice. Clerk met the Practice Manager and agreed location. Two kits now on order from Heartsafe.
- ii) No update on Westaway Field and Cooks Meadow.
- iii) The Recreational Trail is currently being maintained by Bristol Water. They will add the blocked drain at the top of Woodford Lane to their maintenance programme.
- iv) No monthly update from Groundsman. Clerk to ensure mowing contractors are aware of new mowing regime in Bilbie Playpark.

10. Correspondence received: discussed in items above

Meeting closed at 21.11

Next meeting Thursday 3rd April 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Chew Stoke.

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