



Chew Stoke Parish Council

Tel: 07916 785348 www.chewstoke.org.uk Email: clerk@chewstoke.org.uk

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 9th May 2024 at 7.30 pm in The Village Hall, Chew Stoke.

Present: Cllrs Carol Dyer (Vice-chair), Nicola Ainger, Nick Baker and Alex Cooke.

Ward Councillor Dave Harding

Clerk: Sarah-Jane Streatfeild-James

Minutes: 2024/05

1. **Apologies noted and accepted:** Cllrs Steven Read, Ali Cunningham and James Edgerton.
2. **Declarations of interest** – None
3. **Public participation** – 2 members of the public in attendance.
4. **To accept the minutes of the meetings held on 4th April 2024,** unanimously agreed. A copy was given to the Chair to sign and returned to the Clerk.
5. **Ward Councillors report:** Received update on Somer Valley transport plans. The Local Plan Options Consultation received many responses. Ward Councillor Harding asking for affordable housing threshold to be lower (number of houses being built should include affordable properties at a lower level).
Encouraged to be involved in No Mow May
Ageing Well meeting being held shortly.
Parking issues on Chew Lane discussed later in the meeting
Application for the Ward Empowerment Fund from Chew Stoke submitted.
There are no longer plans for the CV Recreational Trail to be managed by a CIC, but Bristol Water. DH to email them for clarification of who the contact will be.
6. **Planning applications:** *none*
7. **Matters requiring a decision:**
 - i) CSPC were due to co-opt a new member, but applicant was unable to attend. To plan to co-opt at least one, but hopefully two new councillors at the June meeting.
 - ii) Approval of the Internal Audit report for 2023-24 – the clerk circulated copies of the completed Internal Audit report for the year ended 31.03.24.

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Resolved that the Internal Audit report for 2023-24 was noted and a signed Internal Audit Report received.

- iii) Approval of the Annual Governance Statement 2023-24
Resolved that the Annual Governance Statement 2023-24 be approved, and duly signed by the Vice-chair and Clerk.
- iv) To review and approve the Accounting Statements 2023-24
Resolved that the Accounting Statements 2023-24 be approved, and duly signed by the Clerk and Vice-chair.
- v) A 'Conflict of Interest Form' was duly completed for the new External Auditors BDO, noting there are no conflicts of interest. Clerk to send to BDO with audit documents.
- vi) The period for the Exercise of Public Rights be set for 10th June 2024 to 19th July 2024.
- vii) Agreed to accept the insurance quote from Hiscox via Gallagher brokers for year 3 of a 3 year agreement.
- viii) RHS Community Bloom (CSCB) update – Cllr Ainger thanked Ward Councillor Harding for submitting our application for £250 to the Ward Councillors Empowerment Fund for money towards the Community Bloom. Curo have also help to fund tidying up the area at the top of Bilbie Road, and generally can help where there are Curo residents nearby. Discussed latest ideas which include planting bulbs in several locations around the village, a planter outside Webbs Mead.
- ix) Parking along one side of Chew Lane (near junction with Winford Rd to just north of the Rugby Club) before the end of the Chew Valley School day is causing traffic congestion issues, due to a lack of passing places for long stretches, and coaches driving to the school. A map showing potential areas for double yellow lines or time specific no stopping areas has been shared with CSPC. Councillors agreed further consideration of the areas is needed. Also to ask B&NES to discuss with the local farmer who has issues turning farm machinery into fields on either side of the road due to parked cars outside the school. Highways advice to be sought on best options and also to ask to liaise with Chew Valley School, the Rugby Club and Chew Medical Practice.

8. Finance:

- i) To note standing orders:
SJ Streatfeild-James - clerks salary (April)
Hugo King – ground maintenance salary (April)
- ii) To note receipt of 1st precept instalment £11,500
- iii) To note receipt of Footpath Maintenance grant for £832.55
- iv) To note a VAT reclaim of £1211.76 has been received
- v) To note the CIL report for 2023-24 has been sent to B&NES

vi) Agreed the following online payments:

Date	Item	Payee	Net	VAT	Total
15.04.24	HP Ink (printing)	SJ Streatfeild-James	£4.17	£0.83	£5.00
15.04.24	Payroll (annual)	DM Payroll Services			£120.00

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15.04.24	ALCA/NALC membership	ALCA			£264.04
15.04.24	Website support	JacksonBone	£60.00	£12.00	£72.00
15.04.24	Annual meeting refreshments	SJ Streatfeild-James			£16.00
15.04.24	Hall hire (Jan-March)	CS Village Hall			£75.00
25.04.24	PCAA annual subscription	PCAA			£95.00
25.04.24	Annual email subscription, Zoho	SJ Streatfeild-James (reimbursement)			£144.00
25.04.24	Defibrillator replacements (purchase made in advance)	Defibshop	£115.00	£23.00	£138.00
29.04.24	Annual insurance premium	Hiscox Insurance	£461.74	£49.37	£510.84
29/04.24	Domain renewal	JacksonBone	£17.27	£3.45	£20.72

9. Matters of report:

- i) CURO visited the village to meet residents on May 9th, Cllr Dyer also met with them. Curo are visiting to check for repairs, they aim to have better contact with residents and parish councils. They are happy to help CSPC with planting flowers or trees near Curo housing. There are plans to have new Curo houses in Saltford and Keynsham.
- ii) To note that National Grid need to replace a telegraph pole close to the ford/Pilgrims Way. CSPC has objected to the proposed location. Cllr Baker spoke to them 2 days ago, they are still looking at options including an underground solution, but this is likely to be too costly. Awaiting further details.
- iii) No update on the Village Hall.
- iv) The village shop is due to open at the end of May, it will be an independent store. The shop group is in discussion with the tenant, and helping with setting up plans and stock ideas.
- v) Westaway Field and Cooks Meadow update – the new trees have now been mulched. Cllr Baker to arrange repayment for hedging costs, donation for tree dedications are now being received to pay for this. There was good coverage of Chew Stoke tree planting in the Chew Valley Gazette this month.
- vi) Update on the Recreational Trail – as noted above, awaiting information about management structure of the trail.
- vii) Clerk has met with newly formed Chew Valley Flood Group, (part of CV Area Forum), aim is look at ways to disseminate information about flooded and blocked roads, and to create a map to show where roads regularly flood and share this with Dan Parr at B&NES to help with planning to resolve this over the summer, and before the next winter. Views are that some flooding is due to blocked drains, but also blocked ditches where flood water is unable to drain away into fields as it used to in the past.
- viii) Chew Stoke Church School and CSPC are working together and discussing access to the school when the ford is flooded. Various walking route options have been

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suggested, B&NES Footpath Officer has said the footpath to Stoke Hill could be improved if this option was pursued. Parking solutions would need to be resolved. The ford is not flooding any higher than it has in the past, but it is more frequent. This is considered to be due to global warming, CSPC are keen to help the school if it can. CSPC to contact the school with another option that was discussed in the meeting.

10. Closed session:

- i) Contract increase for village groundsman for 2024-25 documented separately.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Next meeting Thursday 6th June 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Chew Stoke.

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