

Parish Council Meeting
Held on Monday 8 December 2025
starting at 6.30pm
At the Church Room, Church Walk, Stow on the Wold, GL54 1DW

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Cllrs R Boyens, M Donovan, G Mackenzie and R Warmington

In attendance: Ms E Sajewicz (Clerk), Ward District Cllr D Neill, and 13 members of the public

1. Election of councillor to chair the meeting

It was agreed Cllr Boyens would chair the meeting.

2. Apologies: Cllr A Westbrook

County Cllr D Corps and Mr S Meyrick

3. Declarations of interest

Members were reminded to declare any interests in items on the agenda as they arose. (Councillors with prejudicial interests must leave the meeting at the relevant time.)

4. Forthcoming vacancies

Cllr Boyens would be stepping down immediately following this meeting. Cllr Warmington intended to step down in April 2026. Residents were asked to consider joining the Parish Council.

5. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1 September 2025 were confirmed as an accurate record and approved for signing by the Chairman.

6. County Councillor's report (Cllr Corps)

Cllr Corps's report had been circulated but he had been given his apologies for being unable to attend the meeting. Cllr Warmington summarised the report, highlighting Cllr Corps's efforts regarding road closures particularly when nobody is actually working, and commended his letter to Thames Water. Cllr Corps was thanked for his report.

7. District Councillor's report (Cllr Neill)

Cllr Neill's report had been circulated. She spoke about the following:

- Local Plan update
 - CDC has written to Housing ministers about the impossibility of meeting new housing targets when 80% of the district is AONB/National Landscape
 - No additional housing is planned for Maugersbury
 - Encouraged residents to attend one of the drop-in events (Fairford and Cirencester), and submit comments on the website
 - Stow Town Council would be discussing its response on Thursday
- Local Government Reorganisation
 - CDC's preferred option is for a single unitary authority for Gloucestershire, because it maximises cost savings and means no need to split services like social care and fire service.
 - A unitary authority will change the balance in the way local government is run. Numbers of elected representatives will drop from 300 to 110. There will be Neighbourhood Partnership Groups, and town and parish councils will be invited to participate in those.
 - A review of members' allowances produced a suggestion that a tiered system of allowances for town and parish councillors could be introduced which would reflect their workload.
 - Asked about savings targets and dates, Cllr Neill undertook to provide a link to those details.
 - CDC's interim CEO has been made permanent until the unitary authorities come in.

Cllr Neill was thanked for her report.

8. Stow Fair – to report any updates about MPC’s requests and the October event

Following a joint request to CDC from MPC and Stow Town Council, asking for new approach to enforcement and engagement with the organisers, a meeting with CDC took place. CDC’s head of legal and assistant director of planning were present. It was agreed they would both review the enforcement notice to check if it is still legitimate and legal.

The costs to council tax payers were acknowledged at that meeting, and GCC would take them up with the organisers.

The clerk will request an update on actions from that meeting including the question of enforceability.

Cllr Neill offered to contact GCC Cllr Paul Hodgkinson and ask him and one of CDC’s legal team to come to a meeting.

MPC had been advised that GCC’s traveller services team was attempting to arrange a meeting with the event organisers, for MPC, but the organisers were not currently engaging.

Suggestions made:

- Inviting one of the traveller services officers to an MPC meeting
- Security deposit system to cover clean-up and policing costs, if there was any power available
- Contacting Appleby Town Council to see what they do

A resident said that for the October fair, Car Park Closed signs were not in place in time, and the car park had not been reopened after the fair. The clerk said that since the event, GCC Highways local area manager had undertaken to be here in person on the Friday before the next event, to ensure the signs were placed on time in accordance with GCC’s traffic management plan. Stow Police had offered to take on the task of future reopening of the carpark, which would be done at around 8am on the Friday after each event.

9. Parish environment

a) Highways issues

- Speed surveys appeared to have been taking place on Stow Hill concurrent with the recent road works. MPC is waiting for a response from GCC.
- Increasing excessive noise from motorbikes was noted, and there was agreement from councillors and residents to try and find a solution. It was noted that noise detection cameras are used in some places. Clerk to contact GCC with the concerns and suggestion.
- Leaf-clearing along Mangersbury Road to be requested.

10. Planning

a) To consider and comment on the following applications

- 25/03701/LBC – Oxleaze House, Mangersbury - Internal reconfiguration, including the alteration of the staircase and alterations to ground to openings on the floor south (side) & west (rear) elevations
Resolved that MPC objects to the proposed changes to the front garden and stone wall in front of the property, because of loss of parking and manoeuvring space, and impact on the setting of the building, the lane, other listed buildings and the Conservation Area. Motion carried.
- 25/03719/FUL – Swallow Farm, Mangersbury – Construction of an in-ground swimming pool with associated paving and landscaping, and rebuilding of sections of existing stone garden walls. Installation of a small timber plant shed beneath the existing timber pergola
Resolved that MPC has no objections. Motion carried.
- 25/03720/LBC – Swallow Farm, Mangersbury – Construction of an in-ground swimming pool with associated paving and landscaping, and rebuilding of sections of existing stone garden walls. Installation of a small timber plant shed beneath the existing timber pergola

Resolved that MPC has no objections. Motion carried.

b) To note decision notices received for the following planning applications:

Applica- tion ref	Address	Description	MPC Comment	CDC Decision
25/02137/ FUL	Sycamore Farm, Maugersbury	Erection of temporary agricultural worker's self-build dwelling	Support	Permit with conditions
25/02366/ FUL	Pear Tree Cottage, Maugersbury	Erection of a two storey and single storey rear extension and raising of the roof, rebuilding of privy, replacement of all plastic windows with wood	Support	Permit

c) To receive update from Cllr Neill about caravans at Spring Bank

Cllr Neill said she continues to chase this up but it is not considered a priority. MPC to follow up with principal planning enforcement officer.

d) To consider how to respond to CDC's Local Plan Update consultation, deadline 2 January 2025

Covered in Cllr Neill's report.

11. Finance

a) To approve payments as per the payment schedule

Payments were approved as per the payment schedule: Lloyds Bank fees to Aug £4.25; Information Commissioner's Office annual fee £47.00; Lloyds Bank fees to Sep £5.75; Lloyds Bank fees to Oct £4.75; M Penfold grasscutting £240.00; Community Heartbeat Trust training £210.00; S Allchorn reimburse telephone box repairs £204.00; G Mackenzie reimburse telephone box painting £1,000.00; E Sajewicz reimburse remembrance wreath £50.00; St Edward's Church Room venue hire £13.00; E Sajewicz clerk's salary £678.43; HMRC PAYE on clerk's salary £148.80.

Receipts in the period were £1,351.00 precept instalment.

b) To review and adopt proposed budget for the financial year starting 1 April 2026

The proposed budget had been reviewed by Councillors prior to the meeting. The amount of MPC's contribution to Stow cemetery maintenance was discussed. It was agreed to continue to contribute £480 as a voluntary gesture of goodwill.

It was resolved to approve and adopt the budget with the above amendment. Motion carried.

c) To set the precept for the financial year starting 1 April 2026

It was agreed the precept for 2026/27 would be £ 5,415.65. (This is £42.31 for a band D property, a reduction of 1.3% from the previous year.) Motion carried.

12. Telephone box

a) Painting

Noted that the telephone box had been repainted, and the funding shortfall of £850 was being generously donated by residents and the Maugersbury Residents Association.

b) Repairs

Noted that the telephone box had been vandalised shortly after being repainted. Repairs had been completed at a cost of £170 + vat. A claim has been submitted to MPC's insurers. If successful a £100 excess will apply.

c) To consider putting the remaining CIL funds of £34.54 towards the cost of the above repairs

Agreed.

- d) **To receive an update about setting up of the book box by Mangersbury Residents Association**

The Book Box has been opened and is up and running.

- e) **Light**

It was noted the light is not working. A problem with the power supply is suspected.

Cllr Mackenzie will investigate the options.

- 13. GCC Community 20s and Safer Roads initiatives: To consider any locations MPC wishes to nominate for new 20 mph limits**

Agreed MPC does not wish to nominate any.

- 14. Broadband**

Cllr Mackenzie said he had sent evidence to GCC Cllr Corps, with the intention of getting someone out to site to prove the problem. It was noted BT's website says BT guarantees 16 Mbps in Mangersbury, but residents get less than that.

- 15. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**

- a) **To note that Council has £34.54 of CIL funds to be spent within 2 years, subject to item 12(c) above**

Noted that following the decision at item 12(c), all CIL funds received to date have been spent.

- 16. Defibrillator - To receive any update about the defibrillator**

Training went well and another session will be held in two years' time. Cllr Mackenzie has taken over looking after the defibrillator. Electrode pads have been replaced and all is going well.

- 17. New requirements for town and parish council email addresses and websites**

It was noted there are new requirements to be met by the end of this financial year, principally a requirement that MPC's main email address either be ".gov.uk" or use a domain owned by MPC. Currently it is gmail, which would not be compliant. The clerk is investigating options.

- 18. Report by any members who have had a meeting or attended any event on behalf of Council**

None.

- 19. Road closures for resurfacing work**

It was noted that a number of roads will be closed or restricted, on a rolling programme between 5 January and 31 March 2026 (anticipated). Advance warnings of dates/times will be displayed on site prior to the closures and restrictions taking effect.

- 20. To confirm 2026 meeting dates**

Confirmed: Monday 2 March 2026

Monday 1 June 2026

Monday 7 September 2026

Monday 7 December 2026

- 21. Date of next meeting**

Monday 2 March 2026

Meeting closed at 7.55pm

Signed by Chairman: _____ Date: _____