

**Minutes of the 901<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council  
Held in the Village Hall on 19 September 2011**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Councillors: Mr John Padfield (Chairman), Mr R Jones (Vice Chairman), Mr A Norris, Mr W Quinn, Mr Jeremy Padfield, Mrs L Gittings.	
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Dist Cllr S Priscott, Clerk.	
	<b>PUBLIC FORUM:</b> There was no discussion.	ACTION
1.	<b>APOLOGIES:</b> Cllrs Mrs J Davies, Mr M Daniels, C C Gloria Cawood	
2.	<b>MINUTES:</b> The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 18 July 2011 were approved as a true record and duly signed.	
3.	<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST:</b> There were none.	
4.	<b>MATTERS ARISING:</b> 4.1 The Clerk reported that contact had been made again with Western Power, on 25 July 2011, regarding the pole at 1 Linkmead and according to them this had been inspected and stabilised and was now deemed safe. Councillors were of the opinion that, although the pole may now be safe, it was an eyesore in its present leaning condition and were further concerned that the light attached would not be efficiently lighting the adjacent traffic calming chicane. The Clerk was instructed to contact Western Power again to report the Parish Council's concern.  11.1 The Clerk had reported the flooding opposite the war memorial to Highways, but had received no progress report to date.	Clerk          Clerk
5.	<b>COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:</b> No report received.	
6.	<b>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:</b> 6.1 Dist Cllr Priscott reported that the Boundary Commission has proposed that Stratton-on-the-Fosse is under N E Somerset Parliamentary constituency. There is a Stage 1 consultation process ending on 14 November 2011 and anyone with conflicting views on this proposal can contact the Boundary Commission before this date.  6.2 Dist Cllr Priscott would like to be informed of anyone in the Parish who are isolated and therefore not able to access services.	
7.	<b>FLY-TIPPING:</b> 7.1 Dist Cllr Priscott confirmed that anyone caught fly-tipping could be served with unlimited fines if evidence, (such as a photograph of the vehicle involved, or name and address in any bags dumped) was produced. 7.2 The Clerk confirmed that the fly-tipping was being reported as it happened with a request to MDC that it is monitored. Although the Clerk reported that it was taking many phone calls and e-mails to have some of it removed, especially any hazardous materials. The Clerk to copy-in any e-mails regarding fly-tipping to Dist Cllr Priscott. 7.3 The Clerk had also made enquiries regarding the cost to MDC of clearing the fly-tipping, which was confirmed in an e-mail from Cheryl Norton (MDC) to be in the region of £60,000 for the year 2011/12 if the present trend continued.	

	<p>7.4 The Clerk had already reported the further tipping at Watery Lane (ie a mattress and bags of glass) but Councillors reported that further rubbish had been left in this vicinity (ie. A bag of hard core and a car's interior). The Clerk to report this latest fly-tipping. Councillors confirmed that the hazardous material in Burrows Lane had now been removed.</p> <p>7.5 Cllr Gittings asked Dist Cllr Priscott to make enquires about the flyer delivered to all households in the parish, by 2<sup>nd</sup> Class post, stating different days of rubbish collections when nothing had changed in the parish. Councillors thought this to be a waste of resources.</p> <p>7.6 Cllr Norris reported that contractor's road signs were not removed after completion of work. Therefore signs were scattered over the highway – a recent example was in Pitcote Lane. The Clerk to inform Highways of the Councillors comments.</p> <p><b><i>Dist Cllr Steven Priscott left at this point 8.15 pm</i></b></p>	<p>Dist Cllr</p> <p>Clerk</p>
8.	<p><b>POLICE MATTERS:</b> No report received.</p>	
9.	<p><b>CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS:</b></p> <p>9.1 The Chairman stated that Mr Andrew Hobbs had not realised that the forms delivered by the Clerk needed to be completed and returned to MDC to be elected onto the Council for the next term of office. He expressed his wish to still be on the Parish Council and therefore be co-opted.</p> <p>9.2 After discussion, Councillors agreed to the co-option providing the Chairman stressed the importance of attendance and the follow-up on any issues involving Downside. If Andrew felt he could not satisfy these provisos then maybe he could suggest somebody else. It was left to the Chairman to speak with Andrew.</p>	<p>Chair</p>
10.	<p><b>PLANNING MATTERS:</b></p> <p>10.1 <b><i>Applications:</i></b> There were none.</p> <p>10.2 <b><i>Notified of Approval by MDC:</i></b>  <b>Ref:2011/1718</b> Downside Abbey &amp; School  <b>Ref:2011/1717</b> Downside Abbey &amp; School  <b>Ref:2011/1401</b> Barlake Farm</p> <p>10.3 <b><i>Planning Contravention Notice:</i></b>  <b>Ref:ENF/2011/0335</b> 2 Glen View number six to Benter Cross,SOF  Without permission the running of a landscaping business from home.</p> <p>10.4 Cllr Jones read Councillors a letter, received from Mr P Maggs, on behalf of parishioners Richard and Elizabeth Maggs. It raised their concern over the houses proposed to be built on the RBL site, as since 1977 their property has had vehicular access over land to the rear affording parking space for 2 vehicles on their property. They felt this had the advantage of avoiding parking at the front of their property on the main Fosse Road in the vicinity of traffic calming measures. The letter was for information only to keep the Parish Council informed.</p> <p>The Chairman stated that there had been rumours that 8 houses were to be built on the RBL site. Cllr Jeremy Padfield reported that it was thought that Flourish Homes would build semi-detached affordable homes. Cllr Jeremy Padfield confirmed that the Parish Council were able to specify to whom houses are offered. The question was raised as to whether the Parish Council had to wait until a Planning Application arrived, or whether it could be given information beforehand. The Clerk to make enquiries from MDC.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

<p>11.</p>	<p><b>FINANCIAL MATTERS:</b></p> <p>11.1 The Clerk's salary for the period July-Sept 2011 amounting to £524.82 was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. <b>Cheque No.000844</b></p> <p>11.2 The Annual Subscription to the Cam Valley Wildlife Group amounting to £5 was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. <b>Cheque No. 000845</b></p> <p>11.3 The Invoice for grass cutting of the play-park and footways from Mr Wayne Palmer amounting to £180.00 was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. <b>Cheque No.000846</b></p> <p>11.4 It was agreed by all Councillors present that 2 wooden posts (to attach the HGV signs) should be purchased by Cllr Quinn. <b>Cheque No.000847</b></p> <p>11.5 The Bank Statements for the months of July and August 2011 were reconciled and duly signed.</p>	
<p>12.</p>	<p><b>HIGHWAYS:</b></p> <p>12.1 <u>Missing traffic calming sign:</u> The Clerk reported that it took considerable time and effort trying to ascertain what had happened to the sign and have it reinstated. Eventually, it was confirmed that the sign had been stolen and it would take time to replace as signs had to be ordered. The clerk sent a letter - declaring this wait was unacceptable to the Parish Council, as it was concerned that an accident would occur as a result of the absent signage, also complaining about the system of reporting. This letter was acknowledged only by stating that the sign had been taken away to be painted and was now reinstated. Councillors thought that this response was unacceptable, coupled with the fact that the parish Council was not informed that the sign was to be removed or that Highways themselves seemed oblivious to this fact! The Clerk was asked to write to complain about the irresponsibility of removing the sign without putting a temporary sign in place and for the lack of communication regarding this issue. The Clerk to inform CC Gloria Cawood about this matter.</p> <p>12.2 <u>Grit Bins:</u> Councillors had been emailed the costs, sizes and suppliers of suitable grit bins by Cllr Daniels. All Councillors present instructed the Clerk to order 8-off grit bins(5-off 400ltr and 3-off 200ltr) from Storagenstuff at <a href="http://www.storagenstuff.co.uk">www.storagenstuff.co.uk</a></p> <p>12.3 The Clerk to inform Highways about a sunken drain on the A367 on the corner of Middlemead, outside No.1</p> <p>12.4 It was noted that Green Lane had been resurfaced and the missing traffic sign by The Mead replaced. Also that the grass verges within the parish have recently been strimmed.</p>	<p>Clerk cc Gloria Cawood</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

<p>13.</p>	<p><b>STREET CLEANING/LENGTHSMAN SCHEME:</b></p> <p>13.1 Cllr Quinn gave his report, a summary of which follows: Tasks carried out by Chris the Lengthsman:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stile entrances cleared of overgrown vegetation at White Post, Pitcote crossroad and Green Lane towards Stockhill.</li> <li>• Litter picked - clearing discarded drink cans and various rubbish.</li> <li>• Brambles by the last chicane (North) cut back.</li> <li>• The bank opposite Bainsbury View strimmed.</li> <li>• Vegetation cut back to allow a clear view to traffic emerging from Green Lane.</li> <li>• Drains around the village checked and debris cleared.</li> <li>• Cleared the Village Hall car park of overhanging brambles for Village Day.</li> <li>• Cleared weeds &amp; debris from pavements.</li> <li>• (The request to SCC for a weed kill was refused, as no weed kill programme would take place county wide)</li> </ul> <p>13.2 Cllr Jeremy Padfield remarked that Cllr Quinn and the Lengthsman had done a good job on the parish pavements.</p> <p>13.3 Cllr Quinn suggested that, as the date of the cessation of funding draws nearer, the Parish Council start discussing its future plans regarding the Lengthsman Scheme. The Chairman suggested writing to Coleford Parish Council stating that Stratton was keen to carry on the Lengthsman Scheme and was prepared to participate in its funding. Also to suggest that a meeting of interested Councils was called to discuss future plans, as the deadline of March for the end of funding was fast approaching.</p> <p>13.4 For budgeting purposes the Clerk was informed that the cost of funding the Scheme would be an extra £1k per annum.</p> <p>13.5 It was decided that Cllr Quinn would purchase the 2 wooden posts for the HGV signs and that the Lengthsman would then erect them.</p> <p>13.6 The Kiosk: Cllr Quinn volunteered, along with his wife, to paint the kiosk. After discussion, racing green was the colour chosen.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Quinn</p> <p>Cllr Quinn</p>
<p>14.</p>	<p><b>FOOTPATHS:</b></p> <p>14.1 Cllr Jeremy Padfield reported that he had received complaints again about the footpath at Mogg Hill. He proposed to spray with roundup and then use farm machinery to scrape away the dead grass to widen the path. It would not be known what condition the surface was in until this had been completed.</p> <p><i>Cllr Jeremy Padfield left the meeting at this point.</i></p> <p>14.2 Councillors confirmed that the dog warden had placed signs at the Community Gardens and no others were needed at present.</p> <p>14.3 The Clerk to make enquiries as to how often the dog fouling bin was emptied, as it was often found to be overflowing.</p> <p>14.4 Cllr Gittings reported that signs at Locombe Woods were broken. This was an ongoing problem when signs became covered by the hedge and then when the hedge was cut the hidden signs were chopped off. Cllr Gittings to contact SCC about the signs.</p> <p>14.5 It was reported that at Mogg Hill footpath (the other side of the copse) the gate that had been stolen and replaced/fitted by the Lengthsman now had a rotten post. This had been reported and when it was supplied then the Lengthsman could replace it.</p> <p>14.6 Cllr Jeremy Padfield stated that the gate for the burial extension had not yet been done, but this will be dealt with in the near future.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Gittings</p>

15.	<b>PARISH FORUM REPORT:</b> There was nothing to report.																								
16.	<b>WEB-SITE:</b> There was nothing to report.																								
17.	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE:</b> Correspondence was read and dealt with accordingly:</p> <p>1. MDC Parish Information Bulletin August 2011 – Issue 103 Funding for amateur sports clubs deadline Nov 2011 <a href="http://www.telegraph.co.uk/sport/othersports/amateur/8281664/Enter-your-sports-club-for-a-1000-grant.html">www.telegraph.co.uk/sport/othersports/amateur/8281664/Enter-your-sports-club-for-a-1000-grant.html</a></p> <p>2. MDC Parish Information Bulletin Sept 2011 – Issue 104 Grants for Village Halls – Contact Sally Grubb 01749 341411 Mendip District Council website <a href="http://www.mendip.gov.uk">www.mendip.gov.uk</a> Marketing your Village Hall – MDC holds a database of VH in Mendip Contact Jill Temple 01749 341333 email <a href="mailto:jill.temple@mendip.gov.uk">jill.temple@mendip.gov.uk</a>'s District Commander Newsletter – any feedback contact <a href="mailto:nikki.watson@avonandsomerset.police.uk">nikki.watson@avonandsomerset.police.uk</a> If want crime reports etc for community register for a fresh e-mail service on force website of <a href="http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk">www.avonandsomerset.police.uk</a></p> <p>3. Cam Valley Wildlife Group Membership annual renewal £5 Request for joining the committee- Contact Phil Gait 01761 232125 or go to meeting on Wed 21 Sept Lounge at the Centurion Hotel at 7pm</p> <p>4. SCC Highways – Letter re removal of traffic calming sign – confirmed removed for painting.</p> <p>5. SCC Somerset Electoral Review</p> <p>6. Avon &amp; Somerset Police Auth Newsletter – Award nominations – Policing Plan</p> <p>7. Community Council for Somerset Annual Review – Annual General Meeting 20 Sept 2011 Voting slip for trustees</p> <p>8. Tessa Munt MP Contact details of Councillors requested</p> <p>9. David Heath CBE MP Details of surgeries to be placed on Notice Board 7 Oct/5 Nov/3 Dec</p> <p>10. SCC National Highways &amp; Transport survey – by 30 Oct 2011</p> <p>11. Wells Festival of Literature Wells 11 Oct – 21 Oct 2011 details at <a href="http://www.wellsfestival.org.uk">www.wellsfestival.org.uk</a> or N/B</p> <p><b>Emails received:</b></p> <p>12. MDC Cheryl Norton Fly tipping</p> <p>13. Cllr Daniels Grit Bins</p> <p><b>Magazines/ Brochures:</b> The Playing Field Summer 2011 Clerks &amp; Councillors Direct Issue 77 Sept 2011 Glasdon &amp; Glasdon Direct SutcliffePlay</p> <p><b>Planning:</b></p> <p><b>Bank Statements:</b></p> <table border="0" data-bbox="516 1476 1144 1591"> <tr> <td>Business Reserve A/C</td> <td>July 2011</td> <td>£ 18,480.61</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Current A/C</td> <td></td> <td>50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Business Reserve A/C</td> <td>Aug 2011</td> <td>£ 18,480.61</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Current A/C</td> <td></td> <td>50.00</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Cheques:</b></p> <table border="0" data-bbox="516 1598 1144 1686"> <tr> <td>V Attwood</td> <td>Salary July-Sept 2011</td> <td>524.82</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cam Valley Wildlife Group</td> <td></td> <td>5.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grit Bins</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			Business Reserve A/C	July 2011	£ 18,480.61	Current A/C		50.00	Business Reserve A/C	Aug 2011	£ 18,480.61	Current A/C		50.00	V Attwood	Salary July-Sept 2011	524.82	Cam Valley Wildlife Group		5.00	Grit Bins			
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<p>18.</p>	<p><b>MATTERS OF REPORT &amp; ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:</b></p> <p>18.1 Cllr Stock gave a report on the Village Fun Day on 11 September 2011: Despite the inclement weather, the absence of the Town Crier and the school forgetting to give the children the 200 advertising postcards that were printed, the Fun Day was a great success and an estimated profit of £2,200 was made. The proposed date for the 2012 Village Day is 9 September and proceeds will be available for other uses. The Community Garden Committee will naturally not therefore lead any organising of this day. A public meeting held in the pub in March to gauge interest has been suggested and hopefully a Village Day Committee can be formed. This Committee can decide from the outset where any proceeds can be allocated.</p> <p>18.2 Cllr Stock showed the plans for the next stage of the Community Gardens to those present and gave an update as follows:  <u>Phase 1:</u> Grand opening- Tessa Munt MP stepped into the breach at the last minute to open the Jungle Climber on Village Day. This was reported in the Somerset Guardian and it is hoped to be reported in the Mendip Times next month.  <u>Phase 2:</u> The successful contractor is Sutcliffe Play, Dorset. The plans were on display on Village Day and work starts on the 26 September 2011 and will take 3 weeks. Another grander opening will then take place.  <u>Hedges:</u> As the hedges were so wide, a contractor was needed at a cost of £120 maximum to be cut this week.  <u>Fencing &amp; Gates:</u> Quotes are currently being sort as the original quote of £7k was felt to be too high.  <u>Planting:</u> Quotes to be collected in due course, but may be in a “shift” pattern as the best/cheapest time to plant trees is different from shrubs and seeds etc.  <u>Maintenance:</u> Currently the PC is paying Wayne Palmer to cut the grass on our recommendation. When the garden is larger, the contract may be sizeable and therefore tendering or obtaining quotes might be appropriate.</p> <p>18.3 The Chairman suggested that a letter of congratulations should be sent, on behalf of the Parish Council, to the Community Garden Committee. This was to recognise the hard work already done and in obtaining the grant for phase 2 of the project.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>19.</p>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</b></p> <p>19.1 The date of the next Meeting will be on <b>Monday 17 October 2011 at 7.45 p.m</b></p> <p>19.2 There being no other business the meeting finished at 9.35 p.m.</p>	

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