

**Minutes of the 899th Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council  
Held in the Village Hall on 20 June 2011**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Councillors: Cllr Mr R Jones (Vice Chairman), Mr A Norris, , Mr D Stock, Mr W Quinn, Mrs J Davies ,Mrs L Gittings, Mr Jeremy Padfield,	
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Dist Cllr S Priscott. C C Gloria Cawood, Clerk.	
	<p><b>PUBLIC FORUM:</b> There was no discussion. <i>In the absence of Cllr John Padfield, Cllr Richard Jones (Vice-Chair ) took the chair</i></p>	ACTION
<b>1</b>	<b>APOLOGIES:</b> Cllrs, Mr John Padfield (Chairman), Mr M Daniels	
<b>2</b>	<b>MINUTES:</b> The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 16 May 2011 were approved as a true record and duly signed.	
<b>3</b>	<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST:</b> There were none.	
<b>4</b>	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING:</b></p> <p>4.1 It was noted by Councillors that, although the Advertising Board for the Holcombe Inn had not been seen recently opposite the war memorial, it had appeared on the main road at the junction to Watery Lane.</p> <p>4.2 The Clerk stated that the unstable telegraph pole at 1 Linkmead had been reported and that notification that the work had been completed had been received from Western Power. Councillors thought that this was not the case and the Clerk was to clarify this with Western Power.</p> <p>4.3 The Clerk reported that a request had been received from Marie Taylor, for a copy of the new Insurance Policy/Schedule to forward to the Garden and Playpark Project charity. The Clerk would email.</p>	Clerk  Clerk
<b>5</b>	<p><b>COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:</b></p> <p>5.1 The Clerk stated that CC Gloria Cawood would like suggestions for schemes which could be allocated money from the Transport Plan. This needed to be forwarded to her as soon as possible. After discussion, Councillors came up with the following 3 suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A pedestrian Crossing by the school of St Vigors &amp; St John.</li> <li>• The footpath at Mogg Hill to be improved i.e. resurfacing</li> <li>• Cycle path from Killing’s Knapp to White Post.</li> </ul> <p><i>Dist Cllr Steven Priscott arrived at 8.10 pm</i></p> <p>5.2 Dist Cllr Priscott was filled in on the discussion about the Transport Plan. It was noted that the application form needed to be forwarded to Gloria by 24 June 2011. Cllr Jones would complete and forward to CC Cawood.</p>	Clerk
<b>6</b>	<p><b>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:</b></p> <p>6.1 Dist Cllr Priscott reported that he was now on the Council Cabinet and was dealing with Finance.</p> <p>6.2 He stated that he would investigate why the Clerk had not received an e-mail giving details of the Parish Forum.</p>	Dist Cllr Priscott

7	<p><b>POLICE MATTERS:</b> An e-mail had been received from the PCSO offering apologies at not being able to attend and giving the following report:</p> <p>18.05.2011 There was an attempted break in at the cricket pavilion on Downside grounds.</p> <p>07/06/2011 An incident of eggs being thrown at Glen View on the junction opposite Pitcot Lane. This has happened around Stratton into Chilcompton on a few properties on all road junctions, all on the same circuit of road.</p>	
8	<p><b>PLANNING MATTERS:</b> <b>8.1 Applications:</b> <b>Ref: 2011/1401</b> Location: Barlake Farm,Pitcot Lane, SOF,BA3 4SX Proposal: Extension to existing hay barn <i>All Councillors present agreed to approve the application. It was thought to be a natural progression to an expanding business and did not impinge on any other property</i></p> <p><b>8.2 Notified of Approval by MDC:</b> <b>Ref: 2011/0491</b> Location: Downside Abbey &amp; School Proposal: Internal refurbishment of parts of listed bldg c/w creation of new doorways. The removal of the existing “link”and the creation of glazed external porch &amp; Lobby. <i>Subject to conditions.</i></p>	Clerk
9	<p><b>FINANCIAL MATTERS</b></p> <p>9.1 The Clerk declared her salary would be deferred until next month.</p> <p>9.2 An Invoice for the Hosting of the Web-site (<b>May 2011-May 2012</b>) amounting to <b>£58.80</b> was agreed by all councillors present to be paid. <b>Cheque No.000834</b></p> <p>9.3 The Clerk confirmed that the Subscription to the <b>Lengthsman scheme</b> was <b>£1,000</b> which councillors had agreed to be paid at the last meeting. The Clerk to forward now that an Invoice had been received. <b>Cheque no.000836</b></p> <p>9.4 Keith Cockroft, the Internal Auditor, had verified the Accounts which the Clerk had posted to the Accountants, Moore Stephens. An Invoice for completing the <b>Internal Audit</b>, amounting to <b>£40</b>, was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. <b>Cheque No.000835</b></p> <p>9.5 The Clerk reported that the Auditors, Moore Stephens, had requested information on 2 points: The extra payments received amounting to £720, which the Clerk would inform them was a VAT refund. An explanation for the large reserve funds held by the Parish Council. The Clerk to email back stating the following earmarked expenses for Yr End 2011/2012 A 2<sup>nd</sup> Bus Shelter Grit Bins 8 initially with a further 2 to follow Play ground – Extra Annual insurance – Annual inspection – Fencing Lengthsman Scheme – extra funding needed as SCC withdrawing grant. Burial ground maintenance Dog Fouling Bin Approximately £10k</p>	Clerk  Clerk  Clerk  Clerk

	<p><b><i>CC Gloria Cawood arrived at this point 8.35 pm</i></b></p> <p>9.6 Cllr Jones asked Councillors to agree an amount to be spent on the purchase of the grit bins, so that an order could be placed before the next meeting. After Cllr Quinn's and Cllr Daniels's meeting with Highways it was established that 8-off were needed and the positions were confirmed. The cost of each was £169.20 giving a total of £1,353 although Councillors thought that this figure could be reduced if bought locally without compromising the quality. Cllr Jones asked that a maximum of £1,353 could be spent which was proposed by Cllr Davies and seconded by Cllr Gittings.</p>	<p>Cllrs Jones Quinn</p>
<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>STREET CLEANING/LENGTHSMAN SCHEME:</b></p> <p>10.1 Cllr Quinn distributed his Report to Councillors – a summary of which follows. Tasks completed by the Lengthsman included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleared weeds and debris from the pavement, Middlemead corner to the village hall.</li> <li>• Cut away brambles overhanging the pavement at the end of Linkmead by the last pinch point (north).</li> <li>• Cleared and cut away branches and weeds obstructing the pavement from last pinch point to Killings Knap.</li> <li>• Removed branches obstructing the road speed limit sign in Church Lane and 3 traffic signs at Norton Down.</li> <li>• Cleared weeds and debris from Green Lane corner down to Abbey Road and on down to Middlemead corner.</li> <li>• Cleared weeds from the pavement at Sunnymead.</li> <li>• Strimmed the entrance to the football field at the Middlemead gate.</li> <li>• Cut down tall weeds at the rear of the Hall.</li> <li>• Guttering on the Village Hall was refitted.</li> <li>• A dog fouling bin was positioned and fitted at the entrance to the football field in the Hall car park.</li> </ul> <p>10.2 Cllr Quinn also stated that a meeting had been held with the other parish co-ordinators to discuss the future of the scheme when the funding from SCC ceases in 2012. Chris Perkins takes some time off during the winter months so this will help to stretch the resources and there will be sufficient funds to run the scheme until March 2012. It was thought that one option would be for parishes to organise work for Chris, but he would still be self-employed. The advantage being that he has all his own equipment to enable him to carry out various tasks and if someone else were to be employed then equipment would have to be provided to comply with insurance cover. This option would depend on the number of parishes prepared to opt-in to make it a viable proposition for him. Further meetings will be held before the cut-off period, which includes the time of notice that has to be given as part of his contract.</p> <p>A letter has been sent to Richard Grove at SCC to thank the council for its support over the last three years</p> <p><b><i>Cllr Padfield left the meeting at 8.45pm arrived back 8.47pm</i></b></p> <p>10.3 It was agreed by all Councillors present that Stratton would still wish to participate in the scheme and keep the scheme going. Cllr Quinn stated that decisions still had to be made regarding contracts etc and that more would be known in March. CC Gloria Cawood remarked that the cost to SCC was greater as Mendip District Council had not contributed to the scheme.</p>	

	<p>10.4 The Clerk confirmed that growth obstructing the traffic calming sign at the south end of the village had been reported to Highways, as this was too dangerous for Chris (the lengthsman) to attempt to clear. Cllr Jeremy Padfield reported that he would cut with a hedge cutter.</p>	<p>Cllr Jeremy Padfield</p>
<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>HIGHWAYS:</b></p> <p>11.1 The Clerk read out the email received from Highways in response to the items raised at the last meeting: Verges on A&amp;B Routes to include visibility splays have now been completed, which I am sure would have improved the situation at the various junctions you have mentioned. Please note the verge cutting programme for all other roads will commence 20 June with the intention to complete by the middle of August.</p> <p>Other items have been added to current works programme with reference numbers. Ref 257600 Vegetation obscuring traffic calming signs on the South approach to village. Ref:257602 Pothole adjacent to BT Cover o/s Old Telephone Exchange. Ref:257604 Footway north of village from 26 Linkmead to Killing's Knapp.</p> <p>11.2 Cllr Jones spoke again about the Transport Plan, as CC Cawood was not present when this was discussed. Councillors had agreed on 3 ideas to submit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Crossing at Chilcompton, since speed cameras removed it was dangerous for children.</li> <li>• Footpath at Mogg Hill. Abbey Road to the Copse was in need of resurfacing. This was a safety issue as many children used this as a route to school.</li> <li>• Cycle path form Killing's Knapp to the White Post, which would need levelling and gravelling with some felling of trees.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Jones would e-mail the completed application form to CC Cawood.</p> <p>11.3 Councillors instructed the Clerk to write to Downside to complain about the state of the front gardens at Linkmead, which were overgrown with brambles encroaching the pavement.</p> <p>11.4 Cllr Jones confirmed that he is now in possession of the Signs (No Heavy Vehicles) for Green Lane. CC Gloria Cawood would ask Highways at MDC if they could supply the poles – 4 would be needed.</p>	<p>Cllr Jones</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>CC Cawood</p>
<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>FOOTPATHS:</b></p> <p>12.1 Cllr Gittings reported on items noted from a Newsletter on Public Rights of Way. One footpath would be cut per year. The SCC would in the future contribute to the cost of stiles, gates, post etc instead of meeting the whole cost.</p> <p>12.2 Cllr Gittings enquired why, when Highways employ contractors to cut the verges and they damage the finger post signs, Highways do not chase them up. The Clerk to make enquiries from Andy Stevenson at SCC about this matter.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>PARISH FORUM REPORT:</b></p> <p>Information regarding the date had not been received by the Clerk to forward to Cllr Gittings. The Clerk to ask for conformation that will be e-mailed in future.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>WEB-SITE:</b></p>	

	Nothing to report, but progressing well.		
<b>15</b>	<p><b>CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS:</b> No names were forthcoming as suggestions for Councillors, although it was suggested that Downside was approached with a view to having a representative on the Council.</p> <p><i>Gloria Cawood left the meeting at this point 9.20 pm</i></p>		
<b>16</b>	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE:</b> Correspondence was read and dealt with accordingly:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Air Ambulance Letter of thanks for £100 donation</li> <li>1. R N L I Lifeboats Letter of thanks for £50 donation</li> <li>2. Age Concern Letter of thanks for Donation of £50</li> <li>3. Keith Cockcroft Letter from Internal Auditor re Audit all in order.</li> <li>4. Keith Cockcroft Invoice for Internal Audit £40</li> <li>5. Future-interactive Invoice for Web-site Hosting May 2011-May 2012 £58.80</li> <li>6. Somerset Local Authorities Request information for evacuation planning. Suggestions for willing volunteers or suitable accommodation. Civil Contact Barbara Sharratt <a href="mailto:bmsarratt@somerset.gov.uk">bmsarratt@somerset.gov.uk</a> or Contingencies Geoff Mackett <a href="mailto:GMackett@somerset.gov.uk">GMackett@somerset.gov.uk</a> with any queries Unit or to organise a visit to a PC Meeting to hear more.</li> <li>7. SALC Somerset Branch Meeting Friday 8 July 2011 10-12.30 Bleadon VH</li> <li>8. Tessa Hunt MP Poster with Advice Centre dates held at the Bell Inn Shepton Mallet on Fridays between 10-30-11.30 on following dates. 24 June, 22 July, 26 Aug, 23 Sept, 28 Oct. Notice Board</li> <li>9. Somerset Chamber Choir Poster for N/board-Newsletter-Website. Wells Cathedral – Bach Mass in B Minor 30 July 2011 @ 7pm</li> <li>1 Barnardos July Parish Council Forum – Short workshop on “Play in our Community”</li> <li>0.</li> <li>1 SCC Secured £30m government funding for broadband.</li> <li>1.</li> <li>1 MDC Structural changes @ MDC with list of officers.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>1 MDC Parish Info Bulletin June 2011 Issue101</li> <li>3.</li> <li>1 Mendip Comm. Newsletter</li> <li>4. Support</li> <li>1 Comm. Council Membership No. 10258 for 2011/2012</li> <li>5. for Somerset</li> </ol> <p><b>Emails received:</b> 17.Highways: Ref:257600 Traffic calming signs obscured. Ref.257602 BT Cover Ref.257604 footpath from Linkmead to White Post 18..Gloria Cawood – Report 19.Gloria Cawood- Local Transport Improvement Scheme plus Notes &amp; Form 20.Cllr Gittings – re ideas for above 21.Somerset Local Authorities Civil Contingencies Unit -Info on emergency evacuation 22.PCSO Housley – Apologies &amp; Crime Report</p>		

