

**Minutes of the 895th Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council
Held in the Village Hall on 21 February 2011**

PRESENT:	Councillors: Mr John Padfield(Chairman), Mr A Norris, Mr M Daniels, Mr D Stock, Mr W Quinn, Mrs L Gittings, Mrs J Davies,	
IN ATTENDANCE:	Clerk, Dist Cllr Steven Priscott, CC Gloria Cawood	
	<i>The Lord's prayer was said</i>	ACTION
1	APOLOGIES: Cllr Mr R Jones, Mr Jeremy Padfield, PCSO Housley, PC Darren Pearson.	
2	MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 17 January 2011 were approved as a true record and duly signed.	
3	DECLARATION OF INTEREST: There were none	
4	MATTERS ARISING: All items covered on the Agenda.	
5	POLICE MATTERS: PCSO Housley and PC Darren Pearson had e-mailed their apologies stating there was no crime to report since the last meeting.	
6	PLANNING MATTERS: 6.1 <u><i>Applications:</i></u> Ref 2010/3082 Heathercott House, Stoke St Michael, Radstock BA3 5HW Extension to house to enlarge kitchen & bedroom Detached garage. <i>The Chairman directed this be dealt with by the Planning Committee. The Clerk to return to Cllr Jones.</i> 6.2 <u><i>Notified of Approval by MDC</i></u> There were none.	
7	TO REVIEW STANDING ORDERS: 7.1 Councillors went through the new Standing Orders which needed to be adopted. Certain details (typed in bold) had to be adopted, but others in ordinary type could be deleted or changed. 7.2 A few points were raised, which were dealt with as follows: 3bi The Agenda should still be e-mailed with Councillors acknowledging receipt. 1d A slot for Public participation (with a limit of 15 mins) should be included on the Agenda. 2xiv Data Protection Act – Cllr Daniels will make enquiries. 19b The suggested quarterly balance was discussed and all Councillors were happy to leave the present Dec/March balances in place with bank reconciliation each month 7.3 The Clerk to insert relevant details and bring to the next meeting 7.4 Councillors would like to receive the Draft Minutes within 10 days of the Meeting although this did not need to be written in the Standing Orders. 7.5 The Clerk report d that revised Financial Regulations were to follow from SALC.	Include MD Clerk Clerk

<p>8</p>	<p>COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:</p> <p>8.1 CC Gloria Cawood reported that the recommendation of the officer dealing with the footpath closure was that it should be re-opened. The person who raised the objection to its closure has been seen to have a reasonable justified complaint. The Council had looked at the risk assessment and had decided that if the case went to court the Council would loose. Downside would be asked to re-open the footpath.</p> <p>8.2 Regarding the proposed closure of the Coleford tip, CC Gloria Cawood reported that the Waste Partnership Board will meet again on 25 March 2011 to look at keeping open the sites with reduced hours, but it was still likely that all or some of the allocated 4 sites will close.</p> <p>8.3 CC Cawood stated that she had been informed there was transitional funding for the Lengthsman Scheme, which probably means that a small amount of funding will be available until the next Precept.</p> <p><i>CC Gloria Cawood left the Meeting at this point 9.10 pm</i></p>	
<p>9</p>	<p>FINANCIAL MATTERS:</p> <p>9.1 The Clerk asked for a cheque to be re-issued due to it not being received for Cam Valley Wildlife Group. Cheque No cancelled Cheque No re-issued.</p> <p>9.2 The Bank Statements for the period of January 2011 were reconciled and signed.</p>	
<p>10</p>	<p>DOG FOULING BINS:</p> <p>10.1 An e-mail, from Mr Errington at MDC, regarding the procedure/specification of dog fouling bins was read out by the Chairman. MDC will empty acceptable bins from agreed locations. The current dog waste bin used by the Council is produced by Glasdon Uk Ltd model Retriever 50 red or green and the approximate cost complete with a mounting post would be £310. MDC would empty bins at no cost to the providing authority at least once a week. Mr Errington stated that the siting of the bins was important and that is was preferred they are sited with easy access of emptying purposes and so as to service more than one route (ie outside a gate rather than in a field as some people would not go into a field whilst those inside have to come out).</p> <p>10.2 This item was deferred until the next meeting for siting considerations.</p>	
<p>11</p>	<p>HIGHWAYS:</p> <p>11.1 Green Lane and the idea to place signs to diver HGV.s was deferred to the next meeting, as Cllr Jones, who was looking into this matter was not in attendance.</p> <p>11.2 Grit Bins - Cllrs Daniels and Quinn had completed a survey on the need and best placement of the bins. (The findings of which was distributed to the Councillors). There were 2 types of bin: the cheaper plastic and the more expensive fibreglass. It was thought that the bins should be distributed throughout the village in the positions stated below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village Hall - pinchpoint or entrance. • Middlemead Turning Bay – by Telephone Box • Reading Room - pinchpoint • Green Lane – just above on east side of main road near Electricity substation • The Willows • Church Farm 	

	<p>There was also a question whether a bin should be placed in Bath View.</p> <p>11.3 This would involve the expenditure of quite a large sum, but with adverse weather conditions over the past few years thought essential for the well-being of parishioners.</p> <p>11.4 The Clerk was in receipt of an e-mail from Highways giving details of type of bins, sizes and websites for suppliers. It was advised that Richard Blanchflower was contacted before siting the bins. Cllr Norris stated that it would not be a good idea to place on pinch points, as this would obscure vision and also risk being damaged. The Chairman stated that it was essential to hold a site meeting with Highways. The Clerk to forward the e-mail from Highways to Cllr Daniels.</p>	Clerk
12	<p>LENGTHSMAN SCHEME:</p> <p>12.1 Cllr Quinn gave a report on the Lengthsman, who had been stood down for a couple of months but was now engaged again, and will be back in Stratton on Wednesday 23 February 2011. As Gloria Cawood had stated in her report, there will be a small amount of transitional funding for the coming year.</p> <p>12.2 Cllr Quinn noted that the Village Hall needed work done and thought Chris could be involved especially if wet on Stratton's allocated day.</p> <p><i>Cllr Davies left the Meeting at this point 9.25</i></p>	
13	<p>FOOTPATHS:</p> <p>13.1 Cllr Gittings stated that 2 kissing gates had been erected along the Common Road footpath, but that the footpath had been stripped fenced with an electric fence which she had reported.</p> <p>13.2 The footpath sign had been cut off when the hedge was cut at Green Lane and Rock Road with the junction of Sweetleze Lane. Cllr Gittings would also report.</p> <p>13.3 Cllr Gittings stated that e-mails had been sent to MDC regarding 2 bags of rubbish, with name and address attached, dumped in the lay-by at the end of the village. Cllr Gittings had taken photos and initially contacted the PCSO who stated that MDC dealt with such matters. On contacting Mr Errington at MDC Cllr Gittings was informed that, although MDC would collect the rubbish, if the Parish Council wished to pursue the person responsible it was a police matter.</p> <p>13.4 The Chairman thought this should be taken up with the police. Dist Cllr thought that the Parish Council should complain in writing to the police. If there was no response from the police after the Parish Council had contacted them, then in his position of District Councillor he can become involved.</p>	<p>LG</p> <p>Clerk</p>
14	<p>PARISH FORUM REPORT:</p> <p>Cllr Gittings reported on the Parish Forum Meeting. The Clerk to forward the report to all Councillors. Items covered were:</p> <p>14.1 Hone Improvement Agency – gave information on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ridgeway care & Repair: The elderly (60+) and disabled (any age) could obtain a loan for work. • Handyhelp: Odd jobs eg leaking tap. Cost was £10 per hour plus materials. • Warm Streets: Recommend by Council to insulate the home to reduce energy bills. Substantial discounts for everyone, but if over 70 yrs or over 60 yrs on low income or receiving certain benefits may be free. • Wish: Lowering energy bills. Over 50 yrs in rural area. <p>14.2 Control of Dogs: No prohibited area for dogs in the Mendip area. Dog warden will supply poo bags FOC if there is a problem in a recreation play area.</p>	Clerk

18	<p>MATTERS OF REPORT & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>18.1 A Councillor reported that a rat had been seen in the area around the rubbish heap in the gardens adjacent to the Village Hall. The Clerk stated that when this was reported back in November, after the Environmental Health inspector had visited the site it had not been seen as a health hazard. The Clerk was to inform Environmental Health about the new development.</p> <p>18.2 Cllr Quinn queried what could be done about rubbish bins left on pavements on collection day. The pavements in the village were very narrow and on collection day pedestrians have to walk in the road. This was a hazard especially for the disabled and mothers with buggies. Dist Cllr Priscott would make enquiries as to what MDC recommends.</p> <p>18.3 Cllr Gittings reported that Stratton had its annual road sweep on 4 February 2011. Unfortunately, this then clogged gutters with leaves. Pavements were done 2 days later and a good job was made. Cllr Gittings asked the question why send men twice. It was noted that the pinch points had not been cleared, but Cllr Quinn stated that lengthsman would attend to them. The Chairman suggested that the Clerk should liaise with Cllr Gittings before contacting MDC regarding the inefficient employment of labour, resulting in the unnecessary blocking of the drains.</p> <p>18.4 The items to be placed on the next Agenda for discussion at the next Meeting: Quotes for dog fouling bin. Grit Bins Localism Bill Standing Orders APM –Speaker</p> <p>18.5 The Chairman, Cllr John Padfield, reported that he would not be able to attend, but that the Vice Chairman Cllr Richard Jones would chair.</p>	Clerk SP Clerk LG Agenda	
19	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>19.1 The date of the next Meeting will be on Monday 21 March 2011 at 7.45 p.m</p> <p>19.2 There being no other business the meeting finished at 10..15 p.m.</p>		

CHAIRMAN _____ DATE _____

