

**Minutes of the 882nd Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council
Held in the Village Hall on 14 December 2009**

PRESENT:	Councillors, Mr John Padfield(Chairman), Mr R Jones (Vice-Chair) , Mr A Norris, Mr W Quinn, Mrs L Gittings, Mr Jeremy Padfield, Mr D Stock,	
IN ATTENDANCE:	The Clerk, PCSO Housley, 7 Members of the Public.	
1	<i>The Lord's prayer was said as usual.</i>	ACTION
1	APOLOGIES: Councillors, Mrs J Davies, Mr A Hobbs, Mr P Phibben. Dist Cllr Gus Halfhide ,C C Gloria Cawood.	
2	MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 16 November 2009 were approved as a true record and duly signed.	
3	DECLARATION OF INTEREST: There were none.	
4	MATTERS ARISING: 5.1 The Clerk would contact Highways again to chase-up the broken slabs. <i>Other matters/updates follow as they appear on the Agenda.</i>	
5	PLANNING MATTERS: Ref: 2009/1728 Applicant: Mr M FLagg Location: 2 South Street, SOF Proposal: Erection of a 2 storey rear extension & single storey front extension plus Construction of an access & parking space at the front. 5.1 Cllr Jones reported that he and Cllr Norris had viewed the above site and were of the conclusion that the application for parking would inconvenience other residents and was not a very sensible idea, but that the Parish Council could only give its opinion and forward to Mendip District Council. 5.2 Members of the public made their case against the proposed access and parking space and letters from residents were read out by the Chairman. Residents made it clear that there was no resistance to the extensions proposed to the rear and front. 5.3 <i>After discussion, all councillors present voted to recommend refusal of permission of this particular application, as they were very unhappy with the proposed parking space and access. The Parish Council were happy with the proposed extensions, both to the rear and to the back of the property - seeing no problem with overlooking or loss of light to neighbouring properties. The Parish Council felt that the proposed construction of an access and parking space would not only spoil the look of the area and adjacent properties, but would further aggravate the problem of parking to the rest of the properties in this congested area of the village.</i> 5.4 The Clerk to send the above view to Mendip – making a note that tomorrow 15 December 2009 was the end of the consultation period.	
6	FINANCIAL MATTERS: The Clerk's salary for the period Oct-Dec 2009 amounting to £519.66 was agreed by all councillors present to be paid. Cheque No.000781	
7	7.1 BUS SHELTER: 7.2 The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been written to Queensbury stating the PC's dissatisfaction with the bus shelter and asking for it to be turned around at no extra cost to the Parish Council.	

	7.3 Cllr Jones had received another invoice which the Clerk filed.	
8	<p>TRAFFIC SIGNS:</p> <p>8.1 Cllr Stock proposed that the Parish Council make enquiries about flashing 30 mph traffic signs for the village. Dist Cllr Gus Halfhide reported that signs could be hired. After discussion, the Clerk was asked to approach SCC/Highways with a view to hiring the appropriate signs ie showing speed vehicle travelling.</p> <p><i>PCSO arrived at this point</i></p> <p>8.2 The Clerk to also contact CC Gloria Cawood for information/help on this matter.</p>	Clerk Clerk
9	<p>POLICE MATTERS:</p> <p>9.1 PCSO Housley stated that there was nothing new to report, apart from a racist incident which was being dealt with.</p> <p>9.2 The Chairman informed PCSO Housley that there had been a break-in on the previous Wednesday at the Business Units in South Street and the intruders had gone back a second time.</p> <p>9.3 Cllr Norris reported that residents from South Street were concerned by the increasing incidents of cars travelling at speed along South Street. Children and elderly parishioners are very vulnerable, as are the elderly residents from Fosse House Nursing Home. Some members of the public (residents from South Street) wondered if speed bumps would be the answer. Another suggestion was to install 20mph signs – the Chair commented that it would be difficult to impose such a limit. PCSO Housley suggested that Jeff Bunting should be contacted with a view to holding a site meeting to discuss this problem. PCSO reported that the culprits needed to be witnessed driving recklessly by the police or residents needed to note the registration number before any action could be taken by the police. PCSO stated that the police can give a Notice for erratic driving aimed specifically at boy racers. If the offence is repeated within 1 year, their car can be taken away but stressed that the police first had to catch them offending.</p> <p>9.4 PCSO explained a couple of official terms used by the police: A Penalty: A fine of £30 or £60 Restorative Justice: A meeting with all people the crime effected (youth is accompanied by an Adult). Talk about feelings over the crime committed. Everyone involved has to agree to this meeting.</p> <p><i>PCSO Housley left the meeting at this point</i></p>	Clerk
10	<p>HIGHWAYS;</p> <p>It Was reported that the road in South Street was very bad with numerous deep pot-holes in the middle of the road. The Clerk to report to Highways.</p>	Clerk
11	<p>FOOTPATHS:</p> <p>11.1 Regarding the footpath at Mogg Hill, Cllr Jones had spoken with Dr Jackson to inform him of Downside’s intention to do maintenance work on the path. To date Cllr Jones had not heard anything from Cllr Hobbs.</p> <p><i>6 Members of the Public left the meeting.</i></p> <p>11.2 The Chairman would contact Cllr Hobbs to see if/when Downside was intending to commence work on the footpath.</p>	Chair

12	<p>PARISH FORUM REPORT: Cllr Gittings had not yet received any feed-back on Gypsy Sites.</p>	
13	<p>WEB-SITE:</p> <p>13.1 The Chairman introduced Mr Malcolm Daniels who had agreed to take on the Parish Web-site.</p> <p>13.2 Mr Daniels reported that he had not realised how out of date the site was, but was keen to be involved with its re-vamp as he was about to retire and was quite excited about the prospect. The site looks very old fashioned not having been altered since its launch. Names and Addresses for organisations need to be up-dated and events taking place in the village need to be broadcast. Mr Daniels explained that he hosts 5 websites and keeps them up-date – which makes it a reason for people to re-visit the site. Ideally the site should have an info point ie rubbish collection details. Also points of interest in the village – it has 2 very interesting churches. Would want to work with newsletter editors and include items, but after publication so as not to conflict.</p> <p>13.3 The Chairman thanked Mr Daniels</p>	Clerk
14	<p>LENGTHSMAN SCHEME:</p> <p>14.1 Cllr Quinn gave Councillors a copy of his report in which he listed the various and varied jobs that Chris had carried out during the year. It was hoped that the necessary funding will be forthcoming to enable the scheme to continue.</p> <p>14.2 Cllr Quinn also reported that Stratton had been issued with de-icing materials from the Highways Dept in Frome. The allocation being 2 bags per parish</p>	
15	<p>PURCHASE OF GRIT BIN:</p> <p>15.1 The Clerk reported that a Mr Mark Challenger from Bar Lake Cottage, Pitcote Lane SOF had phoned, after the icing morning a week or so ago, regarding obtaining salt/grit for the bend outside his house. The Clerk had contacted Highways and made arrangements for Mark Challenger to collect 2 bags of salt from the Frome Depot.</p> <p>15.2 With regard to purchasing a grit bin for this location, it was agreed by all councillors present not to proceed.</p> <p>15.3 Councillors were unsure of who was responsible for using the grit and if members of the public used it and an accident occurred who was liable. The Clerk was to ask Highways for advice.</p>	Clerk
16	<p>NOTICE BOARD:</p> <p>16.1 The position of the Notice Board was discussed, as it was felt that, in its present position, it was not full-filling its role as an information point.</p> <p>16.2 It was confirmed that Downside had given a piece of land in the middle of the village for the sole purpose for a notice Board, but this had fell into disuse – mainly because it was situated adjacent to a very narrow pavement and was considered a danger. Cllr Jeremy Padfield suggested the entrance to Downside would be a safer position, accessible and visible. The Chairman would contact Cllr Hobbs to discuss the re-siting of the Notice Board</p> <p>16.3 To Place on next Agenda</p>	Chair Agenda
17	<p>CORRESPONDENCE: Correspondence was read and dealt with accordingly: The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council wished to purchase a BT Kiosk at £1 and that it wished to Adopt the BT Box. Also that the electricity should stay connected at the moment.</p>	Clerk

	Councillors thought that suggestions for its use should be included in the newsletter.	Cllrs
18	<p>PRECEPT:</p> <p>18.1 A letter was read out from MDC suggesting that Parish Councils consider keeping the Precept the same as last year.</p> <p>18.2 The Clerk gave out Budget Forecast details to all Councillors present.</p> <p>18.3 After consulting the figures and discussing future objectives, all Councillors present decided to keep the Precept in line with the past few years at £7,000</p> <p>18.4 The Clerk to forward the Precept request to MDC.</p>	Clerk
19	<p>MATTERS OF REPORT & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>The Clerk to put the following items on the next Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Forum • BT Adopt a Kiosk – ideas for usage • Mogg Hill Footpath <p><i>The Chairman wished all those present a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.</i></p>	Agenda Agenda Agenda
20	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>20.1 The date of the next Meeting will be on Monday 18 January 2010 at 7.45 p.m.</p> <p>20.2 There being no other business the meeting finished at 9..40 p.m.</p>	

CHAIRMAN _____ DATE _____