



STOKE GIFFORD

PARISH COUNCIL

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STOKE GIFFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION & LEISURE MEETING

Held on Tuesday, 21st October 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, K Marsden, P Richardson, and A Shore.

Also, the Parish Clerk, M Rendell, M Ford, J Cutler, a representative from FACE and four residents.

1	Welcome and apologies for absence. The Chair, Councillor Penny Richardson welcomed everyone to the meeting.	ACTION
2	To receive notification of any members' personal or prejudicial interest. None.	
3	To approve the last Recreation & Leisure meeting Minutes dated 15th July 2025. Agenda item 11 - Councillor Sue Bandcroft asked to change the phrase water butt to water bowser. Clerk to update the action column. Following the above change, Councillor Sue Bandcroft proposed acceptance of the Minutes of the last Recreation & Leisure meeting dated 15 th July 2025, seconded by Councillor Jan Brunwin, proposal unanimously carried. (Councillor Keiron Marsden abstained due to not being present at the meeting). The minutes were duly signed by the Chair as a correct record.	

4	PUBLIC SESSION [3-5 MINUTES PER PERSON WITH A MAXIMUM OF 15 MINUTES PER SESSION] – four residents were in attendance. A local resident asked the Chair to clarify some points on site maintenance/ cost and asked for a response: - The cost of newly installed bench near the Little Stoke BMX track - Air vents to Little Stoke Community Centre (near café) - Bus Shelters upkeep The Chair, Councillor Penny Richardson will meet with the Clerk following the meeting and respond directly to the resident.	
5	Update from Youth Provider. The Youth Worker was present to give a report to members. Stoke Gifford Youth Work Report: July – September 2025. The youth work team have been working with 35 registered young people across the club and detached work sessions, several of these are new to the project. The mobile provision and VRP session only record contacts made with young people; in this period the team have made 110 contacts. There have been 24 sessions of youth work delivered in the area in this period. Open Access Monday Youth Club – This continued weekly through the summer period and new contacts were made. The team engaged with a core group from this session, that have been involved in this youth club session for the last few years. They engaged in joint youth club trips in the summer, including Ashton Court – high ropes and Westcountry Waterpark. Mobile Detached Youth Work – The mobile sessions have been delivered up until the summer holidays at Mead Park, making over 30 contacts a week, this has been very popular in the area and helped promote provision locally. In the summer the team worked in partnership with the Brooklands Residents Association, and delivered weekly mobile sessions from the vehicle, outside the sales office, making lots of new contacts and speaking to young people and families living in the area. It's hoped once the new community centre is opened, youth provision in the area can be run from there. The team also supported the community event at the Trust Hall in the summer – promoted youth provision, made some new contacts and ran some fun activities for older young people. Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) Detached session – The Friday night team have been covering Little Stoke Park and contacting groups of young people. Also, the team have been involved in a mapping exercise of young people at risk across the areas, which included Abbeywood school and young people living in Stoke Gifford. At the end of the school term, the team delivered a reducing youth violence groupwork session with a targeted group of young people attending the school. Project Work – HAF – Holiday and Food Provision – families on free school meals. The team worked with a group of people from Stoke Gifford in the summer and took them on	

	a 3-day residential to the Black Mountains in Wales, to build skills and confidence in the outdoors, and engaged in workshops on shelter building and navigation skills, without a mobile phone. The young people were pushed outside their comfort zones and engaged well. Staffing – We have recruited three new staff for the area, who will be inducted and will complete youth work training, one is leading on the session and completing their level 3 youth work qualification. Future plans – • Sessions accessing the 3G courts at Little Stoke Park – still trying to look at slots we can deliver on. • Recruit a youth development worker for the Stoke Gifford area. • Look at youth provision from the new building at Brooklands – consult with young people. • Arts project in the park – youth shelter and wall – linking into the Parish and local community. • Taking Stoke Gifford young people to the annual youth awards for achieving their South Glos awards. Dawn has been in contact with the Parish Council Office to check availability of the 3G in the hope some youth sessions can be held. Councillor Sue Bandcroft informed the youth worker that a sports facility has recently been installed within the Mulgrove Farm estate, and this may be a popular area to run an outreach session. Members acknowledged the excellent service being provided by FACE to young people within the Parish and thanked Dawn and her staff.	
6	Update from Grounds Team. Both Head and Deputy Groundsman were present to report to members. October 2025 Grounds report. Pitches After a prolonged dry spell pitches needed several tonnes of topsoil and grass seed to fill large cracks in order to make them safe and playable for this season. Work is ongoing, reseeding areas that are still bare/ thin, but the season is underway, and we are getting there. Verti draining aeration will be started on the main pitches in the coming weeks. The Head Groundsman is currently awaiting a response from the Football foundation to see if we are eligible for any funding. Hopefully with added funding we can add equipment that will help us to maintain pitches to a high standard and help increase efficiency in pitch preparation. Trees Works will be ongoing over the winter months for tree works around the recreational	

	parks. Parks and play areas The ROSPA reports are now complete, in general the parks are in very good condition, just some low priority maintenance jobs to complete to keep them going. Staff will continue to carry out the works in-house when possible. Work is ongoing to replace old, damaged edging surrounding the play bark in Little Stoke Park. We are aware that Meade Park gym area edging needs replacing and will be monitoring its safety whilst we look to replace at some point this Winter. We are aware bark levels need topping up at some point soon too. Machinery In good overall condition, and the Grounds team will be looking to send machines in for servicing around December time as they are still in use cutting grass on a weekly basis. Staff Maddox Ford has settled in well within the team and is proving to be a valuable asset for the Parish Council.	
7	Update from Caretaker. The new Caretaker introduced himself to members and gave an overview of his checks/ jobs carried out so far. The Caretaker is focusing on room hire, preparation and cleanliness of Little Stoke Community Centre, and going through the daily/ weekly/ monthly check lists. The annual fire inspection has just taken place for the community centre and there's a few low priority jobs that require attention. This will be carried out in-house. The bench recently installed on the village green requires some maintenance, the Caretaker will be hoping to get to this before Remembrance Sunday.	
8	40 Acres. Forest of Avon Tree Grant Following on from our invitation by the Forest of Avon to apply for their Green Canopy Project, which involves free trees for local communities and includes planting and post-plant watering, all paid for, the Chair, Councillor Penny Richardson has tabled a map of the site proposing locations for the new trees within 40 Acres. Although the project is funded the Parish Council will have to pay for the works and then claim the full amount back from the Forest of Avon. The Chair has been in communication with the SGC Tree Officer, Neil Gazzard along with the Parish Council Grounds Staff to ensure the correct species of tree is planted and in	

	the appropriate locations. Members confirmed they would like to see qualified personnel involved in this project to ensure the appropriate action is taken. i.e. locations of trees planted as this may affect current grass cutting programme. Councillor Keiron Marsden mentioned the initial outlay for this project could be taken from the Parks Capital budget. Timing-wise members feel the works would need to take place soon before the winter season. Following a lengthy discussion, members asked the Clerk to add to the Full Council agenda in November for a further discussion and decision. Pond Councillor Sue Bandcroft remains keen to see a pond installed within 40 Acres. Balfour Beatty path restoration work the Clerk continues to liaise with the contractor regarding their return to site to restore the stone to dust pathway within the recreational area. Initially they requested a services plan underground before the works can commence but they have sourced this information from being on site previously. Once the contractor sources manpower and machinery, they hope to be on site to carry out this work alongside the community initiative project in Royal Park. It is hoped the work can be undertaken this calendar year. The Clerk confirmed communication has been regular for several months in the hope this work is carried out as quickly as possible. The contractor left site in April 2025. Councillor Andrew Shore shares this frustration and is disappointed the time it is taking the contractor to revisit our site and make good the repairs requested because of the contractor's machinery damaging the pathway.	Clerk add to FC agenda in November. Clerk to chase BB.
9	To receive the summer report from Turtle CYP. The Clerk tabled the summer report from Turtle CYP. Turtle CYP delivered the playscheme for 3 days a week in Stoke Gifford and Yate and 4 days a week in Bradley Stoke, Patchway and Kingswood. In total, this provided 2600 spaces for children across the 4 weeks. The number of children per venue varied due to size of venue. Each venue was either 30 or 40 children per session The playscheme was delivered in the Poplar rooms, Stoke Gifford for three weeks and in Little Stoke Community Hall for the other week. Turtle CYP delivered 72 playscheme sessions running from 10.30am-2.30pm across five locations – Patchway (St Chads Church), Bradley Stoke (Jubilee Centre), Stoke Gifford (Poplar Rooms) / Little Stoke (Little Stoke Community Hall), Yate (St Nicks Family Centre) and Kingswood (Beaconrise Primary & Kingswood Park). Members noted the number of no-shows and wondered if this can be improved for next year. Turtle CYP had 2600 spaces available this summer, and only 2072 attendances. That is a difference of 528 spaces not used. 181 of these spaces were children who were booked in but did not attend on the day and did not let organisers know they were	

	not coming. The Clerk will invite a representative from Turtle CYP to the Recreation & Leisure committee meeting in January.	Clerk contact Turtle CYP.
10	Update on Local Nature Action Plan (SGC). Councillor Sue Bandcroft informed members the local Nature Action plan continues to progress. Theres a lot going on, particularly in 40 Acres.	
11	Update on the Community Litter Picking Sessions. 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.	
12	Any other business relevant to this committee. Brooklands Park Community Centre – the Chair, Councillor Penny Richardson wanted to gauge opinion on holding the quarterly committee meetings at the new venue in 2026. Following a discussion members advised to hold two of the four committee meetings at Brooklands Park. Snake seat at Meade Park – the Head Groundsman and the Clerk have met the wood carver who designed and installed the snake seat in Meade Park approx. eleven years ago. The annual ROSPA play inspection report has recommended works to take place as the wood is rotten in places, with sharp splinters present. The cost provided is for two days work and the timber seat would be restored to as good as brand new. Councillors have visited the seat and confirm the original wood carver should proceed with the work. The Clerk will contact the carver to negotiate the cost and approve the works. Recycling bins- the Chair, Councillor Penny Richardson is pleased to see the recycling bins being well used at Little Stoke Park and Meade Park and would like to see a recycling bin installed at the Trust ground in the future. The Clerk confirmed the recycling bin next to the 3G and café works well mainly with the café cups/ waste but unfortunately the recycling bin at Meade Park often contains general waste items, glass and dog waste. The Clerk confirmed the waste contractor will manage the waste at the depot ensuring the recycling waste is recycled and not labelled 'contaminated' and added to general waste, so the recycling items collected from Parish Council land is being recycled.	Clerk to contact wood carver.

	Councillor Andrew Shore would like to see SGC rolling out recycling bins across the district.	
15	Date of next meeting. 20 th January 2025.	

Meeting closed 15:30

Signed: _____

Date: _____

P Richardson (Chair)

On behalf of Stoke Gifford Parish Council