

BROOKTHORPE WITH WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 2nd APRIL 2024

PRESENT

Messrs John Hendry [Chairman], Paul Gaze, Rhodri Stokes-Rhys, Eric Hibbert and 3 members of the public.

24/036 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr David Kaspar, Anne Szabo [Parish Clerk], Cllr Susan Williams [Gloucestershire County Councillor].

There were no other apologies for absence.

24/037 ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Mr Eric Hibbert signed his Acceptance of Office to the office of Parish Councillor.

24/038 PROPOSED PLANS FOR THE WALLED GARDEN

Mr Peter Williams, on behalf of Cadmus Rock, presented plans for the erection of 6 modular eco homes on the Walled Garden site, previously belonging to Wynstones School. Planning permission should go to Stroud District Council within the next 6 months. He was advised to also contact Harescombe Parish Council as the site falls within their parish.

24/039 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th March were agreed and signed as a true record.

24/040 MATTERS ARISING

Annual Parish Meeting – Invites have gone out; the SDC Councillor will have to wait until after election. Not heard back from Jeffrey Clifton Brown. Meeting to take place on 21st May at 7pm.

24/041 POLICE REPORT

No report submitted.

24/042 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

No report submitted.

24/043 STROUD DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

No report submitted.

24/044 MEMBERS' DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

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

24/045 FINANCE

a) Cheques for signature

Cheque No	Amount	Payee	Reason
1253		Mrs A Szabo	Clerk's Wages, Office Allowance and Expenses of £38.09
1254	£110.40	HMRC	PAYE

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

b) External Audit – Certificate of exemption – The Clerk had advised that due to the amount of CIL money we have received, the Council is over the income limit for the exemption so do not qualify this year. Therefore, the Annual Return will need to be sent off for inspection.

Intermediate Review 2023/24 – The Clerk had advised that the Council has been chosen as one of the 5% of Audits for further inspection. The External Auditor will examine all Audits for the year as well as Council's Financial Regulations, Risk Assessments, Standing Orders and Internal Audit Report form last year. They will also examine minutes to ensure Council have carried out correct procedures. There may well be other items that they wish to examine.

c) Budget review of spending 2023/24 – There were no questions or comments from Councillors.

24/046 PLANNING

a) Planning applications for consideration
S.23/1230/FUL Chambers Farm,
Naas Lane,
Brookthorpe.

Retrospective application for a water storage lake (sui generis) to serve two fishing lakes. (Revised details received 4.1.24 and 11.3.24)
Councillors raised concerns about the reopening of the Public Right of Way with the original kissing gate. Resolved to contact PRoW directly.

b) Decisions received from Planning Authority
None received

24/047 OVERWEIGHT LORRIES AND SPEEDING IN UPTON LANE.

It was disappointing that Cllr Sue Williams was not in attendance. Members of the public had attended specifically to present video evidence of speeding and multiple vehicles exceeding the speed limit or the 7.5 tonne weight restriction. After a discussion it was agreed that Mr M King should contact the MD of GTI Transport, the main culprit, with the videos, copied to the Parish Council, Chief Inspector Paul Cruze of Stroud Constabulary and Neil Coleman of Gloucestershire County Council, as he is already looking into the problems in Upton Lane. Once issued the Parish Council will need to write a letter of support. It is believed that with the video evidence, further action can be taken to gain tracker evidence, and then action can be taken against the developers as planning conditions are not being adhered to.

RESOLVED

24/048 BLOCKING OF GREEN LANE NEXT TO MOUNT VIEW MULTI AGENCY MEETING

Cllr Eric Hibbert stated that there had been some positive developments, with the Liaison Officer meeting with the travellers. It is hoped that they will attend the next multi-agency meeting on 11th April. However, they have been asked not to send more than 2 - 3 representatives. If they try to attend with more than that and are intimidating, then the meeting may be curtailed for safety reasons.

24/049 NOISE NUISANCE REGARDING BIRD SCARER AT COURT FARM

Cllr Eric Hibbert reported that a bird scarer was starting at 6am and continued every 20 minutes throughout the day. He had spoken directly to the farm manager, and nothing had changed. Stroud District Council's Environmental Dept had visited the site and advised that the unit had been moved further away but that they would keep the action open. The scarer now starts at 8am.

24/050 STRUCTURAL CONDITION OF ST SWITHUN'S CHURCH

Mr Nigel Bone reported that the Church remains closed, but it is hoped that a meeting can be arranged with the conservation trust to try to address this.

24/051 INFORMATION FOR COUNCILLORS

Whaddon Fields – In a report from Mr Martin Coles, Black Box indicated that outline plans would probably not be determined until 2025. There was still no confirmation to the legal deadline as to when JCS can request land for their housing allocation. This could possibly be 2027. It was proposed to send a prepared letter to Alan Gouch, of Gloucester City Council, requesting further information regarding when this request may be made.

AGREED by a Vote of 3-1.

RESOLVED

24/052 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

It was asked why there appears to be a discrepancy between dates on the District Council's website and the Parish Council's submission to the Whaddon Fields application. It was explained that permission cannot be granted until 2025 due to delays in the adoption of the local plan. Taylor Wimpey have stated that they would not be pushing for a decision but would delay the plans until the plan was in place.

24/053 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 7th May 2024 Annual Meeting of the Parish Council – 7.30pm

Tuesday 7th May 2024 Normal Parish Council Meeting 8pm

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.40 pm.