

<p>8.</p>	<p>POLICE MATTERS:</p> <p>8.1 PCSO Housley was not present but had sent a Report as follows – wishing all a very Merry Christmas and New Year from the Rural Beat Team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23/11 Temporary traffic lights got stuck. • 26/11 A door was broken at Downside school by youths entering the premises. • 27/11 A group of youths wearing masks were seen in Stratton, Police attended but the youths had moved on prior to their arrival. • 30/11 Diesel was stolen from one of the out buildings on Downside grounds - an angle grinder had been used to break the lock. • 07/12 A report of dangerous driving. • 10/12 Crow scarers/fireworks were being thrown from Downside grounds towards Bath View. Police did attend. <p>8.2 Councillors reported that a temporary traffic light installed on Fosse Road had been switched off and turned around which created a danger to traffic. Cllr Daniels had rang the police in Bristol, then rang the traffic light owner who was abusive, then again rang the police. This item was low on his agenda was the response received from the chief police inspector. CC Gloria Cawood was emailed who rang Charlie Higgins the next day. The Clerk was instructed to ascertain who should be contacted in an out of hours emergency.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>PLANNING MATTERS:</p> <p>9.1 <u>Applications:</u> There were none.</p> <p>9.2 <u>Notified of Approval by MDC:</u> Ref:2011/2468 Stoke Bottom Improvement of sun lounge.</p> <p><i>Cllr Stock arrived at this point 8.11 pm</i></p>	
<p>10.</p>	<p>FINANCIAL MATTERS:</p> <p>10.1 The Clerk's salary for the period Sept-Dec 2011 amounting to £524.82 was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. Cheque No.000851</p> <p>10.2 The Invoice from Mendip District Council for the Electoral Fee in May 2011 amounting to £141.50 was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. Cheque No.000852</p> <p>10.3 The Bank Statements were reconciled and signed.</p> <p>10.4 The Clerk collected the remaining monies from Councillors towards the Remembrance Wreath.</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p>HIGHWAYS:</p> <p>11.1 The Clerk reported that the Speedwatch Co-ordinator from Holcombe Parish Council had approached her to ask if Stratton was still involved with Speedwatch and would be willing to attend a meeting to talk on this subject. Councillors stated that Speedwatch had ceased in Stratton and all Councillors present agreed that this</p>	

	<p>was not something the Parish Council wished to re-instate.</p> <p>11.2 Cllr Gittings reported that the wall along the pavement at Nettlebridge Hill was falling into the road.</p> <p>11.3 Cllr Norris stated that the road was still flooding at the chicane by the Kings Arms by the old lodge gates at Downside. This was thought to be bad drainage after the new building was erected nearby. The Clerk had reported this on several occasions to Highways, but she would chase this again. Also the drainage at the last pinch point, on left-hand side towards Shepton Mallet, was bad.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>12.</p>	<p>COMMUNITY GARDENS: The Chairman introduced Clare Bendall and Marie Taylor co-founders of the Community Gardens Scheme to give an update on activities. A summary of which follows:</p> <p>12.1 A New Year Party to be held with all villagers welcome. Bring a plate of food and a drink. Cllr Daniels would place this information on the Web-site.</p> <p>12.2 The Cliff Richard Foundation donates to playgrounds and therefore it might be willing to give a grant towards the car park resurfacing. The Committee would make enquiries.</p> <p>12.3 The Community Gardens held its grand opening in October. The play equipment was now installed and the fencing paid for with £4,450 set aside for landscaping. The Committee had chosen a low maintenance scheme including fruit trees. Quotes would be obtained locally. The copse had been cleared by volunteers.</p> <p>12.4 A memorial bench for Mike Harper and 2 further benches – all made of oak - were to be installed by the boules pitch.</p> <p>12.5 A problem with moles had been encountered in the corner of the boules pitch, which would be monitored before any action was taken.</p> <p>12.6 It was suggested that the Parish Council should obtain quotes in regard to the grass cutting of the Gardens, as the area of grass was now more extensive.</p> <p>12.7 The Committee had received a substantial grant of £3½K as a one off payment to be used within 1 year. The Committee intended to use some of this to hold several workshops for villagers, such as gardening, willow weaving, junk animals. The workshops must be held on site to comply with the grant conditions and material would be covered by the grant, although volunteers would be needed on the day. £750 to be spent on a shed built on a concrete base, watering cans and garden maintenance equipment and boules. £250 for a day course for playground equipment inspection, which David Stock would be prepared to attend. A party to celebrate the Queens Jubilee was being arranged. This would include an afternoon cream-tea party with face painting and bouncy castle and maybe Downside Band or Morris Dancers. Also an evening Show free of charge including soft drinks with a bar available.</p> <p>12.8 Unfortunately the Marquee, which had been supplied for £40 in the past as a favour, would now cost £150 and a request to the Parish Council to consider giving a grant to the Community Gardens Committee was made.</p>	<p>Cllr Daniels</p> <p>Comm Gardens</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Stock</p> <p>Agenda</p>

	<p>12.9 The Chairman stated that the Parish Council funded commemorative mugs for children in the parish in the past, but this would have to be discussed fully at the next meeting. The Clerk to place on the Agenda</p> <p>12.10 Cllr Stock reported that the memorial tree was too established to be moved from its present site, therefore a new tree would need to be purchased.</p> <p>12.11 Marie Taylor stated that there were 7 silver birch in the copse at the moment. Cllr Jones reported that a new breed of silver birch was pure white and a Diamond Jubilee copse could be planted. Cllr Jones to forward pictures of the tree to Marie. Marie stated that there were 10 trees and 10 fruit trees specified, but this could be changed, also a swath of wild flowers which would be easy maintenance and good for wild life.</p> <p>12.12 The Chairman enquired whether a sub committee was being formed and if so it would be good if a couple of Councillors were included. The Clerk to place this item on the next Agenda.</p> <p>12.13 Clare Bendall would attend the meeting in April to talk about Village Day.</p> <p>12.14 The Chairman thanked Marie and Clare for attending to update the Parish Council on the progress of the Community Gardens. Although the Parish Council had sent a letter of thanks, it was another opportunity to thank Marie and Clare in person for all the hard work they had put in to reach this achievement in such a short space of time.</p> <p>12.15 Cllr Stock had been inspecting the play-park on a weekly basis since the last meeting and had found it to be in good order. Cllr Stock would continue to monitor the park weekly and record the date and time along with anything needing attention. Cllr Stock will present his recorded visits at each Parish Council Meeting.</p>	<p>Agenda</p> <p>Cllr Jones</p> <p>Agenda</p> <p>Cllr Stock</p>
<p>13.</p>	<p>STREET CLEANING/LENGTHSMAN SCHEME:</p> <p>13.1 Cllr Quinn gave his report, a summary of which follows: Cllr Quinn had nothing to report as Chris had been stood down for the winter months and would resume work in February 2012, although the present scheme would finish in March when the funding run out.</p> <p>13.2 Cllr Quinn had approached Chris regarding working for Stratton after the present scheme stops and he confirmed that he would be willing to continue. Although more parishes would need to be involved to make it viable. Cllr Quinn confirmed that Stratton Parish Council would employ Chris on its terms and, as he was self-employed, he should organise himself regarding other parishes. Each village would have its own contract with him.</p> <p>13.3 It was suggested that any surplus monies left from the lengthsman scheme would be given to Chris as a bonus, as he had not received a pay-rise in his 4 years employment.</p> <p>13.4 Cllr Quinn would report back when/if he heard what other parishes were considering when the scheme finished.</p> <p>13.5 It was suggested that when the Parish Council put the play-park grass cutting out to</p>	

	tender that Chris was consulted, as he might be willing and able to do this work.	
14.	<p>FOOTPATHS:</p> <p>14.1 Cllr Gittings reported that the Ramblers Association organised a long week-end of walks 3 times per year and one of those was centred at Stratton-on-the-Fosse in August 2012 over 4 days. Any problems with footpaths in the parish and the Ramblers would send out a working party. There did not seem to be many problems to date, but if any problems occurred now was the time to notify.</p> <p>14.2 The Chairman stated that 2 kissing gates supplied by Mendip District Council had been installed by the Mendip Ramblers Club on the footpath by Church Lane and St Vigors Church and in Pitcote Lane near Bar Lake Farm. These replaced styles that were difficult to straddle.</p> <p>14.3 The question of the rubbish in Sweetleaze Lane was raised and was declared better then it had been in the past.</p> <p>14.4 The Chairman stated that Cllr Jeremy Padfield had visited Mogg Hill and scrapped away a few metres of the encroaching grass with a wide bucket digger. After this initial inspection Cllr Padfield reported that, although more aggregate would be needed and the task would have to be completed in dry weather, he thought it could be done. The Chairman requested that other Councillors view the path to ascertain whether to continue with the job.</p> <p>14.5 Cllr Gittings stated that there might be monies left in the footpath budget to go towards the cost of repair.</p> <p>14.6 Marie Taylor stated that the Community Gardens Committee needed to extend the path within the play area and asked if/when the Parish Council order the material for Mogg Hill footpath that the Community Garden order could be included.</p>	<p>Cllrs</p> <p>Agenda</p>
15.	<p>RE-SURFACING OF VILLAGE HALL CAR-PARK:</p> <p>15.1 Cllr Jones stated that the Village Hall would have to look at funding towards the resurfacing of the car-park, as in its present state it represented a safety hazard to the young children using both the nursery and the play-park.</p> <p>15.2 It was suggested that the Parish Council might be able to commit to the funding</p>	

	<p>and the Chairman suggested taking the discussion forward to the next meeting when the Precept would be set. The Clerk to bring the Register of Electors to the next meeting.</p> <p>15.3 Cllr Jones would obtain 3 quotes for the re-surfacing before the next meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Jones</p>
<p>16.</p>	<p>PARISH FORUM REPORT: Cllr Gittings attended the Parish Forum on 28 November 2011 and gave a report as follows:</p> <p>16.1 Local Mendip Development Framework – (proposals for rural areas) -Stuart Brown Chief Exec. £2.5m to be found from the 2010/11 budget £1.5 to be found from 2011/12 budget</p> <p>Plan to make S/M a Public Sector Hub where the public will be able to make contact with the Town, District, County Councils and Police Service all under one roof. It is dependent on an IT system which should be up and running by January 2012, the initial cost of which is around £2m but it should pay for itself within 7 years from the saving that will be made.</p> <p>Localism report due in December and asks the question should local groups, including parish councils, sit around the table when topics affecting their area be on the agenda.</p> <p>In all the budget forecasts for 2012 there is an assumption that there will be no council tax increase.</p> <p>16.2 Mapping For Local Councils – Get Mapping – Chris Mewes.</p> <p>Necessary licences are free for parishes to sign up to under the public sector mapping agreement. Cllr Daniels confirmed that the Parish Council was already signed up for map registration and he will send Councillors information on where to locate.</p> <p>Mendip has on line maps and can source for parish councils. Circulation due to be sent to parish clerks to ask ‘What do we need?’</p> <p>www.parish-online.co.uk is the web site and beside information usual shown on maps also allows for property searches. Costs £20 set up and £10 per 1000 head of population or part thereof. All Councillors present agreed to sign up for this – the Clerk to investigate.</p> <p>16.3 Somerset Community Foundation – Justin Sergeant</p> <p>Founded in 2002 and is in the business of putting charity donors and those in need together via a third party. It will not deal with the individual in need direct but deals via CAB, social services NHS etc. so encourages those with knowledge of people in need to point them in the right direction. It is the group currently behind the national idea of those pensioners who do not need the winter fuel allowance giving it up for those who cannot meet their bills and is looking for ways to ensure that those in need receive the funds they have been given under this scheme.</p> <p>It has also brought trusts which have become dormant under its umbrella and has made use of monies stored in trust funds which have not used for years.</p> <p>It has begun a mentoring system in Street called ‘Revising Aspirations’ where 40 business persons have agreed to mentor school children coming up for GCSE’s in order to guide them as to what they need to succeed, as this area is one of the worst for academic success.</p>	<p>Cllr Daniels</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>16.4 Planning Policy Update – John Meeker</p> <p>Final report on the current plan going through is due in March 2012</p> <p>This forum still encourages the use of both the Neighbourhood Plan - to show desired use of land and the Parish Plan - to show the desired design of villages and building within the boundary.</p>																												
17.	<p>WEB-SITE:</p> <p>There was nothing new to report.</p>																												
18.	<p>BT KIOSK:</p> <p>18.1 Cllr Norris had inspected the kiosk, with a view to installing shelving, and thought this would be an easy job. It was decided to erect 3 shelves complete with books in the New Year. This would then be monitored before embarking on more books or other ideas.</p> <p>18.2 A notice to this effect would be placed in the Parish Newsletter.</p>	<p>Cllr Norris</p> <p>Cllr Jones</p>																											
19.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE:</p> <p>Correspondence was read and dealt with accordingly:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="235 772 1393 1793"> <tr> <td data-bbox="235 772 293 831">1.</td> <td data-bbox="293 772 483 831">MDC</td> <td data-bbox="483 772 1393 831">Electoral Costs 5 May 2011 £141.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="235 831 293 869">2.</td> <td data-bbox="293 831 483 869">Martha Care</td> <td data-bbox="483 831 1393 869">Christmas Appeal Donation</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="235 869 293 1052">3.</td> <td data-bbox="293 869 483 1052">Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue</td> <td data-bbox="483 869 1393 1052">Consultation on proposal to change response to automatic fire alarm (AFA) calls. Proposal to reduce attendance level for all domestic properties and to cease attendance at some non-residential business premises, unless the person making 999 call can confirm ht there are signs of fire. Survey to be returned by 4 Jan 2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="235 1052 293 1092">4.</td> <td data-bbox="293 1052 483 1092">SCC</td> <td data-bbox="483 1052 1393 1092">Somerset Electoral Review</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="235 1092 293 1203">5.</td> <td data-bbox="293 1092 483 1203">Somerset Waste Partnership</td> <td data-bbox="483 1092 1393 1203">Severe weather guidance. Cards being distributed via re-cycling boxes. Copies for Notice Board, Website, Parish Newsletter.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="235 1203 293 1346">6 a</td> <td data-bbox="293 1203 483 1346">SCC</td> <td data-bbox="483 1203 1393 1346">Consultation on Reduction in Subsidies to Local Bus Services over the next 2 years. SCC needs to reduce spending on supporting bus services in Somerset. Survey enclosed – return by 15 January 2012. Poster.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="235 1346 293 1421">6 b</td> <td data-bbox="293 1346 483 1421"></td> <td data-bbox="483 1346 1393 1421">Further information on Consultation re Reduction in subsidies to local bus services.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="235 1421 293 1604">7.</td> <td data-bbox="293 1421 483 1604">SCC</td> <td data-bbox="483 1421 1393 1604">Minerals Options Consultation. Views on the minerals options we have identified: aggregates, peat, stone. Willing to attend PC Meeting prior to submitting response. Consultation ends 12 February 2012. Response can be made by email post or via Web.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="235 1604 293 1793">8.</td> <td data-bbox="293 1604 483 1793">SCC</td> <td data-bbox="483 1604 1393 1793">Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document. Comments excepted until O6 January 2012 in writing to: Minerals & Waster Policy Team, Somerset County Council C Block (PPC601c), County Hall, Taunton, TA1 4DY Email: mineralsandwaste@somerset.gov.uk</td> </tr> </table> <p>Magazines/ Brochures:</p> <p>Planning: Permission ref 2011/2468 Stoke Bottom Improvement of sun lounge</p> <p>Bank Statements: Nov 2011 Business Reserve A/C £16,052.14 Current A/C 50.00</p> <p>Cheques: V Attwood Expenses Salary 524.82 MDC Electoral Costs 141.50</p>	1.	MDC	Electoral Costs 5 May 2011 £141.50	2.	Martha Care	Christmas Appeal Donation	3.	Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue	Consultation on proposal to change response to automatic fire alarm (AFA) calls. Proposal to reduce attendance level for all domestic properties and to cease attendance at some non-residential business premises, unless the person making 999 call can confirm ht there are signs of fire. Survey to be returned by 4 Jan 2012	4.	SCC	Somerset Electoral Review	5.	Somerset Waste Partnership	Severe weather guidance. Cards being distributed via re-cycling boxes. Copies for Notice Board, Website, Parish Newsletter.	6 a	SCC	Consultation on Reduction in Subsidies to Local Bus Services over the next 2 years. SCC needs to reduce spending on supporting bus services in Somerset. Survey enclosed – return by 15 January 2012. Poster.	6 b		Further information on Consultation re Reduction in subsidies to local bus services.	7.	SCC	Minerals Options Consultation. Views on the minerals options we have identified: aggregates, peat, stone. Willing to attend PC Meeting prior to submitting response. Consultation ends 12 February 2012. Response can be made by email post or via Web.	8.	SCC	Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document. Comments excepted until O6 January 2012 in writing to: Minerals & Waster Policy Team, Somerset County Council C Block (PPC601c), County Hall, Taunton, TA1 4DY Email: mineralsandwaste@somerset.gov.uk	<p>Chq</p> <p>File</p> <p>LG</p> <p>MD</p>
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20.	<p>MATTERS OF REPORT & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>Items for the next Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precept – Budget Forecast. • Community Gardens – Order material for footpath when placing PC’s order. • Councillors to sit on Community Gardens Committee. • Grant towards Marquee for Queens Diamond Jubilee Party. • Allocation of commemorative mugs to parish children. 		
21.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>21.1 The date of the next Meeting will be on Monday 16 January 2012 at 7.45 p.m</p> <p>21.2 There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.</p>		

CHAIRMAN _____ DATE _____