

Minutes of the of **Cainscross Town Council's Full Council Meeting** held on Monday 19 August 2024 commencing at **6.00pm**.

Present: Councillors: A Cross
C White
D Balster
D Dale
C Fewster
G Lindsay
L Stinchcombe

In Attendance: Clerk - Jeni Marshall
Administration Officer- Carrie Marshall-Couling

Also in attendance: District Councillor Elizabeth Stanley
County Councillor John Bloxsom
Two members of the public to be considered for co-option to the Council

Apologies: James Booker

Absent: Charlie Mitchell

FC50/24 To receive apologies
Apologies were received as above, and one absence was noted.

FC51/24 To confirm the minutes of the last meeting of the Council
The minutes of the last meeting of Full Council (24 June 2024) were confirmed as accurate and duly signed.

FC52/24 To receive any declarations of interest
None received.

FC53/24 To receive the Chairman's announcements
The Chair informed members, due to one member of staff being on sick leave and another on holiday, to be mindful that the remaining staff will be under additional pressure.
He also suggested a donation is made to Southport. The Clerk felt there is no power to do this but agreed to check this and get back to members.

FC54/24 To receive any representations or questions from members of the public
None received.

FC55/24 To receive the officer report
The Clerk reported that the three bus shelters have now been removed and she is coordinating the replacements.
There has been increased graffiti in the parish and the Groundstaff are doing their best to keep on top of it.
There had been some internet issues in the office resulting in staff having to work from home for a couple of days, however it seems to be fixed now.

FC56/24 To receive any reports from County and District Councillors

Reports were noted from District Councillor Elizabeth Stanley and County Councillor John Bloxsom (attached appendix A & B).

- FC57/24** To note and approve the minutes of the last Finance, Staffing and Policy Committee
The minutes of the last Finance, Staffing and Policy committee meeting were noted.
- FC58/24** To note and approve the minutes of the Recreation Committee
The minutes of the last Recreation committee meeting were noted.
- FC59/24** To consider any applications for co-option to the Council
A member of the public was considered for co-option.
Yvonne Tester was co-opted to the Ebley ward. The Clerk asked her to call into the office the following week to sign the relevant forms.

Planning, Highways, Amenities and Recreation

- FC60/24** To consider and comment on Stroud District Councils Cultural and Strategy Plan
Members considered the plan and felt that the District Council were not fully invested and the plan was more of an instruction to other organisations rather than an investment in the Stroud Culture. Members agreed that they would expect more active involvement from District rather than just the enabler / exemplar.
- FC61/24** To consider and comment on a proposal for Electric Vehicle (EV) Chargepoints at Home Orchard
Members considered the proposal for the Electrical Vehicle ChargePoint's and resolved to support it.
- FC62/24** To consider the following planning applications
S.24/1035/HHOLD- 207 Westward Road Ebley- Installation of a dropped kerb. - Support
S.24/1214/FUL- 76 - 78 Greenaways Ebley- Block up the access opening between flats 76 & 78 Greenways to create 2no dwellings.- Note
S.24/1327/HHOLD- 72 Orchard Road, Ebley- Erection of a two storey side and single storey rear extension. Front canopy/open porch and installation of solar panels. - Support
S.24/1409/P14J - Sainsburys, Dudbridge Road – Installation of 240.6kWp solar PV system. - Support
- FC63/24** To note any planning decisions
The planning decisions were noted.
- FC64/24** To discuss the Lagger Footpath and consider its future
The Clerk informed members that she had met with the Footpath Officer, Sarah McCauley at the Lagger and had a walk down the path. It was clear that since the path was temporarily closed over a year ago there have been no complaints or enquiries. The path has huge badger sets which will be expensive to remove and

likely to come back as well as an underground water leak. The Clerk had discussed with the Footpath officer, permanent closure.

Members discussed this and agreed that with the Dump only a few yards away, that spending further public money would be a waste in the present financial climate and supported the potential closure.

Councillor Lindsay also requested that the footpaths team made sure the path was clearly signed as closed as it is now becoming quite dangerous.

- FC65/24** To consider a definitive map modification order
Members considered the map modification order for the footpath known as ‘the dump’ and resolved to support this.
- FC66/24** To consider a suggestion for some circular parish walks from Councillor Lindsay
Councillor Lindsay had worked very hard on creating some walks throughout the Parish, beginning and ending in Victory Park. He explained that he would like to develop the idea, and it was resolved to set up a working party to support this. Councillors Lindsay, Tester, White and Cross agreed to join the working party, and the Clerk will set up the first date and let the members know.
- FC67/24** To discuss the recent summer event and agree a date for 2025
Members were pleased with how the summer event went and agreed to hold next year's event on the 29th of June. Format and details will be confirmed in the new year.
- FC68/24** To approve and adopt an Investment Strategy for 2024/5
After a short discussion the Investment Strategy was approved and adopted by the Council.
- FC69/24** To consider grant applications:
- St Mathews School PTFA- Requested grant amount of £500 was approved.
- Footpath MCA20 Neighbours- Requested grant amount of £250 was approved.
- FC70/24** To approve expenditure from 7 August – 13 August
Expenditure was approved.
- FC71/24** To note any training/meetings attended by staff or Councillors
Councillor Lindsay attended the online GAPTC Youth Forum. He reported that concerns were shared amongst participants which included a lack of activities and support for young people. The Clerk recommended she follow up with Cashes Green Community Centre about the progress being made towards establishing a youth club.
- FC72/24** To consider any items for inclusion on future agendas
Councillor Dale raised concerns about the barriers at Sunnyhill in a poor state of repair –The Clerk will report this to Stroud District Council
Other Councillors raised concerns about weed growth on pavements throughout the Parish and potholes at Chapel Lane.
- FC73/24** To confirm the date and time of the next meeting of the Full Council
The next meeting of Full Council will be held on Monday the 30th of September.

The meeting concluded at 7:07pm.

Signed

Dated

Actions

FC58/24	Councillor Co-option- Meet with new Cllrs to fill in forms/set up emails and inform SDC	Clerk / Assistant Clerk
FC59/24	Respond to SDC Cultural Strategy	Clerk
FC60/24	Respond to SDC re electric points	Clerk
FC61/24	Send in Planning responses	Administrator
FC63/24	Respond to Footpath Officer	Clerk
FC64/24	Respond to modification order	Clerk
FC65/24	Set up working party (first meeting)	Clerk
FC67/24	Set up investments	Clerk
FC68/24	Inform applicants and pay grants	Clerk / Assistant Clerk
FC70/24	Contact Cashes Green Community Centre regarding the youth club.	Clerk

Appendix A:

Report for Cainscross Town Council meeting 9.8.2024

I write this report very much as a postscript to Cllr John Bloxsom's report as most of the correspondence we have received as District Councillors has been related to the double yellow lines recently added to Westward Road, and to the conversion of the Ebley Mill visitors' car park into a Pay and Display car park open to the general public.

There is a lot of concern about the loss of parking spaces outside the houses on that stretch of Westward Road. The residents have requested, reasonably in my view, that they be allowed to use the Ebley Mill car park for a nominal fee. SDC is offering cheap overnight car parking but that doesn't help people who work nights and need a car parking space during the day.

It is hard to imagine anyone paying £55 a month for a season ticket to park at Ebley Mill.

The return of the 67 bus service on Sundays is excellent news and we must do what we can to raise awareness. "Use it or lose it" is a common slogan, but people will only use a service if they know it is there.

We have also received correspondence about the dilapidated state of The Coach and Horses and the alleyway behind it. Dave Mathews has spoken to the owner of the property who is hoping to open it as a takeaway. This would require planning permission. The brambles and nettles in the alleyway have been cut back.

We carried out a site visit to 4, Whitehouse Close and met the contractors who are a local company. Their application for planning permission for seven houses (including one bungalow) was refused by SDC and they intend to appeal.

Elizabeth Stanley.

Appendix B:

Cainscross Town Council Report from County Councillor John Bloxsom, August 2024

The double yellow lines on the corner of Greenaways and between the Home Orchard junction and Chapel Lane were repainted on 12 August 2024 and so far, there appears to have been compliance.

This will be added to the routes patrolled by civil enforcement officers. I will request future speed monitoring and press for appropriate road safety measures.

SDC has published notice of its intention to make its visitor car park a public pay and display car park <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/about-the-council/have-your-say/consultations/ebley-wharf-car-park/>. The deadline for comments is noon 27 August 2023.

Both of the underpasses beneath Hunters Way have had lighting installed. These are new lights as the original lights have been defunct for many years. Many thanks to the Street Lighting team for arranging this and funding this work which is long overdue.

The no.67 timetable is to be revised from 1 September 2024 which will run services to Stroud and Bussage on Friday evening, Saturday evening, Sundays and Bank Holidays [67_010924.pdf \(tiscon-maps-stagecoachbus.s3.amazonaws.com\)](#). Please use or we'll lose it!

There is a proposal from GCC to instal three EV charging points on-street at Home Orchard and comments have been invited by 31 August 2024 to electricvehicles@gloucestershire.gov.uk. The location is as below:



I have responded to complaints about the directional arrows painted on the approach to Cainscross roundabout about which there have been many complaints. See [Fury over "idiotic" change to the Cainscross Roundabout | Stroud News and Journal](#). I was advised on 16 August 2024 that in light of these comments, and having taken further advice, these will be blanked out before the schools return and revert to the original position of there being no arrows.

The next meeting of the County Council is on 11 September 2024 when a new Leader will be elected to succeed Mark Hawthorne who is standing down after 14 years. It is reported that the new Leader will be Stephen Davies (Hardwicke and Severn Division). I remain Leader of the Labour Group and Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee.

The County Council has received letters from Government concerning [devolution](#) of functions to local government and [house building and planning](#). It is proposing to express an interest in discussion of devolution arrangements in collaboration with District Councils. These are to be set out in a forthcoming devolution framework and an [English Devolution Bill](#).

A draft Order has been laid before Parliament on 25 July 2024 to implement the recommendations of the commission on the divisional boundaries within the County Council which will increase from 53 to 55 seats. There will be no changes to Cainscross Parish which remains wholly in the “Rodborough Division”. See <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/gloucestershire#49931>

The resurfacing of this section of Westward Road from Orchard Road to Chapel Lane, which is in poor condition, continues to be shown on the map of schemes to be delivered in 2024/25, however, no dates for this rescheduled work have yet to be advised. See <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/highways/roads/county-resurfacing-works/>

