Stroud Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the Parish of Stroud held at Stroud Village Hall on Tuesday the 28 April 2026 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Mark Rowden (Chair), Charlotte Burdock and Mikaela Jackson.
District Cllr Robert Mocatta.
County Councillor Russell Oppenheimer
Sam Marchant (Clerk)
8 members of the public.
Oliver as Trustee of the Stroud Village Hall.
Guest Speakers: Will Atkinson, Meonside Farms and James Donnelly, Hampshire Countryside Services.

The Chairman began by welcoming everyone and thanked them for attending.

1.Apologies:

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Andrew Snow and Tom North. Cllr North would join the meeting later in the evening.

2. The approval of the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday the 29 April 2025 The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 29 April 2025 were agreed as correct and signed by the Chair. Proposed by Cllr Jackson and Seconded by Cllr Burdock.

3. Chairman's Report – Cllr Mark Rowden (Appendix A)

4. Financial Report of Accounts for 2025/2026 and forecast for 2026/2027 (Appendix B)

5. Questions and Comments from the Public
A resident asked whether the exiting speed sign would need to be converted in order to have solar panels added. It was confirmed that the solar would be added to the existing speed signs.

A resident asked for an update on the planning enforcement appeal, land next to the Seven Stars Public House, currently being monitored by EHDC Planning Enforcement team now that a caravan had been added to the site. Residents were informed that they should make their objections via the SDNPA Planning portal by the deadline given of 15 May 2026.

6. District Councillors Report
Cllr Mocatta's presentation can be viewed on the Parish Council website.

Cllr Mocatta reported that there had been no complaint to date regarding bin collections and food waste collections were planned to commence in October from every household.

SDNPA Local Plan was discussed in relation to the land North of Winchester Road which had been included in the land assessment for possible future development. Concerns regarding

access, pedestrian connection to the rest of the village, preservation of trees and flood navigation.

7. County Councillors Report
Cllr Oppenheimer report can be viewed on the Parish Council website.

As Cllr Oppenheimer's last meeting as County Councillor we wanted to thank all of the Councillors and Clerks he had worked with over the years for Stroud.

The Chair wish Russell all the best for the future.

8. Parish Priority Statement
Cllr North had held two organised open events for public consultation for the update to Stroud's Parish Priority Statement.
Responses were then collated into the draft presented and circulated this evening.
Residents were invited to provide any further points before 10 May.
Draft document was available on the website for viewing.
It was felt that community energy and renewables may need a revisit.

9. Village Hall Trustees Report
The Village Hall Committee's presentation can be viewed on the Parish Council website.

At 8:25pm the Chair introduced the guest speakers, and the formal part of the meeting was closed.
Chairman_____ Dated_____

Chairs Report 2026

Thank you for joining us for the 2026 Stroud Annual Parish Meeting.
My name is Mark Rowden and I'm the Chair, with me this evening is Sam our Clerk, Charlotte, Andrew and Mikaela. Tom North the vice chair will be hopefully joining us late due to work commitments. We do have a Cllr vacancy, and anyone interested please do speak to one of us and attend the next PC meeting on the 19th of May.

The PC has once again had a busy year with a large number of planning applications, the proposed development next to the Seven Stars pub is still ongoing after two stop notices have been issued. I would like to encourage all residents to take 5 mins and object or agree, to any major planning applications which are submitted. I personally feel the more responses we can submit as a parish the better.

After installing a new pole for the speed signs last year outside New Buildings Farm it was unfortunately destroyed along with the sign due to a traffic accident. We have finally got a new pole installed and are now awaiting the fixings of the brackets. The plan is to have one fixed sign as you enter from the East & West with solar panels on. These signs can also then be turned 180 degrees if required. We have approved the purchase of a 3rd sign which will then be moved approximately every 2 weeks between the remaining 3 brackets along the A272 in the parish. There has been a lot of talk regarding a 20mph limit on the A272 and past the school or trying to extend the average speed limit from the west of Langrish down to the A3/A272 roundabout. To add evidence when the time comes to support this case, we require evidence that this is needed. With the 3 speed signs data can be downloaded and used as evidence. Charlotte who is responsible for the signs will be requiring some extra help in doing this. If you have an hour to spare every few weeks, to help move the sign and download the date, then please let her know.

I would like to thank everyone that attend the Litter Pick a few weekends ago, along with those that took the time to bake cakes for the event. A surprising large number of bags were filled.

The Parish Council is still in a positive financial position, and due to this the precept has been frozen this year. Sam will be presenting the financial report in more detail in a few moments time.

Parish Priorities Statement has been updated, and Tom has been busy collected a number of comments from local residents. Copies of this has been distributed around the room, if you have any questions or would like to add any further comments, please do let him know.
This will be submitted by the 10th May.

Finally, I would like to thank all the councillors and Sam for the time and effort everyone has put in over the last year.

Stroud Parish Council

Receipts and Payments 2025/2026

Receipts	**Budget 2025/26**	**Actual 2025/26**
Parish Precept	£ 19,278.00	£ 19,278.00
Bank Interest		£ 797.49
Insurance Claim (SID)		£ 2,256.79
EHDC Cllr Grant (Tommy Lighting)		£ 310.00
Total	**£ 19,278.00**	**£ 22,642.28**
VAT		£ 822.34
Payments	**Budget 2025/26**	**Actual 2025/26**
Administration	£ 3,076.00	£ 2,514.20
Equipment & Repairs	£ 5,841.00	£ 5,686.35
Projects	£ 3,000.00	
Staff Costs	£ 6,784.80	£ 6,175.95
Training	£ 300.00	
Website/Email	£ 550.00	£ 823.20
Grants/Donations	£ 400.00	£ 1,025.00
Total	**£ 19,951.80**	**£ 16,224.70**
VAT		£ 1,321.31

Budget Forecast 2026/2027

Receipts	**Actual 2025/26**	**Budget 2026/27**
Parish Precept	£ 19,278.00	£ 19,278.00
Bank Interest	£ 797.49	
Total	**£ 20,075.49**	**£ 19,278.00**
Payments	**Actual 2025/26**	**Budget 2026/27**
Administration	2514.2	3164.4
Equipment & Repairs	5686.35	5850
Projects		3000
Staff Costs	6175.95	7049.4
Training		300
Website/Email	823.2	550
Grants/Donations	1025	500
Village Hall Precept Grant		2000
Total	**16224.7**	**22413.8**