

**Minutes of the 903rd Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council
Held in the Village Hall on 21 November 2011**

PRESENT:	Councillors: Mr R Jones (Vice Chairman), Mr A Norris, Mr W Quinn, Mrs L Gittings, Mrs J Davies, Mr M Daniels, Mr Jeremy Padfield, Mrs I Duggen.	
IN ATTENDANCE:	Dist Cllr S Priscott, Clerk.	
	<i>The Vice-Chairman, Cllr Richard Jones took the Chair in the Chairman's absence.</i>	ACTION
	<i>The Lord's prayer was said as usual.</i>	
	PUBLIC FORUM: There was no discussion.	
1.	APOLOGIES: Cllrs John Padfield, D Stock, PCSO Housley, CC Gloria Cawood.	
2.	MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 17 October 2011 were approved as a true record and duly signed.	
3.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST: There were none.	
4.	MATTERS ARISING: Clerk reported that Western Power had stated that it was not responsible for the telegraph pole at 1 Link Mead. The Clerk had contacted Somerset County Council asking for clarification that it was responsible at beginning of October and had now received an email stating that after a site visit, it was deemed not to be its responsibility but Western Powers. The Clerk to further contact Western Power to inform it of this and to ask for the pole to be straightened.	Clerk
5.	CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS: 5.1 The Chairman welcomed a parishioner Irene Duggen to the Parish Council and, with a view of being co-opted onto the Parish Council, was asked to introduce herself to Councillors. Irene stated that she lived in Church Row and had plenty of time to spare for the Council to utilize. All Councillors present were in agreement to the co-option. 5.2 Ms Irene Duggen signed the Declaration of Office and the Clerk handed her a Declaration of Interest form to fill out and return.	Cllr Duggen
6.	COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: This report had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the Meeting and the Chairman read out the main points as follows: 6.1 Rural Housing- Mendip Local Development Framework: Primary villages for development are those fitting criteria including a school, shop and village hall. There are 2 in our area Nunney 55 homes and Stoke 50 homes. 6.2 Wheelie bins, recycling & fly tipping: Government has decided to make £250m available to Councils to reinstate or maintain weekly collections of wheelie bins. Gloria is running a survey on whether people in Mendip would like to see the return of weekly collection of wheelie bins. To vote and give views go to www.gloriacawood.mycouncillor.org.uk	

7.	<p>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:</p> <p>7.1 Dist Cllr Priscott requested any information on any house that had been unoccupied for the last 6 months. This was to encourage properties to be used for tenants.</p> <p>7.2 Flourish Homes was now with Aster Group and Dist Cllr Priscott wished to be informed if residents' requests were not being dealt with.</p> <p>7.3 The Localism Bill would mean that local residents would have power to influence local issues. For instance, a referendum could be held.</p>	
8.	<p>POLICE MATTERS:</p> <p>PCSO Housley was not present but had sent a Report as follows:</p> <p>24/10/11 Teenagers reported to have broken a window at Downside School.</p> <p>29/10/11 Youths on Downside grounds, no damage reported.</p> <p>21/10/11 Rowdy youths reported in Bath View.</p> <p>04/11/11 A road traffic accident reported in Stratton.</p> <p>04/11/11 Minor road accident on White Post Roundabout.</p> <p>12/11/11 A fence flattened in a field off Pitcot Lane.</p>	
9.	<p>PLANNING MATTERS:</p> <p>9.1 <u>Applications:</u> Ref:2011/2468 Applicant: Heathercroft House, Stoke Bottom Proposal: Alterations & extension to provide a sun lounge. <i>All Councillors present thought that this would not interfere with any other property and held No Objection to the proposed planning.</i> Ref:2011/2459 Certificate of Lawfulness Relating to the use of the premises for retail purposes.</p> <p>9.2 <u>Notified of Approval by MDC:</u> There were none.</p> <p>9.3 Cllr Daniels enquired if Planning could be placed on the Web-site prior to the Meeting. Dist Cllr Priscott stated that he would forward a copy of the Register of Planning so that this could be done.</p>	Dist Cllr
10.	<p>FINANCIAL MATTERS:</p> <p>10.1 The Clerk reported that MDC had requested the Precept request by 9 January 2012 this year, but an e-mail received from SALC (which the Clerk read out) had declared that legally this was not required to be submitted until 01 February 2012. The Clerk therefore asked that the Parish Council submitted its request as usual after the Meeting in January and by 31 January 2012. All Councillors present agreed.</p> <p>10.2 The Clerk gave an indication of expenditure so far as £ 6,200 with an estimated end of year total expenditure of £7.249 The Clerk pointed out that the Grit Bins amounting to £1,224.48 was included in this figure, but that this had been taken out of the contingency fund and therefore the Parish Council would still be within its budget of £7K at the end of this financial year.</p> <p>10.3 Cllr Norris reported that the war memorial was again in need of a clean and suggested that quotes be obtained for this purpose. Cllr Jeremy Padfield would look into this and report at the next meeting.</p>	Cllr JP

	<p>had all been filled.</p> <p>12.7 The issue of padlocks at £14.99 each was discussed and it was decided to defer purchase of these, as it was thought they may not be necessary. This issue would be readdressed in the spring.</p>	
13.	<p>FOOTPATHS:</p> <p>13.1 The gatepost at the Chilcompton end of Mogg Hill footpath reported last month has now been repaired.</p> <p>13.2 The fallen stones across the footpath reported to Downside have become more numerous. The Clerk to contact Downside.</p> <p>13.3 Mogg Hill footpath was again discussed, as the state of this path was still an issue; it was very muddy, very narrow and impassable to mothers with buggies. This was thought by Councillors to be unacceptable, as this was a designated route to school for children from Stratton. It was originally agreed, when Stratton's school was closed, that SCC would maintain the footpath as it was the direct link to the school in Chilcompton.</p> <p>The Clerk to contact the Chilcompton Parish Council and Highways regarding the maintenance of the path. Also to ask CC Gloria Cawood for advice.</p> <p>Cllr Jeremy Padfield will look at the site before the next meeting to assess the work involved and whether it was practical to remove encroaching grass with a small digger.</p> <p><i>Steve Priscott left the meeting at this point 9.15 pm</i></p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Jeremy Padfield</p>
14.	<p>RE-SURFACING OF VILLAGE HALL CAR-PARK:</p> <p>14.1 Cllr Daniels asked the Parish Council if it would consider helping financially with re-surfacing the Village Hall Car-Park. In its present condition the car-park was dangerous for both children using the Play-park and the Nursery with loose chippings flying off from vehicles.</p> <p>Cllr Jones reported that he had 2 quotes already in his possession, both inclusive of VAT: 1 amounting to £15K and 1 amounting to £10K - the lower priced quote being a lower grade tarmac.</p> <p>After discussion it was thought that the Parish Council would contribute, but further cost investigation would be needed. Cllr Jones would contact Ken Walton, who lives in the parish, for a quote. The Clerk to enquire from CC Cawood if a grant would be available. The Clerk to put this item on the next Agenda.</p>	<p>Cllr Jones Clerk Agenda</p>
15.	<p>PARISH FORUM REPORT:</p> <p>There was nothing to report. A meeting was scheduled for next week and Cllr Gittings will report back at the next Meeting.</p>	
16.	<p>WEB-SITE:</p> <p>Cllr Daniels would welcome any photographs new or old of the parish to place on the Web-site. Cllr Padfield suggested the photos from a past SOF calendar – Cllr Jones would forward a copy to Cllr Daniels.</p>	<p>Cllr Jones</p>
17.	<p>BT KIOSK:</p> <p>Work had not been undertaken to date on the kiosk, but Cllr Quinn reported that it would</p>	

	be looked at in the near future.		
18.	COMMUNITY GARDENS: Cllr Stock was not present, but in his absence Cllr Quinn confirmed that the play-park had been inspected on a weekly basis and was to be found in a safe condition.		
19.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE: Correspondence was read and dealt with accordingly:</p> <p>1 MDC Precept requirement by 09 January 2012</p> <p>2 SALC Precept Advice – Not officially needed until 1 Feb 2011</p> <p>3 SALC Mins & Agenda 5 Dec 2011 at street Localism Bill Spending over £500 disclosure Electronic Banking</p> <p>4 SCC Waste Core Strategy published for consultation.</p> <p>5 SCC Consultation on Somerset’s Draft Countywide Parking Strategy runs from 21 Oct – 20 Jan 2012</p> <p>6 Replacement of defective paving with Tarmacadam.</p> <p>7 Mendip Community Transport Donation – Slinky leaflets</p> <p>8 Age Concern Donation – Leaflet on services Poster Santa Stroll on 11 Dec 2011 at Western Pier at 11am £7.50 Adults £3 Child Free Santa suit plus tea & mince pie. 01823 345610</p> <p>9 BANES Gypsies & travellers site allocations development plan.</p> <p>10 SCC Highways Winter Services 2011/2012 Guide.</p> <p>11 Cam Valley Wildlife Group Programme of activities.</p> <p>12 Tessa Munt MP Notice of Advice Centre Dates.</p> <p>Magazines/ Brochures: The Playing Field Bulletin War Memorials Trust Clerks & Councils Direct</p> <p>Planning: Ref:2011/2468 Heathercroft House,Stoke Bottom Ref:2011/2459 Certificate of Lawfulness</p> <p>Bank Statements: Oct 2011 Business Reserve A/C £17,045.06 Current A/C 50.00</p>	<p>Web-site/file File</p> <p>Web-site</p> <p>Web-site</p>	
20.	MATTERS OF REPORT & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: 20.1 It was noted that Downside had still not responded to the Parish Council’s request		

	<p>to re-position the Notice Board.</p> <p>20.2 Agenda items: Village Hall Car-park & Monument clean.</p> <p>20.3 Cllr Judy Davies offered her apologies for the next meeting.</p>	Agenda Agenda
21.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>21.1 The date of the next Meeting will be on Monday 19 December 2011 at 7.45 p.m This would include a glass of wine and mince pies.</p> <p>21.2 There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.</p>	

CHAIRMAN _____ DATE _____