

**Minutes of the 866th Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council
Held in the Village Hall on 16 June 2008**

PRESENT:	Councillors, Richard Jones (Vice-Chair), Judy Davies, Alan Norris, David Stock, Linda Gittings, Jeremy Padfield, Paul Phibben,.	
IN ATTENDANCE:	The Clerk, District Cllr Gus Halfhide.	
	<p><i>The Lord's prayer was said as usual.</i></p> <p>In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr John Padfield, the Vice-Chairman Richard Jones chaired the meeting.</p>	ACTION
1	APOLOGIES: Councillors, John Padfield, Bill Quinn, CC Gloria Cawood.	
2	MINUTES: Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 19 May 2008 were approved as a true record and duly signed.	
3	DECLARATION OF INTEREST: There were none.	
4	MATTERS ARISING: There were none other then covered on the Agenda.	
5	POLICE MATTERS: The PCSO was not available.	
6	<p>PLANNING MATTERS:</p> <p>Ref: 110960/002 Applicant: Mr M Broadway Location; Old Rock Farm, SOF Proposal: Erection of porch extension, single storey side & roof extension Creating third storey within rear roof valley.</p> <p><i>The Parish Council approve the above Planning Application at the Meeting of 16 June 2008.</i></p> <p>Ref: 100727/005 Applicant: Mr M Scott Location: Home Leigh Pitcot Lane, SOF Proposal: Erection of 2 storey side extension & single storey rear extension.</p> <p><i>The Parish Council approved the above planning application at the meeting of 16 June 2008. All Councillors present thought that the above proposal would greatly enhance the property and would not interfere with neighbouring properties.</i></p> <p>It was to be noted that District Councillor Gus Halfhide passed no comments on the above Planning matters.</p>	
7	<p>FINANCIAL MATTERS:</p> <p>7.1 The Clerk's salary for the period April-June 2008 amounting to £505.74 were agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. Cheque No.505.74</p> <p>7.2 An Invoice from Keith Cockroft (the PC appointed Internal Auditor) for £25 for the 2008 Audit plus £2.99 for photocopying amounting to £27.99 was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. Cheque No.000727</p>	

	<p>7.3 After discussion, Councillors decided to donate £350 ,for the Year End 2009, divided between 4 named organizations as follows: £100 Little Angels Cheque No.00729 £100 Air Ambulance Cheque No. 000730 £100 Citizens Advice Bureau Cheque No. 000732 £ 50 Victim Support Cheque No.000731</p> <p>7.4 An Invoice from Mr Brian Pike for strimming amounting to £37.50 was agreed by all councillors to be paid. Cheque No.000726</p>	
8	<p>BUS SHELTER:</p> <p>8.1 The Clerk was in receipt of details from CC Gloria Cawood regarding a “Local Initiative Budget”. Parish Council’s were asked to contact her regarding potential projects by 18 July 2008. Bids must be of a minimum of £2K and must meet certain criteria. The proposed bus shelter was thought by all Councillors present to be a suitable project to receive funding.</p> <p>8.2 A meeting to ascertain the site position of the bus shelter was held with Cllr John Padfield, Cllr Gittings, Cllr Quinn and a parishioner. It was decided to position it on the same side of the road as the old shelter between that and Abbey Road.</p> <p>8.3 3 Quotes had been obtained and the Cllr John Padfield was happy with the middle quote. This shelter can include a wooden seat to be purchased separately. No colour was agreed at the site meeting and needs to be clarified. Also the shelter could be anti graffiti proofed at an extra cost and all those present thought this would be a good idea. It was thought that if a grant could be obtained that it might be prudent to go for the dearer option.</p> <p>8.4 The Clerk understood that, subject to the supplier being recognised by MDC, then Mendip would clean the shelter and the supplier could erect it. Cllr John Padfield had asked CC Gloria Cawood to clarify whether Planning Permission would be required, but to date had not received any answer. The Clerk would seek this information and report at the next meeting.</p>	Clerk
9	<p>THE WILLOWS:</p> <p>The Clerk reported on the exchange of e-mails between herself and Mendip regarding the pollarding of the trees at The Willows. The latest position being that the trees would be pollarded in July.</p>	
10	<p>CREATE HOUSE:</p> <p>10.1 The Clerk reported that Mr Gridley is in contact with the owner of Create House regarding the selling and/or tidying up the property, but warned that any progress will be slow even if Section 215 was implemented.</p> <p>10.2 Dist Cllr Max Gridley will check on the latest information regarding the position with Max Gridley.</p>	Dist Cllr
11	<p>HIGHWAY MATTERS:</p> <p>The Clerk to chase up last months highway reported issues with Frank Lake.</p>	Clerk

12	<p>FOOTPATHS:</p> <p>12.1 Cllr Gittings reported that Mendip had cut the footpath from Manor Farm to Red House Farm at Charlton Lane – this was the only one they had decided to cut from the survey of footpaths that had been returned.</p> <p>12.2 Jeremy Padfield reported that it was a waste of money 3 years ago because there were so many badger sets. He thought it would be better to re-route and that Manor Farm did ask for it to take a permissive route as a cheaper alternative. Cllr Jeremy Padfield suggested that the landowners should be approached and then Sheila at MDC, which would save on administration cost – he would talk to them.</p> <p>12.3 The Clerk was in receipt of a Footpath Maintenance Grant which was passed to Cllr Gittings to submit the application.</p>	<p>Cllr Jeremy Padfield</p> <p>Cllr Gittings</p>
13	<p>STREET CLEANING:</p> <p>13.1 It was reported that an advert for the position of Lengthman had been placed, but to date there was no further news.</p> <p>13.2 The Clerk reported that the original cheque written 6 months ago had been destroyed and advised issuing a new cheque when Coleford confirmed that an Account had been opened for this purpose.</p> <p>13.3 It was reported that weeds had been sprayed throughout the village by MDC but was in need of clearing – Cllr Jones stated that it would just disappear.</p>	
14	<p>CORRESPONDENCE:</p> <p>The correspondence was read and dealt with accordingly:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Funding – Gus Halfhide will ask about grant. 3. Linda Gittings to apply for Rights of Way Grant. 9. Gave to Richard Jones. 	<p>Dist Cllr Cllr Gittings</p>
15	<p>MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>15.1 Cllr John Padfield and Cllr Quinn attended a meeting of the Mendip Central & East Neighbourhood Forum on the 4 June 2008 where VAS (Vehicle Activated Signs) was discussed. £47K has been promised to erect warning signs at accident black spots on the approaches of towns and villages, the locations must have high casualty records. Our representatives did not consider that Stratton had a case, particularly with the traffic calming scheme in place.</p> <p>15.2 Cllr Jones reported that St Vigors School was at present teaching the children about Stratton and would welcome a couple of councillors to volunteer to give a talk. This would be to Year 5 pupils – aged around 9 years old. Cllr Jones volunteered and Cllr Jeremy Padfield proposed Cllr Judy Davies who agreed.</p> <p>15.3 Cllr Stock reported on the state of the Churchyard and the new extension which was still in need of attention. All Councillors thought that although something should be done this would be an ideal job for the lengthsman scheme, which was now almost up and running.</p> <p>15.4 Cllr Gittings voiced concern that the PCSO had not attended recent meetings. The Clerk reported that the Agenda and Minutes of meetings were forwarded each month. The Clerk to contact the PCSO to ask if a report can be sent if/when she was unable to attend the meeting.</p>	<p>Cllrs Jones & Davies</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>15.5 Dist Cllr Gus Halfhide reported that Chilcompton was about to partake in a pilot scheme regarding the recycling of plastic and cardboard. This is a house collection and vehicles would be tested for suitability with a view to roll out this service throughout the Mendip area.</p> <p>15.6 Cllr Jones reported on a meeting he had attended regarding the possible closure of the Royal British Legion, this might be in October. There were 4 representatives from the Parish Council 3 from the Village Hall Committee, 7 from the British Legion and 3 from the proposed Village Garden scheme.</p> <p>15.7 In the event that the closure does take place, which historically would be a sad event for the village, a possibility could be for the Village Hall to be sold and to move to the RBL site. Cllr Gittings reported that a parishioner who had approached her was against such a proposal. Cllr Jones stressed that the Parish Council would have to hold a referendum.</p> <p>15.8 Surveyors were to value the RBL site and it was a possibility that the car park could be used for the Village Garden scheme, which was leased from the Duchy at the moment.</p> <p>15.9 MDC owned part of the land, the car park at the rear, and had been rented from them for several years. Dist Cllr Gus Halfhide would make enquiries as he thought that, as it was of no great value, Mendip could give it to the Parish Council with conveyances. The length of the lease would have to be checked with a view to having it lengthened. Also the value of both the RBL and the Village Hall would have to be considered along with how long the Village Hall would take to sell.</p> <p>15.10 Cllr Jeremy Padfield reported that he had had a meeting with the Duchy and that at the moment they were open minded and would not rush into anything. Affordable Housing along with the Garden/Playground scheme was being considered. Dist Cllr Gus Halfhide suggested that David Heath MP be consulted to combat the Duchy's ideas to build housing.</p> <p>15.11 It was suggested that a report on the RBL and Village Hall situation should be placed in the Parish News.</p>	
16	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>16.1 The date of the next meeting will be on Monday 21 July 2008 at 7.45 p.m</p> <p>16.2 There being no other business the meeting finished at 9.15 p.m.</p>	

CHAIRMAN _____ DATE _____