

**Minutes of the 867th Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council  
Held in the Village Hall on 21 July 2008**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Councillors, Mr John Padfield (Chairman), Mr R Jones (Vice-Chair), Mrs J Davies, Mr D Stock, Mr W Quinn, Mr Jeremy Padfield.	
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	The Clerk, District Cllr Gus Halfhide, CC Gloria Cawood (arrived at 8 pm)	
	<p><i>The Lord's prayer was said as usual.</i></p> <p><b>In the absence of the Clerk at the start of the Meeting, the Vice-Chairman Richard Jones took the Minutes.</b></p>	ACTION
1	<p><b>APOLOGIES:</b> Councillors, Jeremy Padfield (would be late), A Norris, L Gittings, CC Gloria Cawood (would be late). The Clerk (hoped to arrive for start of meeting dependant on traffic). Dist Cllr Maxine Oxford (maternity leave until September).</p>	
2	<p><b>MINUTES:</b> Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 16 June 2008 were approved as a true record and duly signed, after amended at 8.2 to add the name of A Norris.</p>	
3	<p><b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST:</b> There were none.</p>	
4	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING:</b> There were none other than covered on the Agenda.</p>	
5	<p><b>POLICE MATTERS:</b> The Beat Manger, WPC Jane Appleton, was welcomed by the Chairman.</p>	
6	<p><b>PLANNING MATTERS:</b> <b>Ref: 120237/001</b> Applicant: Location; The Cottage, Benter Proposal: Erection of agricultural building. <i>All Councillors present recommended the above application, as in their opinion, it would not interfere with neighbouring properties</i></p> <p><b>Ref: 120237/000</b> Applicant: Location: The Cottage, Benter. Proposal: Alteration to existing cottage. <i>All Councillors present recommended the above application, as in their opinion, it 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><b>BUS SHELTER:</b></p> <p>7.1 The 2 quotes received were a) £1554 and b) £2064 c/w anti graffiti finish. Both inclusive of siting the shelter.</p> <p>7.2 The Parish Council's request for a grant towards the purchase of a bus shelter was at the moment being considered. It was possible to obtain £700 towards b) quotation form the Community Chest Fund, which Gloria could almost guarantee.</p>	

	<p>7.3 Dropped kerbs would be needed when the shelter was installed, which should be discussed at the next meeting in September. An e-mail to Gloria Cawood needed.</p> <p>7.4 Permission to erect the shelter would be needed from Somerset County Council.</p> <p><b><i>District Councillor Gus Halfhide arrived at 8.30pm.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>The Clerk arrived at 8.40 pm.</i></b></p>	
8	<p><b>PLAY GARDEN:</b></p> <p>8.1 This matter was discussed, but it was considered to be early days yet.</p> <p>8.2 The purchase/lease of the land was thought to be the most important issue at the moment. To this end Gloria Cawood and Gus Halfhide agreed to write to Downside Abbey. It was thought a good idea to obtain MP David Heath's help in this matter. Cllr Jones would also speak to the Abbot to ascertain to whom to address correspondence.</p> <p>8.3 District Cllr Gus Halfhide reported that the land at the Royal British Legion was not owned by MDC but by Mendip Housing.</p> <p>8.4 Cllr Stock reported that the RBL would not be closing at present, but would strive to continue</p>	
10	<p><b>STREET CLEANING:</b></p> <p>10.1 The Lengthmans Scheme ( a 2-year pilot scheme for parishes street cleaning etc) was discussed.</p> <p>10.2 Gloria reported that Worthy Friary wanted to join the scheme, but councillors thought that it would be better to get the scheme started before including other parishes.</p> <p>10.3 Cllr Quinn reported that Coleford (the lead Parish) had received a good response to the advertised position as lengthsmen. Interviews would take place on Wednesday with a representative from each parish present.</p> <p>10.4 Cllr Quinn would make a list of jobs to be undertaken in Stratton-on-the-Fosse including suggestions for wet weather conditions.</p> <p><b><i>CC Gloria Cawood left the meeting at this point 9.10pm</i></b></p>	
11	<p><b>FINANCIAL MATTERS:</b></p> <p>11.1 Gus Halfhide stated that funding was still available, but the deadline was end August and the request had to be for something specific. As this was the last Meeting before the summer recess, the next meeting being in September, it was suggested that a sub committee met to discuss this matter. Councillors John Padfield, Richard Jones and David Stock agreed to meet.</p> <p>11.2 The Clerk presented Broadband and Telephone expenses amounting to <b>£110.22</b> for the period. All councillors present agreed for this to be paid. <b>Cheque No.</b></p> <p>11.3 The Clerk presented the Rights of Way Grant amounting to <b>£120</b> for the period 2008/09.</p> <p>11.4 The Invoice for the Lengthmans scheme of <b>£500</b> was agreed to be re-issued, as</p>	

	<p>the address and account into which it had to be paid had been received. <b>Cheque No.</b></p> <p>11.5 The Clerk reported that to date the Invoice from the External Auditors (Moore Stephens) had not yet been received.</p>	
12	<p><b>THE WILLOWS:</b></p> <p>The Chairman reported that the trees had been pollarded since the last meeting. In fact one had been removed and the others had been cut back very hard. It was thought that the residents at The Willows would be happy with the result.</p>	
13	<p><b>CREATE HOUSE:</b></p> <p>13.1 Dist Cllr Gus Halhide reported that he had spoken by telephone to the owner of the property, Mr Devon. He had informed him that the property was under offer to a small developer, although in the past a problem on parking rights had hindered any sale. The confusion was between the right of access and the right to park.</p> <p>13.2 Mr Devon had purchased paint for the exterior of the building, but as the developer would be knocking down the building it seemed inappropriate. Mr Max Gridley of MDC had suggested erecting a security barrier, but councillors considered this to be even more of an eye-shore.</p> <p>13.3 Gus Halhide suggested that the Parish Council might want to speak with Mr Devon and gave his mobile number 07793139586 and e-mail <a href="mailto:tomdevon@tiscali.co.uk">tomdevon@tiscali.co.uk</a> The Clerk reported that this was the first time that contact numbers had been obtained for the owner.</p>	
14	<p><b>HIGHWAY MATTERS:</b></p> <p>14.1 The Chairman read out a letter from Linda Gittings reporting on Highway matters, as she was not able to attend the meeting.</p> <p>14.2 Drains in the village are still causing a problem with regard to flooding. As Highways have recently cleared the drains in the village and the offending drain is still overflowing, this seems to be a more serious problem. The Clerk to ask Mr Errington at Mendip to investigate this matter.</p> <p><i>Cllr Judy Davies left the meeting at this point 9.30 pm</i></p>	
16	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE:</b></p> <p>The correspondence was read and dealt with accordingly:</p>	
17	<p><b>MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING:</b></p> <p>17.1 Cllr Quinn wished to know if the Parish Council would support Village Day with a money contribution. The Hog Roast would cost £450 and the marquee £50.</p> <p>17.2 This item should have appeared on the Agenda if a decision/contribution was to be made, but as this event would take place before the next meeting, the Clerk suggested that an extraordinary meeting be called.</p> <p>17.3 Cllr Jones suggested that the VH Committee would agree to fund and then the Parish Council could place the item on the September Agenda for discussion.</p> <p><i>WPC Jenny Appleton left the meeting at this point 9.45 pm</i></p>	

	<p>17.4 Cllr Jones suggested that at the next meeting in September the Parish Council discussed the possibility of cutting back trees on the grass verge from Stratton to Westfield to make a safe walking and cycling route.</p>		<p>Agenda Sept</p>
<p>18</p>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</b>  18.1 The date of the next meeting to be verified at a later date, due to the Clerk's pending holiday.  It will be held on <b>Monday 15 or 22 September 2008 at 7.45 p.m.</b>  <i>Please check Agenda.</i></p> <p>18.2 There being no other business the meeting finished at 9.50 p.m.</p>		

**CHAIRMAN** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_