

# BROOKTHORPE WITH WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023

### PRESENT

Messrs John Hendry [Chairman], Paul Gaze, Rhodri Stokes-Rhys, CPSOs Debbie Collicott and Charlotte King, Mrs A Szabó [Parish Clerk] and 1 members of the public.

### 23/001 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Dave Kaspar and County Councillor Sue Williams.

There were no other apologies for absence.

### 23/002 POLICE REPORT

It was reported that this is a very low crime area and that it has gone down since this time last year. Visits have been made after invitation to Brookthorpe Hall School which have been useful. Some visits have been also made to Belong School, Whaddon. Sessions there have been productive, but Police are being called in regularly to deal with some very difficult young people.

It was reported that children are often playing on the level crossing at Naas Lane. The meeting was assured that this was a 999 issue as lives are at risk. It was also reported that HGVs were regularly using Upton Lane to access the construction site at Matson. It was stated that this would be looked into by Debbie. Ongoing issues at the Traveller site were discussed.

### 23/003 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 were agreed and signed as a true record.

### 23/004 MATTERS ARISING

Application for funding for interactive speed signs for Upton Lane and Haresfield Lane. Applied for but no outcome had been received. The Clerk was asked to chase this up with Cllr Sue Williams.

### 23/005 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The report from Cllr Sue Williams had been circulated to Councillors.

### 23/006 STROUD DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

No report had been submitted.

The Clerk had been informed that Cllr Dave Mossman was very ill and unable to represent us at Stroud District Council. However, Cllr Stephen Davies has agreed to attend Parish Council meetings if he can and help with any matters.

### 23/007 MEMBERS' DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest to items on the agenda.

### 23/008 FINANCE

#### a) Cheques for signature

Cheque No	Amount	Payee	Reason
1206		Mrs A Szabo	Clerk's Wages, Home Office Allowance and Expenses for December 2022 and January 2023
1207	£192.00	Brookthorpe Village Hall	Meetings
1208	£150.00	Brookthorpe Village Hall	Share of Phone/Internet
1210	£50.00		Brookthorpe Village Hall Christmas lights

Power used for Council's spending  
General Power of Competence – Power of first resort

### 23/009 PLANNING

#### a) Planning applications for consideration

There were no new applications for consideration.

#### b) Planning decisions received from Stroud District Council

There had been no new decisions received.

#### c) Results of Planning meeting 31<sup>st</sup> January

Attended by John Hendry [Chairman], Paul Gaze, Dave Kaspar, Mrs A Szabo [Parish Clerk] and 1 member of the public.

Apologies received from Rhodri Stokes-Rhys.

22/00519/FUL	Snow Capel Matson Gloucester	Residential development of 190 dwellings (Class C3); vehicular, pedestrian and cycle access from Winnycroft Lane; public open space and landscaping; drainage attenuation and other associated works. Cllrs had no comments to make.
2022/0728/EIAS	Land Adjoining, Stroud Road, Whaddon	Environmental Impact Assessment EIA Screening request for installation of a solar farm, including solar panels, inverter cabins, associated infrastructure and landscaping. Cllrs requested that the screening should be of a wide native, healthy hedgerow.

**23/010 WHADDON FIELDS**

Martin Coles gave a full update on how things stand at present including St Barnabas Roundabout and Inspection of Local Plan by Inspectorate. He reported MP Richard Graham is to meet with County Highways and will convene a meeting with County Councillors. It was reported that County Highways are still against development along the Stroud Road due to its effect on the A1473. Responses to consultations into local plan will be published by 8<sup>th</sup> March. The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with MPs Richard Graham and Siobhan Baillie, Black Box (Taylor Wimpey), and The Transport Planning Association.

**23/011 ADOPTION OF PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL CHARTER WITH STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL**

It was proposed by Cllr Paul Gaze and seconded by Cllr Rhodri Stokes-Rhys that this charter should be adopted by the Parish Council. **RESOLVED**

**23/012 ENFORCEMENT ACTION OVER TWO BLOCKED RIGHTS OF WAY IN THE PARISH**

The Clerk reported that the Public Rights of Way officer was looking into the complete blockage of footpath EBR 27 at the new fishing lake. This path has been temporarily closed. Also, barriers erected across the green lane at Naas Lane. Concerns were raised regarding the fact that 3 landowners are not able to access their own land due to the barriers and intimidation. It was felt that this was not being taken seriously due to a comment that personal matters could not be taken into consideration. The Clerk was asked to follow this up.

**23/013 ACTIONS FOLLOWING REPORTS OF OVERGROWN VEGETATION ON HORSEPOOLS HILL**

The Clerk reported that following a complaint from a parishioner she had forwarded to County Highways Safety Department.

**23/014 TO REPORT ON ASSET AND DEFIBRILLATOR CHECKS**

The Clerk stated that she had had to report that defibrillators were not working over the last couple of months. Mr Eric Hibbert reported that this had been due to the cold weather and that a new heater was needed in the unit in Church Lane. He has been asked by SWAS to fit this when it is available. It was suggested that he invoice SWAS for this work as our contract is with them. The Clerk reported that all checks had been carried out and at the time all was fine with nothing to report.

**23/015 CASUAL VACANCIES**

The Clerk stated that with two vacancies still to fill, and the prospect of present Councillors resigning at the elections due to be held in May 2024, there was a real prospect of the Parish Council folding if new representatives could not be found. It was decided that a new article be placed in the next Newsletter, stating this possibility, in the hope that volunteers would come forward.

**23/016 INFORMATION FOR COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Paul Gaze updated Councillors on the latest on St Swithuns Church. Historic England may seek funding from local community. He also stated that he had been given a time to speak at the Stroud District Council local plan examination by the inspector.

**23/017 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no further questions from the public.

**23/118 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.20.

Chairman .....

Date.....