



STOKE GIFFORD

PARISH COUNCIL

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STOKE GIFFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION & LEISURE MEETING

Held on Tuesday, 15th July 2025

EMERGENCY PROCEDURE:

In the event of a fire all those present should leave the building calmly, breaking a fire alarm panel on the way out, and assemble on the far side of the car park at the assembly point.

Attendees are reminded to either switch off or make silent their mobile phones.

PRESENT:

S Bandcroft, M Brown, J Brunwin, A Hyde, M Gallagher, P Richardson, and A Shore.

Also, the Parish Clerk, M Rendell, M Ford, P Passaway, a representative from FACE and eight residents.

1	To elect Chair of the Recreation & Leisure Committee for 2025/26. Councillor Sue Bandcroft proposed to nominate Councillor Penny Richardson to continue as Chair of the Recreation & Leisure committee for 2025/26, seconded by Councillor Max Gallagher, a vote was taken, 4 for, 3 abstentions, proposal carried.	ACTION
2	Welcome and apologies for absence. Councillor Penny Richardson resumed position of Chair, thanked Councillors for the nomination and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Councillor Keiron Marsden.	
3	To receive notification of any members' personal or prejudicial interest. None.	
4	To approve the last Recreation & Leisure meeting Minutes dated 15th April 2025. A resident mentioned he highlighted the play bark area at Meade Park (surrounding exercise equipment) and the need to replace the timber surrounds that are showing signs of wear and tear and rotting in places. The Clerk will add the note to the minutes and	

	<p>discuss the work with the Ground Staff.</p> <p>Councillor Tony Hyde then proposed acceptance of the Minutes of the last Recreation & Leisure meeting dated 15th April 2025, seconded by Councillor Sue Bandcroft, proposal unanimously carried. The minutes were duly signed by the Chair as a correct record.</p>	
5	<p>PUBLIC SESSION [3-5 MINUTES PER PERSON WITH A MAXIMUM OF 15 MINUTES PER SESSION] – five residents were in attendance.</p> <p>Café toilet – a resident had noticed some cleaning chemicals on the shelf in the toilet used for café 3G and park users, the Caretaker will remove.</p> <p>First Aid on site – a question was raised regarding first aid response on site. The Clerk confirmed all staff have just attended a First Aid at work course and all successfully passed the exam. When on-site the office staff regularly deal with incidents on site.</p> <p>The staff have a First Aid box in the Parish office and there's a fully stocked First Aid box in the kitchen which can be used by anyone in the building. There is a large First Aid sign on the kitchen door that highlights where to find the First Aid box.</p> <p>Machinery – when passing the garages recently a resident noticed the roll bar on one of the vehicles was out of position, the vehicle was parked up and asked the Head Groundsman to look into the H&S recommendations and ensure the roll bar is in position going forward. The Head Groundsman noted.</p> <p>BMX track seating - A resident was interested in whether or not the Parish Council would be installing some seating to the BMX area and if so requested information on the seat product/ cost and model. The Chair has noted the request and will contact the resident following the meeting.</p>	
6	<p>Update from Youth Provider.</p> <p>A representative from FACE was present to give an update on the youth provision through the parish.</p> <p><u>Stoke Gifford</u></p> <p>The Monday youth club sessions at the scout hut has welcomed a new member of staff to the team. The team have been supporting lots of local young people, including some young refugee young people. The team have also delivered some sessions in Little Stoke Park with the mobile vehicle and parked by the tracks. The Thursday detached sessions have continued in Little Stoke Park and have had a better attendance due to the weather getting better.</p> <p>The sessions at Meade Park have ended this period, due to funding being re directed to Charlton Hayes. This was successful and contacted over 100 young people and weekly contacts of 25+. Young people in the area have a greater awareness of provision in the area and the role of youth work.</p> <p>We have just secured funding via SNG for a summer mobile project and consultation on the Brooklands estate, which aims to hear the voice of young people in the area and inform future provision. This will tie in well with the opening of the new community centre in September, and what provision may be on offer for local young people. The team</p>	

	<p>worked in partnership with the Chair of the Resident’s Association, who is keen for youth work provision in the area, as a response to some ASB.</p> <p>The team attended the local community event in Stoke Gifford on the bank holiday Monday and ran free activities for young people, this was a great event for the team and lots of links were made and local youth provision was promoted.</p> <p><u>South Glos VRP</u> (Violence Reduction Partnership) detached project – these weekly Friday sessions focus on youth violence and exploitation. The areas of concern include Patchway, Charlton Hayes, Bradley Stoke and Stoke Gifford. There have been lots of discussions with young people around weapon-carrying and gangs, this has been heightened with the recent event at Cribbs.</p> <p><u>Staff</u></p> <p>Still not recruited to the development workers posts, but have recently advertised in Young People Now, so hopefully we will have some interest. We have taken on two new assistants across the clubs, and we are in the stages of offering a level 6 apprenticeship, to start in October. We also have four staff across the organisation who have been accepted on the level 3 youth work course, to start in September. The youth work teams also attended our annual staff training day around Safeguarding & Equalities on the 28th June.</p> <p><u>Plans for next quarter.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer programme – Joint youth club trips, Westcountry Water Park and Ashton Court high ropes and team challenges. Funding via the SNG to deliver DORIS sessions in Brooklands over the summer to include consultation on youth activities in the area. • County-wide football tournament at Goals SGS • HAF (Holiday and Food) Summer provision – including weekly trips and a 5-day camp in the Black Mountains in Wales. • The youth work team will be delivering workshops in Patchway and Abbeywood school in July, focuses on prevention around weapon carrying. This will also go in to the summer with a trip organised with those participating in the workshops. 	
7	<p>Update from Grounds Team to include maintenance schedule.</p> <p>The Head Groundsman give an update on the Parish Council grounds.</p> <p>The grounds are holding up well considering the extremely dry weather.</p> <p>The grass has slowed up recently giving us a chance to get some much-needed hedge cutting done and various pathways cleared.</p> <p>We have continued watering the new hedge in Little Stoke Park adjacent to the car park to keep them alive through this dry spell.</p> <p>Maddox has recently joined us and has started well, I am training him to use the hand tools, strimmer and general hedge cutting. In the next month or so will be looking to start</p>	

	<p>training Maddox on the ride-on mower.</p> <p>The new mini five-a-side goals have gone down well - very popular with the park users in Little Stoke Park, however, the ground is heavily worn and will require some renovation when we get more suitable weather. As a minimum the goal areas will require verti drain seed and topsoil.</p> <p>Trees</p> <p>Both existing and new Trees around the Parish are looking well.</p> <p>The concern will be how many ash trees we will be responsible for felling due to ash die-back. Therefore, we are trying to gather some more information via a tree survey from an arborist so we can plan future works required.</p> <p>Parks</p> <p>Parks are in fair condition considering the amount of use. Plans are ongoing for replacing the old tyre swings at North Road. Some timber edging around both the gym equipment in Meade Park and the basket swing in Little Stoke Park needs replacing and we plan to do this in house.</p> <p>Due to a heavily fly tipped bin at Meade Park, we have recently changed our standard sized general waste bin to one that has a much smaller opening, hopefully this will help reduce unnecessary waste in the park bins. Some recycling bins are also due to be fitted at Little Stoke Park and Meade Park.</p> <p>The Clerk tabled the Maintenance Schedule that reiterates the daily/ weekly/ monthly and annual checks carried out by the Grounds team.</p>	
8	<p>Update from Caretaker to include check lists.</p> <p>The Caretaker gave an update on the works carried out in recent months at Little Stoke community centre and across the Parish.</p> <p>Jobs include painting the exterior part of the building, fixing park benches, fixing the fencing near the zip wire at Meade Park, standard daily chores at the Little Stoke Community Centre.</p> <p>The Caretaker shared the daily check sheets which include all checks carried out daily, weekly, monthly, and annually.</p>	
9	<p>Provision of Basketball facilities by Stoke Gifford Parish Council.</p> <p>The Chair, Councillor Penny Richardson explained to members that following the recent Finance & General Purpose meeting where residents from Brins Close turned up to discuss the provision of basketball at the Trust Grounds, it was felt important to add to this agenda to seek general opinion amongst members on whether the current basketball facility is suitable or would there be a better alternative location on the Trust Ground or across the Parish. Councillor Penny Richardson highlighted the fact there is a brand new basketball facility being built in Mulgrove Farm on the outskirts of the parish boundary,</p>	

	<p>and Bradley Stoke Town Council are investigating the possibility of installing a new basketball court in Bradley Stoke.</p> <p>The basketball facility at the Trust Grounds is managed by the Trust Committee and they have a Trust meeting coming up where Trustees will be looking into the current basketball provision.</p> <p>Councillor Sue Bandcroft would like to see a public consultation to seek public opinion and understand what the residents would like to see in terms of facilities available within the Parish. A sub-committee will be meeting in September to look into a consultation and the best way to achieve this reaching out across the parish.</p> <p>Councillor Andrew Shore reiterated the basketball facility is managed by the Trust Committee and as such doesn't feel the Parish should be discussing this.</p> <p>Following a lengthy discussion Councillor Mike Brown proposed that Stoke Gifford Parish Council will not undertake any discussion or consideration on a basketball facility in the Parish and believes the current facilities in and around the Parish caters for the residents who wish to partake in the sport, seconded by Councillor Max Gallagher, a vote was taken, 5 for, 2 abstentions, proposal carried.</p>	
10	<p>Balfour Beatty snagging work at Forty Acres and update on Community Project.</p> <p>The Parish Clerk continues to be in contact with Balfour Beatty about the snagging works still outstanding to the front entrance and pathways through the park. The new point of contact has earmarked the staff and machinery and is aware of the urgent need that members and officers share in wanting the works complete, as the project itself was completed three months ago.</p> <p>The snagging works are the priority and once completed the Clerk will start to look into the community project with the appropriate department.</p>	Clerk contact BB.
11	<p>Update on Local Nature Action Plan (SGC).</p> <p>Councillor Sue Bandcroft informed members the local Nature Action plan continues to progress.</p> <p>The new trees recently planted in Forty Acres require regular watering which is proving problematic. The Council has no watering system and so when volunteers attend site to water the trees, they are reliant on the good will of neighbouring properties and taking water from the stream. Councillor Sue Bandcroft mentioned the possibility of the Parish Council looking into the purchase of a water butt that can be used for watering plants and trees when required.</p> <p>The Clerk will liaise with the Head Groundsman and look into the options.</p>	
12	<p>Update on the Community Litter Picking Sessions.</p> <p>The Chair, Councillor Penny Richardson, reported the local litter picking sessions will continue running every three weeks. These are held on a rotational basis in each of the three wards of the Parish. Full details are advertised on the SGPC website, on the Parish Noticeboards and on all the local Facebook sites accessed by residents and more recently the St Michael's Centre has started displaying a poster on their premises.</p>	

13	<p>Any other business relevant to this committee.</p> <p>Councillor Mike Brown mentioned the Clerk has been in contact with SGC who confirm they are unable to install general waste bins within the Brooklands Park estate. The estate is not yet adopted by SGC, and they are unable to find resources to service the weekly emptying. The Parish will install external general waste bins near the community centre once the building is handed to the Parish towards the end of the calendar year.</p> <p>Several booms were put in place in the stream through the Stoke Brook stream to catch any pollution in November/ December 2024. The Chair, Councillor Penny Richardson, has mentioned the booms downstream of the Little Stoke area have now been removed and the Environmental Agency continues to monitor the stream.</p>	
15	<p>Date of next meeting.</p> <p>21st October 2025.</p>	

Meeting closed 15:55

Signed: _____

Date: _____

P Richardson (Chair)

On behalf of Stoke Gifford Parish Council