

Minutes of the of **Cainscross Town Council's Full Council Meeting** held on Monday 27 January 2025 commencing at **6.00pm**.

Present: Councillors: C White (Vice Chair)
S Ashenford
D Balster
D Dale
C Fewster
G Lindsay
C Mitchell
L Stinchcombe

In attendance: Jeni Marshall - Clerk
Emily Forgione - Assistant Clerk

Also in attendance: County Councillor John Bloxsom
District Councillor Elizabeth Stanley

Apologies: Councillor Adrain Cross
Councillor James Booker
District Councillors

- FC160/25** To note apologies
Apologies were received as above.
- FC161/25** To confirm the minutes of the last meeting of the Council
The minutes of the last meeting of the Full Council were confirmed and duly signed.
- FC162/25** To receive any declarations of interest
No declarations of interest were received.
- FC163/25** To receive the chairman's announcements
The vice chairman wished all members a happy new year; there were no updates or announcements from the chairman.
- FC164/25** To receive any representations or questions from members of the public
No members of the public were present at the meeting.
- FC165/25** To receive officer reports
The Clerk's report was received as follows –
- The Assistant Clerk has now booked to do her CiLCA and the course starts in March.
 - You are probably aware that an old stone wall has collapsed in Dog Alley. District and County Council have been notified and the stone blocking the path is now cleared. The structure still appears to be dangerous, and the path is still technically closed. I have emailed SDC for an update and await a reply. UPDATE - You should have all received the email to say the path is closed and the wall that the wall remaining is potentially dangerous. I have raised concerns with County about the time scale of the closure. I am particularly worried about the fact that the wall is in private ownership.
 - The new bus shelter installation was cancelled last thing on Friday by the contractor. He was extremely rude and despite Em and I trying to get a response he was very elusive. We have now managed to get a response. Our contractor is now trying to get the Highways license updated and hopefully fitting will go ahead in early February. UPDATE -the bus shelters are scheduled to be fitted from the 10th of Feb onwards. Fingers crossed.
 - We have received a couple of concerns from dog walkers regarding the pump track and I have assured them that dogs are not banned from the area however we would assume that if the track was busy, they would be sensible to avoid. The precept request has been sent to Stroud District Council.
 - The VAT return for the latest quarter has been sent in.

FC166/25

To receive any reports from County and District Councillors

A report was circulated prior to the meeting from Councillor John Bloxsom. Items directly concerning the parish:

Tricorn House – The latest SDC update on future of Tricorn House can be found here <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/environment/planning-and-building-control/tricorn-housefrequently-asked-questions/>. This now includes a statement that the owner is not making the building available for its use to provide dispersed accommodation for asylum seekers and that SDC is in discussions with a social landlord about potential use for accommodation of homeless families and individuals. I am pursuing the request for a highways assessment of the as no such assessment was done due to the conversion taking place using permitted development rights rather than a full planning application.

Resurfacing – The following are scheduled -

- Westward Road - 11 – 25 February with the work area being between Orchard Road and Chapel Lane and a signed diversion between Cainscross roundabout and the Horsetrough roundabout. The road closure order extends up Foxmoor Lane as far as East Drive which highways state is the only viable closure point. I have asked that this too has a signed diversion route.

- Footway along The Bridle – 3 to 7 March. This is a particularly poor section where resurfacing has been requested, and I have prioritised through the Highways Local budget.

Another update was given in the form of a combined report from the District Councillors for Cainscross, items directly concerning the parish include:

Parking - Anticipated parking issues resulting from the restrictions imposed on Westward Road appear to have settled quickly. However, the newly opened public car park at Ebley Mill (designed to offer a parking solution for displaced residents) has not attracted a commercially viable volume of traffic and revenue, and we have asked SDC to review pricing.

Footpaths - Various paths adjacent to gardens have been impinged by overgrown vegetation, including brambles, causing concern to residents. The path linking Victory Park with Chapel Lane was closed this week to mitigate the risk of a high but unsafe garden wall injuring a passing resident. GCC officers are negotiating with the wall owner for an early fix. Members remain on hand in case a creative solution is required.

FC167/25

To note and approve the minutes of the last Finance, Staffing and Policy meeting

The minutes of the last Finance, Staffing and Policy committee were noted.

FC168/25

To receive an update from the walking working party

A brief update from Cllr Gavin Lindsay was given on behalf of the working party, it was reported that progress is being made with the plans for brochures of four walks in the parish with arbicultural information from local experts, it was also highlighted that experts are willing to host some walks and give information to people as they complete the routes. The brochures will be made available in the pavilion, online and advertised along with a QR code on noticeboards in the parish.

FC169/25

To sign the pump track contract with B1KE and to agree the payment schedule

The contract with B1ke was signed and the presented initial instalment of £17,346.60 was approved by members for payment.

FC170/25

To consider and authorise any ancillary items for the pump track

The suggested ancillary items of signage, a bench, and a noticeboard were considered. After due discussion it was agreed that there was no need for an additional noticeboard in Victory Park at this time, however all other items were confirmed for purchase.

Planning, Highways, Amenities and Recreation

FC171/25

To consider the following planning applications -

- S.24/2289/LBC- Stroud District Council, Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf - Internal alterations to part of level 0 ground floor - it was agreed that although it was not a planning matter, a question should be raised with the planning officer on whether the planning application should go ahead due to the possibility of devolution of local government. The Council feel this is unnecessary spending of public money in uncertain circumstances.

FC172/25To note any planning decisions

The planning decisions were noted.

FC173/25To approve expenditure from 16 January – 27 JanuaryThe expenditure from 16th January to 27th January was approved.**FC174/25**To note any training / meetings attended by staff or Councillors

It was noted that The Clerk and Assistant Clerk attended a meeting with several large local Parish and Town Councils regarding the potential devolution of local government. The Assistant Clerk and Administrator also completed training for the new website.

FC175/25To consider any items for inclusion on future agendas

No items were given for future agendas.

FC176/25To confirm the date and time of the next meeting of the Full Council.The next meeting of Full Council is to be held on Monday the 24th of February.*The meeting concluded at 7.15pm*

Signed

Dated

Actions

FC169/25	Project Officer to CC and send to B1ke.	Project Officer
FC169/25	Clerk to make initial payment to B1ke.	Clerk
FC170/25	Order ancillary items	Project Officer
FC171/25	Email planning officer	Assistant Clerk

Unpaid Expenditure Transactions

Start of year 01/04/24

Invoices with a ledger date on or after 16/01/25 and on or before 27/01/25

Tn no	Gross	Vat	Net Cttee	Invoiced Date	Details	Payment Reference	Accrual	Heading
2337	£146.40	£24.40	£122.00	23/01/25	Progressive Systems (UK) Ltd Shutter failure callout		<input type="checkbox"/>	230/5
2338	£18.00	£3.00	£15.00	16/01/25	Stephen Coates Repayment for keys for Victory Park Top Gate		<input type="checkbox"/>	220/3
2339	£8.99	£1.50	£7.49	22/01/25	Wolsley Screws for kitchen shelf		<input type="checkbox"/>	230/5
2340	£13.80	£2.30	£11.50	23/01/25	C.E.F. Stroud 28W T8 4 Pin Bulbs		<input type="checkbox"/>	240/4
Total	£187.19	£31.20	£155.99					

Signature _____
Date _____

Signature _____