

BROOKTHORPE WITH WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5th SEPTEMBER 2023

PRESENT

Messrs Paul Gaze [Chairman], Dave Kaspar, Rhodri Stokes-Rhys, Steve Davies [District Councillor], Sue Williams [County Councillor], Mr Martin Coles [Whaddon Fields Representative], Mrs A Szabó [Parish Clerk], and 2 members of the public.

23/095 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr John Hendry. There were no other apologies for absence.

23/096 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meetings held on 1st August were agreed and signed as true records.

23/097 MATTERS ARISING

Closed Public Rights of Way – The Clerk informed the Council that there was no new information to report to Cllrs.

Severn Trent clearing and tidying at Pumping Station at Whaddon – The Clerk informed the Council that there was no new information to report to Cllrs.

23/098 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

This report had been circulated to Councillors and there were no questions. The ongoing problems with HGVs using Upton Lane to access the construction site at Matson was discussed. The lack of weight restriction signs is believed to be an issue and Cllr Williams agreed to bring this up again with Highways.

23/099 STROUD DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The Local Plan Inspectors raised major concerns about motorway junctions 12 and 14. A six month delay to decision has been requested. The cost to upgrade these junctions is believed to be in the region of £250m per junction. As neighbouring districts are not in the same place with their draft plans it means that Stroud District is the first to go through inspection this time round. Stroud District has a six year housing supply so should be safe from a developers' *free-for-all*. However, developers could put in applications and go to appeal. Councillor Davies stressed that this is dangerous territory, and the district is vulnerable. Small developments in Stroud Road and Naas Lane could be vulnerable to development.

It was confirmed that an application could be submitted and then a delay can be agreed. It was stressed that before an application is submitted is the time to negotiate for as good a development as possible – footpaths, open spaces, community centre, who will run it etc. This is without prejudice and the Parish Council can still object to the application.

23/100 MEMBERS' DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Cllr David Kaspar declared a pecuniary interest in item 8 on the agenda (Cheques for signature). There were no other declarations of interest to items on the agenda.

23/101 FINANCE

a) Cheques for signature

Cheque No	Amount	Payee	Reason
1227		Mrs A Szabo	Clerk's Wages, Home Office Allowance and £5.40 expenses.
1228	£7.00	HMRC	PAYE
1229	£869.05	Mr D Davies	Verge Cutting
1230	£50.00	David Kaspar Trees	Tree for Whaddon Green – Minute number 22/030.

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

23/102 PLANNING

a) Planning applications for consideration

S.23/1599/LBC Brookthorpe Court Farmhouse,
Stroud Road,
Brookthorpe.

Conversion of outbuilding to ancillary use, reconstruction of conservatory utility area.

Cllrs had no objections to these proposals.

S.23/1600/HHOLD Brookthorpe Court Farmhouse,
Stroud Road,
Brookthorpe

Conversion of outbuilding to ancillary use, reconstruction of conservatory

Cllrs had no objections to these proposals.

S.23/1671/FUL Withyrows Farm,
Haresfield Lane,
Brookthorpe

Change of use of farm building to one, dwelling with associated operational development.

Cllrs had no objections to these proposals.

Gloucester County Council Application

23/0046/GLREG3 Caretakers Bungalow,
Grange Road,
Gloucester,
GL4 0DJ

Change of use of former caretaker's house associated with the Willows School to a resource

Cllrs had no objections to these proposals.

b) Decisions received from Planning Authority

Gloucester County Council Application

23/0035/GLREG3 Caretakers Bungalow

WITHDRAWN

23/103 SPEED AWARENESS SIGNS

Cllr Williams agreed to follow up on our Road Safety application.

23/104 WHADDON FIELDS

The Parish Council was asked by Hunts Grove Parish Council for a meeting to discuss the impact on local lanes should the proposed development go ahead. It was felt that this was very beneficial with representatives from Hunts Grove, Harescombe and Haresfield PC's and three Stroud District Councillors were also in attendance. It was decided that the Clerk should email Taylor Wimpey to try and arrange a separate date to examine their plans, as Cllrs were not available to attend the proposed consultation event due to short notice.

23/105 COTSWOLD CLIMATE ACTION CARBON NEUTRAL PROPOSAL

Cllr David Kaspar reported that the carbon problems were highlighted. The Parish Council took note but felt that the remedy was more strategic, and some proposals were unrealistic. It was felt that apart from everyone lowering their own carbon footprint, one of the best things that can be done is to source locally.

23/106 DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

The Clerk reported that she was working with the Village Hall Committee to put this on as part of a planned coffee morning to be held in October. The staff of Fagin's are also keen to join in, although the timing of this may be problematic for them.

23/107 STRUCTURAL CONDITION OF ST SWITHUN'S CHURCH

The Church Plan from the Churches Conservation Trust had been circulated. It was felt by Cllrs that it was very difficult to imagine where the amount of money involved to renovate this church would come from.

23/108 INFORMATION FOR COUNCILLORS

The Clerk reported that she was working with the Village Hall Committee to access some of the CIL money under guidance form GAPTC.

Cllr Paul Gaze reported that the hedge at the Hill Mead and Haresfield Lane junctions needs to be cut back as it is dangerous for pedestrians crossing the road.

23/109 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no further questions from the public.

23/110 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 3rd October 2023.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.44

Chairman

Date.....