

**Minutes of the 905<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council  
Held in the Village Hall on 16 January 2012**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Councillors: John Padfield,(Chairman), Mr R Jones (Vice Chairman), Mr A Norris, Mr W Quinn, Mrs L Gittings, Mr M Daniels, Mrs J Davies, Mrs I Duggen, D Stock.	
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Dist Cllr S Priscott , CC Gloria Cawood. Clerk,	
	<p><i>The Lord's prayer was said.</i></p> <p><b>PUBLIC FORUM:</b> There was no discussion.</p>	ACTION
1.	<b>APOLOGIES:</b> Cllrs Mr Jeremy Padfield, PCSO Housley.	
2.	<b>MINUTES:</b> The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 19 December 2011 were approved as a true record and duly signed.	
3.	<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST:</b> There were none.	
4.	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING:</b> The Clerk reported that Western Power were again contacted, (as Somerset County Council declared the telegraph pole at 1 Linkmead to be the property of Western Power), but again they denied responsibility stating it was either SCC or Parish Council property. As a result of this telephone conversation, the Clerk e-mailed Western Power stating that, in the view of Mr Phil Bennet - Lighting Department Supervisor at SCC, it was Western Powers responsibility and not SCC or the Parish Council's and that he would welcome them contacting him personally about this issue. This e-mail was copied to both Mr Bennet and CC Gloria Cawood. To date nothing further has been heard.</p>	Clerk
5.	<p><b>CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS:</b> No-one had been in touch regarding co-option onto the Parish Council, after the vacancies had been placed in the Parish Newsletter.</p> <p><i>District Councillor Steve Priscott arrived at this point 8.05 pm</i></p>	
6.	<p><b>POLICE MATTERS:</b> PCSO Housley was not present but had sent a Report as follows: 18/12/2011 A car skidded on ice on Pitcott Lane – no injuries. 23/12/2011 2 Calls relating to local youths causing problems at Downside School. 24/12/2011 A tractor was removed from one of the buildings within the grounds of Downside School and then set on fire. 28/12/2011 Something was thrown from Downside grounds into the road at a passing vehicle. 28/11/2011 A property in Hone close/Bath View had youths attempting to break a window. 28/11/2011 Youths again on Downside grounds being verbally abusive to a sports teacher. 10/01/2012 A report of mud on the road.</p>	
7.	<b>PLANNING MATTERS:</b>	

**Applications:**

**Ref:2011/ 3243** Location: Benter House,SOF  
Proposal: Open blind windows to east elevation of workshop.  
Insert windows to match adjoining existing windows.  
Application type: Listed Building Consent.

*All Councillors present recommended approval.*

**Ref:2011/3177** Location: Benter House SOF  
Proposal: Internal alterations, remove partition rear wall/kitchen  
Type: Listed Building Consent.

*All Councillors present recommended approval.*

**Ref:2011/3305**

Location: Benter House.SOF  
Proposal: New gates to driveway entrance  
Application Type:Listed Building Consent

*All Coucillors present recommended approval.*

**Ref:2011/3300**

Location: Benter House,SOF  
Proposal: New gates to driveway entrance  
Application Type:Household Planning Permission

*All Councillors present recommended approval.*

**Ref:2011/2068** Applicant: Mr & Mrs Palmer  
Location: Highlea,Abbey Road,Chilcompton.  
Proposition:Erect 4 dwellings to replace an existing bungalow.  
Outline Planning Permission.

*All Councillors present thought that 4 houses would be inappropriate on this plot and not in keeping with the area. Councillors thought that it would be more appropriate for 2 bungalows to be built on the plot. Also the increase of traffic was a concern along with the need to have room for vehicle turning on the plot. It was also considered a health and safety issue by the Parish Council as this was a narrow lane with no footpath, making it unsafe for pedestrians.*

*All Councillors present recommended refusal of this application.*

**Notified of Approval by MDC:**

**Ref:2011/3032** Priors Row, SOF Loft Conversion.

8.

**FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

8.1 The Clerk presented **Petty Cash** for the period **April-December 2011** amounting to **£43.28** which was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. **Cheque No.000854**

8.2 The Clerk presented an Invoice for **Printer Ink** amounting to **£19.15** which was agreed by all Councillors to be paid. **Cheque No.000855**

8.3 The Clerk presented an Invoice for **BT/Broadband** for **January 2012** amounting to **£127.47** which all those Councillors present agreed to be paid. **Cheque No.000856**

8.4 The Clerk stated that, as BT had increased its prices in December 2011, the package had been changed to Option 1 to reduce costs.

8.5 It was agreed that the Clerk should register for **Mapping** at a cost of **£48** **Cheque**

	<p><b>No.000853</b></p> <p>8.6 All Councillors agreed that the Parish Council should give a <b>grant to the Community Gardens Committee</b> amounting to <b>£150</b>, to cover the cost of the Marquee for the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. <b>Cheque No.000857</b></p> <p>8.7 The allocation of commemorative mugs to parish children was discussed at length. It was thought that the number of eligible children was needed before mugs could be ordered. Therefore it was suggested that an invitation to apply for a mug was included in the March/April newsletter. Also an invitation to apply for mugs to be placed on the Parish Web Page. Cllr Jones would obtain a quote for mugs to bring to the next meeting.</p>	<p>Cllr Jones Cllr Daniels Cllr Jones</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p><b>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:</b></p> <p>9.1 Dist Cllr Priscott reported that Somerset Waste Partnership was increasing the price of garden rubbish and therefore collecting the Brown Bin would increase from £42.40 to £45 per year.</p> <p>9.2 Also Mendip District Council would now be billing residents if their wheelie bin was lost or damaged at a cost of £25. It was suggested that residents painted the house number on the bin.</p> <p>9.3 Dist Cllr Priscott reported that Mendip District Council had declared 0% increase in tax and Somerset County Council had also declared 0% increase in tax.</p> <p>9.4 Dist Cllr Priscott confirmed that there were no plans for further closers of rubbish tips or any plans to change the charges.</p> <p><i>CC Gloria Cawood arrived at this point 8.45 pm</i></p>	
<p>10.</p>	<p><b>VILLAGE HALL CAR-PARK:</b></p> <p>10.1 Cllr Jones stated that he was in receipt of 2 estimates with more in the pipe-line, plus advised that as it was the only vehicle access to the play-park the more expensive dressing was required. Although it was hopeful to obtain grants towards the cost, the Village Hall Committee would be grateful of a contribution from the Parish Council. £5K would be great but any grant would be welcomed.</p> <p>10.2 It was reported that a problem with the gate at the bottom end of Middlemead had occurred, as the entrance had now been fenced making a narrow entrance. This was thought by Councillors to be an issue, as this was not shown on the original plans, and it was not ideal to have only 1 entrance for emergency services. It was thought that there needed to be an access at Middlemead, as it was very tight for vehicles to enter at the Village Hall entrance. Cllr Jones suggested that the plans needed to be looked at as this may be an enforcement issue.</p> <p>10.1 The Clerk reported that CC Gloria Cawood had responded to an e-mail, asking if any grant could be claimed toward the cost of resurfacing the car-park, stating that she would investigate.</p>	<p>CC Cawood</p>

11.	<p><b>BUDGET FORECAST &amp; PRECEPT:</b></p> <p>11.1 The Clerk distributed a detailed estimated Budget Forecast including expenditure to date and funds held to date.</p> <p>11.2 A lengthy discussion took place regarding expected outlay in financial Yr End 2013. It was noted that the Parish Council would incur extra costs from the maintenance and insurance of the Community Gardens. The Parish Council would also want to give a grant to the Village Hall towards the re-surfacing of its car-park, although this would come from the contingency fund held. It was evident that the budget would be over the present Precept amount in the next financial year and the question was whether to absorb the monies from the contingency fund or raise the Precept.</p> <p>11.3 The Chairman proposed that the Precept stayed the same and was set at £7,000 Cllr Norris seconded this and the Chairman asked for a show of hands – 7 Councillors were in favour and 1 Councillor was against. Therefore the motion was carried and the Clerk would notify Mendip District Council that Stratton’s Precept requirement would be £7,000</p>	Clerk
12.	<p><b>STREET CLEANING/LENGTHSMAN SCHEME:</b></p> <p>12.1 Cllr Quinn had nothing to report, as Chris had been stood down until March and nothing had been heard about the other parishes intentions.</p> <p>12.2 CC Cawood stated that an invitation to other parishes to employ Chris would be placed in her next newsletter.</p> <p>12.3 Cllr Gittings reported that 1½ hours had been spent by herself clearing the pavement and gully near her house to remove the puddle of water that accumulated. It was thought that pavements were the responsibility of MDC and Dist Cllr Priscott would report to them that the whole of Fosse Road needed to be cleared. Drains were thought to be the responsibility of Somerset County Council and CC Cawood would ask for the drains to be cleared. It was also thought that the Parish Council would benefit from being given the work programme (how often and when) for maintaining the pavements and drains.</p>	<p>CC Cawood</p> <p>DistCllr Priscot</p> <p>CC Cawood</p>
13.	<p><b>FOOTPATHS:</b></p> <p>13.1 The Chairman confirmed that, after an exploratory dig, it was possible to cut away the encroaching grass on the Mogg Hill footpath.</p> <p>13.2 Regarding the maintenance of Mogg Hill footpath, CC Gloria Cawood stated that at a forthcoming meeting between herself and Clare Haskins she will mention the school closure connection and explore the possibility of funding. Cllr Gittings offered the information that Wendy Burge had dealt with the footpath in the past.</p> <p><i>CC Cawood left the meeting at this point 9.25 pm</i></p>	CC Cawood
14.	<p><b>WAR-MEMORIAL:</b></p> <p>The Clerk gave the Chairman the Stonemason’s telephone number so that he could be asked to advise a suitable method of cleaning.</p>	Chair



20.	<b>CORRESPONDENCE:</b> Correspondence was read and dealt with accordingly:		
1.	SCC	Somerset Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2011 summary. Contains info on health social & environmental influences, health inequalities, the experiences & views of local people, how current need is being met and models future need. Plus examines 2 key themes: housing & health & wellbeing in the older population.	
2.	Mendip CAB	Letter asking for donation	
3.	SCC	Local Choices Event – <b>This takes the place of the regular Parish Forum scheduled for the same date</b> 27 February 2012 Mendip (Bath & West Showground) 7pm-9pm Hoped that 2 reps from each Parish Council, Dist Cllr & County Cllr will attend the event. Hannah Norman email <a href="mailto:hnorman@somerset.gov.uk">hnorman@somerset.gov.uk</a> tele 01823 355618	
4.	SCC	Local Choice events 27 Feb 2012 Bath & West Showground 7pm-9pm refreshments from 6.30 This takes the place of the regular Parish Forum scheduled for same date. Hoped that 2 reps from PC will attend. Email: <a href="mailto:hnorman@somerset.gov.uk">hnorman@somerset.gov.uk</a> tele:01823 355618 Hannah Norman to confirm attendance. By 325 January 2012	
<p><b>Magazines/ Brochures:</b> Clerks &amp; Councils Direct</p> <p><b>Planning:</b> <i>Application</i> Ref:2011/3177 &amp; 3243 Benter House Listed Building Consent Ref:2011/3305 “ “ “ “ “ Ref:2011/3300 Household Planning Permission.</p> <p><i>Approval</i> Ref:2011/3032 Priors Row Loft Conversion</p> <p><b>Bank Statements:</b> Dec 2011 Business Reserve A/C £15,524.43 Current A/C 50.00</p> <p><b>Cheques:</b> V Attwood Expenses 43.28 19.15 127.47 Community Gardens Committee 150.00</p> <p>The Clerk reported that a meeting to discuss Allotments was taking place on 31 January 2012, Dist Cllr Priscott stated that if 6 parishioners wanted an allotment then the Council had to supply.</p> <p><b><i>Dist Cllr Priscott left the meeting at this point 9.46</i></b></p>			
21.	<b>MATTERS OF REPORT &amp; ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:</b> Items for the next Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Village Hall Car-park.</li> <li>• Mogg Hill footpath.</li> <li>• Annual Parish Meeting – speaker.</li> </ul>		
22.	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</b> 22.1 The date of the next Meeting will be on <b>Monday 20 February 2012 at 7.45 p.m</b> 22.2 There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.55 p.m.		

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