

**Minutes of the 884th Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council
Held in the Village Hall on 15 February 2010**

PRESENT:	Councillors, Mr John Padfield(Chairman), Mr R Jones (Vice-Chair) , Mr A Norris, Mr W Quinn, Mrs L Gittings, Mrs J Davies, Mr M Daniels.	
IN ATTENDANCE:	The Clerk, Dist Cllr Gus Halfhide.	
1	<i>The Lord's prayer was said as usual.</i>	ACTION
1	APOLOGIES: Cllrs D Stock, A Hobbs, J Padfield, PCSO Housley, C C Gloria Cawood.	
2	MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 18 January 2010 were approved as a true record and duly signed.	
3	DECLARATION OF INTEREST: There were none.	
4	CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR: The Chairman welcomed Mr Malcolm Daniels and invited him to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office which the Chairman then witnessed. The Clerk asked that Cllr Daniels fill out and returns the Declaration of Interest Form by the next meeting.	Cllr Daniels
5	MATTERS ARISING: The Clerk reported that : SALC would be sending electronically new model Standing Orders, but suggested that the Parish Council waits until Mr Lacey sends out modified SO aimed at Parish Councils. <i>Other matters/updates follow as they appear on the Agenda.</i>	
6	POLICE MATTERS: PCSO Housley sent apologies and a report as follows: 6.1 3 Cases of criminal damage in the car park at the Fosse Nursing Home. 6.2 Downside out-buildings broken into but nothing taken. 6.3 A horsebox, 2 carriages & tack stolen in Pitcot Lane. 6.4 A Final Warning given to a youth (arrested for threatening behaviour). If the youth causes any more problems will be in front of a Youth Offenders Court. 6.5 Police attended and dispersed youths from a party advertised on Face Book, which got out of hand.	
7	PLANNING MATTERS: 7.1 Ref: 2009/1965 Applicant: Location: Beechtree House,SOF Proposal Single storey extension <i>Cllr Jones reported that this Planning Application had been sent without the Plans. This fact had been reported to Mendip Planning Office, but to date no Plans had been received.</i> <i>The Clerk to ask for an extension to the return date – this may mean an extra meeting of the Planning Committee.</i> 7.2 Road Closure Temporary Closure of A37 Old Frome Road to Undrhill. The Order becomes effective on 15 March 2010 and will remain in force for 18 months. The works are expected to last for 9 working days. The Clerk posted the Notice and Alternative Route on the Notice Board.	

8	<p>FINANCIAL MATTERS:</p> <p>8.1 The Clerk presented an Invoice for Ink Cartridges amounting to £19.50 which was agreed to be paid by all Councillors present. Cheque No. 000784</p> <p>8.2 Reconciled Bank Statements for the Current Account and Business Account for January 2009 were presented with a balance of £50 and £ 16,439.74 respectively.</p>	
9	<p>BUS SHELTER:</p> <p>9.1 The Chairman reported that himself and Cllr Quinn had been on site and measured for the turn around of the bus shelter, which the Clerk had enclosed with a letter accepting Queensbury's offer to re-site the shelter at no cost to the Parish Council.</p> <p>9.2 Queensbury had contacted the Clerk to question the measurements, particularly the 450mm from the kerb edge, and it was thought a site meeting with Queensbury and Councillors before the resiting took place was necessary.</p> <p>9.3 The site meeting with Queensbury has been scheduled for 22 February 2010 at 9 am. Councillors were invited to attend along with the Chairman and Vice-Chair.</p>	Chair Cllrs
10	<p>HIGHWAYS:</p> <p>10.1 The Chairman reported that there had been a site meeting with Charlie Higgins and Philip Branchflower from Highways. Cllrs Gittings, Quinn, Jones and the Clerk, along with the Chairman, were in attendance.</p> <p>10.2 Pot-holes were discussed and it was decided that a survey should be done of the village and passed to Highways – noting that officially to qualify as a pot-hole it must be at least 40 mm deep. Cllr Quinn reported that a survey had been completed which would be given to the Clerk to forward to Charlie Higgins at Highways.</p> <p>10.3 The broken slabs and narrow pavement at Bainsbury View was inspected. It was agreed to replace the slabs, but to reduce the bank, thus widening the pavement, was deemed to be too expensive. It was noted by Councillors that some work at this site had been completed, but it was felt (unless workmen were returning) that this was not satisfactory. Not all damaged slabs had been replaced and rubble had been left behind. The Clerk to report this matter to Charlie Higgins at Highways. The Clerk would inform Cllr Quinn of the outcome.</p> <p>10.4 The question of the bank eroding the pavement was thought to be a job that the Lengthsman Chris could undertake.</p> <p>10.5 At the last meeting of the PC, it was decided that SID's(speed indicator detectors) were too expensive to install. The latest figures given were £750 for the 1st year and £350 in the 2nd year. Also that Stratton would only have the use of these for 6 weeks of the year. Jeff Bunting reported that most parishes who installed SID's went for a 2nd year and that speed data was collected before and after installation which showed that speed does drop when installed. Accidents in SOF were listed as follows: Wh Post 1 fatal S/side 1 serious Middle 4 minor (not stopping/junction)</p> <p>10.6 The Clerk read out details given by Jeff Bunting on Flashing Signs. At present these were not installed by Somerset. Some parishes have purchased and installed their own</p>	Cllr Quinn Clerk Clerk Cllr Quinn L/man

	<p>on private land, therefore not needing planning permission. The Clerk to investigate the cost of purchasing Flashing Signs.</p> <p>10.7 Blocked drains along the length of the main road A367 had been brought to Highways attention. Ref:227088</p>	Clerk
11	<p>LENGTHSMAN SCHEME: Cllr Quinn handed his report to Councillors, the main points being:</p> <p>11.1 It had been confirmed since the last meeting that all 5 parishes have agreed to increase their contributions for the next year to twice the previous level. This means that the scheme is viable to at least late 2011 and, as the scheme is considered such great value, members feel cautiously optimistic for the future.</p> <p>11.2 Tasks that Chris had carried out this month included a tidy-up of the village, clearing overhanging branches at Linkmead and opposite Green Lane, emptying the litter bin opposite Abbey Road and clearing broken slabs from the pavement by Bainsbury View.</p> <p>11.3 Also, accompanied by Cllr Quinn, carried out a survey of the parish regarding pot-holes with a minimum depth of 40 mm.</p>	
12	<p>FOOTPATHS:</p> <p>12.1 Cllr Gittings reported that a site meeting with Cllr Hobbs confirmed that he would organise Downside pupils to cut back the overgrowth on the Mogg Hill footpath, although it was thought that this would not rectify the problem. The Chairman thought that it would be of help to those using buggies. Cllr Norris asked if more material could be obtained to be put down. Dist Cllr Gus Halfhide reported that Sheila Petheridge is being moved to SCC and that means there will not be a footpath budget at Mendip. Cllr Norris wondered if the PC could purchase the material – estimated at £140 excluding the cost for sideboards – and the Lengthsman laid it. The width of the footpath should be 1 metre its entire length and the Chairman suggested reviewing this when the work on it started.</p> <p>12.2 Cllr Gittings reported that the broken and dangerous fencing on the footpath on Downside land had now disappeared.</p> <p>12.3 Cllr Gittings reported that 2 footpaths SM 19/46 & 45 were blocked by electric fencing. There appeared to be no reason for this, but Cllr Gittings would re-check before reporting.</p> <p>12.4 A complaint had been received regarding hedges and barbed wire blocking Footpath SM 19/26 at Manor Farm. An alternative route had been advised, but to date nothing had been done to open up or close off the footpath. Complaints that signing is not clear when it reaches the farmyard. Cllr Gittings will request signs to be placed.</p>	<p>Cllr Hobbs</p> <p>Cllr Gittings</p> <p>Cllr Gittings</p>
13	<p>PARISH NOTICE BOARD: The Clerk reported that Cllr Hobbs had emailed stating that the Parish Council needed to contact the Bursar at Downside for the request to re-site the Notice Board on the wall to the old entrance (old lodge gate). The Clerk to write.</p>	Clerk
14	<p>ADOPT A BT KIOSK: The Clerk presented the Chairman forms in order to adopt a red BT Kiosk which he took to read before signing.</p>	Chair Clerk
15	<p>PARISH FORUM REPORT: 15.1 Cllr Gittings reported that the last Parish Forum Meeting was focussed on Licensing. The incident reported by the PCSO at the RBL was raised, with questions regarding licencing – Dist Cllr Gus Halfhide would investigate.</p>	Dist Cllr

	<p>15.2 The point was raised that the Agenda's for the Parish Forum Meetings were not always received by the Clerk. Dist Cllr Gus Halfhide would investigate with a view to these being e-mailed to the Clerk in future, who would then forward to Cllr Gittings.</p> <p>15.3 Fire regulations Guidance Notes, which might be of interest to the Village Hall, was given to the Clerk.</p>	<p>Dist Cllr</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>16</p>	<p>WEB-SITE:</p> <p>16.1 Cllr Daniels distributed a sheet showing the presentation of the Web-page to date. which in due course will be the front page. The plan is to update the current information. In the future the Web-site would become a directory of services in the Parish and local area. A site that people visit for information.</p> <p>16.2 A proposal to have a page with information on the Parish Council and Councillors, complete with photographs, was put forward by Cllr Daniels. Those present thought this a good idea and Cllr Daniels would bring his camera to the next meeting.</p>	<p>Cllr Daniels</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>CORRESPONDENCE:</p> <p>Correspondence was read and dealt with accordingly: 5 Dist Cllr would be attending. 7 Chair read out.</p>	
<p>18</p>	<p>MATTERS OF REPORT & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>18.1 Dist Cllr Gus Halfhide reported that the Council Tax for Mendip would rise by 1.7%. This is for the implement of kerb-side recycling, for plastic and cardboard. Mendip have struck a special deal and this would work out at 5p per week for a Band D property. This service would be phased in during 1 year. Somerset County Council have set their tax at 0%, although there will be an increase for the police and the fire services.</p> <p>18.2 Cllr Jones reported on the progress of the Community Gardens Project. Downside needed confirmation from the Parish Council that it would maintain the gardens for at least 10 years. Dist Cllr Gus Halfhide stated that Downside wanted reassurance that the project is underwritten by the Parish Council.</p> <p>The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council would pay legal fees.</p> <p>The Chairman suggested that Chris, the Lengthsman could cut the grass.</p> <p>Cllr Jones reported that payment for grass cutting and insurance might be sought from the Parish Council. Also money would have to be found for the Inspection Fee for the play equipment.</p> <p>Cllr Gus Halfhide would make inquiries regarding Insurance premiums and Annual Inspection for play areas.</p> <p>Cllr Jones would write to confirm the Parish Council's support.</p> <p>18.3 Cllr Demetri reported that an otter had been sighted at mid-day along Abbey Road.</p> <p>18.4 APM to be on the next Agenda – discuss speakers.</p> <p>18.5 To place Web-site Hosting on the next Agenda.</p>	<p>Dist Cllr</p> <p>Cllr Jones</p> <p>Agenda</p> <p>Agenda</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>19.1 The date of the next Meeting will be on Monday 15 March 2010 at 7.45 p.m.</p> <p>19.2 There being no other business the meeting finished at 9.30 p.m</p>	

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CHAIRMAN _____ **DATE** _____