

**Minutes of the 864th Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council
Held in the Village Hall on 21 April 2008**

PRESENT:	Councillors, John Padfield (Chairman) Richard Jones (Vice-Chair), Judy Davies, Alan Norris, Bill Quinn, David Stock, Paul Phibben, Rosemary Martin.	
IN ATTENDANCE:	The Clerk, District Cllr Gus Halfhide, member of the public.	
	<i>The Lord's prayer was said as usual.</i>	ACTION
1	APOLOGIES: Councillors, Mrs Linda Gittings, Mr Jeremy Padfield, Dist Cllr Maxine Oxford,	
2	MINUTES: Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 10 March 2008 were approved as a true record and duly signed.	
3	DECLARATION OF INTEREST: There were none.	
4	<p>MATTERS ARISING:</p> <p>4.1 Cllr Quinn reported that he had inspected a suitable site for the bus shelter and had taken measurements. These measurements needed to be compared with the shelters available in the brochure. The decision of where to purchase from would be decided at the next meeting.</p> <p>4.2 The Clerk reported on the trees at the Willows and read out an e mail from Cathy Day. It was likely that work would be done in May/June of this year and paid for by MDC, although if the Parish Council wished for the work to be carried out quicker then it would have to meet 50% of the cost which would be £470 This issue would be discussed at a meeting to be held in May and more information would be available after that.</p> <p>4.3 A parishioner, Mr Pike, suggested that residents would take matters into their own hands if the trees were not dealt with quickly and to the residents' best interests.</p> <p>4.4 The Chairman suggested that a site meeting should be arranged with the tree surgeon. The Clerk to arrange this.</p> <p>4.5 The Clerk stated the tree surgeon had to be Mendips and that the Parish Council or residents cannot legally pollard the trees independently.</p>	
5	POLICE MATTERS: The PCSO was not available.	
6	PLANNING MATTERS: There were none.	
7	<p>FINANCIAL MATTERS:</p> <p>7.1 The Clerk presented Telephone charges – Rental plus Broadband –dated April 2008, amounting to £107.73 which all those Councillors present agreed to be paid. Cheque No. 000722</p> <p>7.2 The Clerk presented the bill for photocopying for the APM amounting to £15.20 which all those Councillors present agreed to be paid. Cheque No.000723</p>	

	<p>7.3 The Clerk was in receipt of the Audit Report for Yr End March 2007. It had all been in order and the only comment being that the presentation to Moore Stephens had been late. The Clerk reported that, like the Parish Council, the Auditors had been kept informed of the reasons for the delay and updated regularly on the progress. Although, the Auditors had only to make 1 phone call to confirm a point – which was answered over the phone in minutes – there was an extra charge of £75.</p> <p>7.4 The Invoice from the External Auditors, Moore Stephens, totalled £1,116.25 which was agreed by all Councillors to be paid. 000718</p> <p>7.5 A cheque for £25 was agreed to be paid to the Internal Auditor, Mr Keith Cockroft, for the Yr End 2007 Audit. Cheque No.000721</p> <p>7.6 The Annual subscription to SALC for the period April 2008–March 2009 amounting to £158.44 was agreed by all councillors present to be paid. Cheque No. 000720</p> <p>7.7 The Annual subscription to the Community Council for Somerset for the period April 08–March 09 was agreed by all councillors present. Cheque No.000719</p> <p>7.8 The Clerk presented the bank statements for the Month of March which had been reconciled.</p> <p>7.9 The Clerk presented the Precept advice note amounting to £7,000 paid into the bank on 02 April 2008. Ref: 2017717</p> <p>7.10The removal of football screen posts on the playing field was discussed. This consisted of 6 metal posts. It was agreed that Cllr John Padfield would organise having these removed.</p>	Chair Padfield
8	<p>HIGHWAY MATTERS: The Clerk had received an e-mail from Frank Lake, which was read out. All the points raised to date were either resolved or on a rota to be resolved in the near future. The Clerk to check before the next meeting that the outstanding issues had been dealt with.</p>	Clerk
9	<p>FOOTPATHS: Cllr Gittings and Cllr Jones had a site meeting with a representative of MDC which was informative and it was thought that the proposed re-direction would not cause any problems. It was established that the proposer of the diversion would pay for the new footbridge needed.</p>	
10	<p>STREET CLEANING: 10.1 The Clerk reported that she had left a message on the Coleford's Clerk answer machine to try and find out what was happening with the Lengthmen Scheme, but to date had not received a reply.</p> <p>CC Gloria Cawood arrived at this point. 10.2 Gloria reported that there had been a meeting at Coleford with interested parishes - an invite should have been sent to Stratton, but stated that the Clerk was away on holiday. Gloria will contact Dave Button and ask him to liaise with Cllr Bill Quinn to update him on progress. Gloria thought that an advert would appear in the Journal for the position of Lengthman. This would be a Pilot Scheme to run for 2 years.</p>	

	<p>10.3 The Clerk stated that instructions, (where to send and to whom payable) for a £500 cheque in her possession were still awaited.</p> <p>10.4 Cllr Quinn commented on the great job of the clean by Mendip (even around the chicanes). The Clerk would pass on these comments to Mr Errington.</p>	Clerk
11	<p>CREATE HOUSE:</p> <p>11.1 The Clerk stated the after a telephone conversation with Mr Gridley at MDC, he had forwarded an e-mail - which the Chairman duly read out. Contact had been made with Mr Devon who stated that he wished to sell the property and was keen to tidy the property, but that due to an accident recently he had not been able to do so. MDC welcomed the Parish Council's ideas on ways to tidy the property.</p> <p>11.2 Cllr Norris reported that he had contacted the PCSO last week about new vandalism of the building. It had now been boarded up.</p>	Parish Council
12	<p>CORRESPONDENCE:</p> <p>The correspondence was read and dealt with accordingly.</p>	
13	<p>MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING.</p> <p>The Clerk was instructed to put the following items on the Agenda:</p> <p>13.1 The trees at The Willows</p> <p>13.2 Create House</p> <p>13.3 Bus Shelter – price and location. Also to bring brochure</p>	Clerk
14	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>14.1 The date of the next meeting will be on Monday 19 May 2008 at 7.45 p.m</p> <p>14.2 There being no other business the meeting finished at 8.05 p.m.</p>	

CHAIRMAN _____ DATE _____