

**Minutes of the 908<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council  
Held in the Village Hall on 16 April 2012**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Councillors: Mr R Jones (Vice Chairman), Mr Jeremy Padfield, Mr A Norris, Mr W Quinn, Mrs L Gittings, Mr M Daniels, Mr D Stock.	
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	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 Mrs J Davies, Mrs I Duggen, Mr Jeremy Padfield, Dist Cllr S Priscott, CC Gloria Cawood, PCSO Housley, PCSO Pearson.	
2.	<b>MINUTES:</b> The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 19 March 2012 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 this was a busy time; apart from the usual duties, additional work was involved with the Annual Parish Meeting and the organisation involved with the Audit Return.</p> <p>15.3 The Clerk stated that a meeting with Jeff Bunting and Charlie Higgins from Highways had been arranged – which would be reported on under Highway matters.</p> <p>19.1 The Clerk had made contact via e-mail with Avon and Somerset Probation Trust who had supplied a name and telephone number to contact. Unfortunately, Joy Roberts, was only part-time and coupled with the school holidays, it had proved difficult to make contact. Eventually, today contact was made and the information given as follows: A supervisor would have to inspect the project and paper-work drawn up and signed by the Parish Council. This would take 7-14 days. There would have to be facilities to wash hands and toilets. The cost for 1 day would be £25 to cover the administration. It was suggested that it would be cost effective for the Parish Council if other jobs were completed at the same time ( eg sign cleaning, painting) as the cost was for 1 day of tasks and it was thought that the litter-pick would not fill the whole day.</p> <p>Councillors were of the opinion that the time and effort to set this up would take too long and all Councillors were in agreement that it would be quicker for the litter pick to be completed by volunteer Councillors, as in the past. Several Councillors volunteered and the date set for the litter-pick was Tuesday 24 April 2012 at 5.30pm.</p> <p>The clerk to arrange to collect equipment for the litter-pick from Mendip District Council and for the collection of rubbish from Church Farm as soon as possible.</p> <p>It was noted that a resident Mrs Janet Searle (with the help of her grandchildren) had picked litter along Watery Lane and a small adjacent section of the A37.</p>	Cllrs Various  Clerk
5.	<b>COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:</b> There was no Report received.	
6.	<b>DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT:</b> There was no report received.	
7.	<b>POLICE MATTERS:</b> PCSO Housley was not present but had sent a Report as follows: 19/03/2012 An incident of youths kicking the door of Bainsbury View. 23/03/2012 A road traffic collision on the crossroads of Pitcot Lane.	

8.	<p><b>PLANNING MATTERS:</b></p> <p><u>Applications:</u> There were none.</p> <p><u>Notified of Approval by MDC:</u> Ref:2011/3243 Mr &amp; Mrs P Rapp - Benter House, Benter, SOF Listed Building Consent – Approved with conditions. Ref:2011/3300 Mr &amp; Mrs P Rapp – Benter House, Benter, SOF – Householder Planning Permission -Approved with conditions. Ref:2011/3305 Mr &amp; Mrs P Rapp – Benter House, Benter, SOF Listed Building Consent – Approved with conditions.</p>	
9.	<p><b>FINANCIAL MATTERS:</b></p> <p>9.1 An Invoice from the <b>Lengthsman</b> for hours worked as per <b>work sheet 79</b>, amounting to <b>£100</b> was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. <b>Cheque No.000862</b></p> <p>9.2 The Clerk reported that Chris Perkins, the <b>Lengthsman</b>, had enrolled on a college course for training in weed-kill for which he had submitted an Invoice amounting to <b>£210</b>. Cllr Daniels proposed that this should be paid and Cllr Gittings seconded this - agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. <b>Cheque No.0000862</b></p> <p>9.3 It was noted that Chris would pay for the 2 exams to be taken.</p> <p>9.4 Cllr Jones reported that there had not been a huge response to ordering a <b>commemorative mug</b>, 50 only. Therefore, the order placed would be for <b>108</b> at a cost of <b>£362.88</b> All Councillors present agreed that a cheque for this amount be written when the invoice was received.</p> <p>9.5 A request from the Community Gardens Committee had been received. It was noted that the Committee had not received the cheque for £150 for a marquee, as previously minuted, as the event had been cancelled. However, the Committee had now decided to hold a different event to celebrate the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee and hoped that the Parish Council would still honour the cheque for £150 All Councillors present agreed that the amount of <b>£150</b> should be granted to the <b>Community Gardens Committee. Cheque No.000860</b></p> <p>9.6 An Invoice, for grass cutting the Community Gardens, from <b>Wayne Palmer</b> amounting to <b>£ 375</b> was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. <b>Cheque No.000861</b></p> <p>9.7 An Invoice amounting to <b>£179.06</b> for the Annual Subscription to <b>SALC</b> was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. <b>Cheque no. 000863</b></p> <p>9.8 The Clerk reported that the <b>Precept of £7,000</b> had been received <b>Credit No.11019</b></p> <p>9.9 The Clerk reported that the Notice of Inspection for the forthcoming Audit had been place on the Notice Board. This year Stratton had been selected in the 5% of parishes to be further checked by the Auditors – which meant that the Clerk would have to submit extra information. All Councillors present agreed to Mr Keith Cockcroft being asked to complete the internal audit – the Clerk to contact. Councillors had been e-mailed the Financial Report for Yr End 2012 along with the Bank Reconciliation, which the Clerk would be submitting to the following APM Meeting, where it would be discussed.</p> <p>9.10 The Bank Statements were reconciled and signed.</p>	

<p>10.</p>	<p><b>STREET CLEANING/LENGTHSMAN SCHEME:</b></p> <p>10.1 It was noted that the Lengthsman Scheme ceased on 15 March 2012, due to funding problems, and that the Parish Council decided to employ Chris for Stratton for the next 12 months. A Contract to this effect, drawn up by the Clerk, was presented to Chris which was duly signed and returned.</p> <p>10.2 Monies left in the scheme when it ended amounting to £500 were used to pay for 1 extra visit to each parish within the scheme.</p> <p>10.3 Tasks completed by Chris:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearing access area and surrounds to footpaths at Pitcote crossroads, Green Lane (towards Stockhill) and White Post (near the roundabout).</li> <li>• Attended a meeting with Cllr Daniels and Cllr Quinn regarding the access gate at Middlemead.</li> <li>• Strimmed and cleared the bank and verge opposite Fosse Cottage.</li> <li>• Strimmed and cleared the bank opposite Bainsbury View to allow clear visibility for traffic exiting Green Lane.</li> <li>• Cleared an obscured traffic sign near Church Farm.</li> <li>• Cleaned traffic signs on the 1<sup>st</sup> chicane south.</li> </ul> <p>10.4 Cllr Daniels reminded Councillors that at the recent meeting attended by himself and Cllr Gittings it was stated that funding for equipment for a street cleaner was available. It was suggested that CC Gloria Cawood was asked about this with a view to obtaining funding for a weed sprayer etc. Cllr Gittings would also email Clare Haskins to enquire where funding could be obtained.</p>	<p>Clerk Cllr Gittings</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p><b>VILLAGE HALL CAR-PARK:</b></p> <p>There had been no progress so far – quotes were still awaited.</p>	
<p>12.</p>	<p><b>WAR MEMORIAL:</b></p> <p>12.1 The Chairman had made contact with the Stone Mason, Mr Kelly for advice. It was not advisable to use chemicals as it was built from Dolton Stone, but pressure washing was acceptable. In the past cold pressure was used, but it would be alright to use hot water pressure. The most important thing was to make sure that the monument was wet (ie after rain) as this would help lift the dirt.</p> <p>12.2 Cllrs John and Jeremy Padfield would organize to clean the monument as soon as commitments permit.</p>	<p>Cllrs John &amp; Jeremy Padfield</p>
<p>13.</p>	<p><b>BT KIOSK:</b></p> <p>Cllr Quinn stated that Chris (lengthsman) had started to prepare the kiosk for painting. Unfortunately, it had been discovered that the cast iron roof was peppered with holes. Therefore, the roof has to be repaired before any other work can be started. Chris is confident that he can cure the problem and it has been placed on his list of jobs.</p>	<p>Lengths -man</p>
<p>14.</p>	<p><b>COMMUNITY GARDEN:</b></p> <p>14.1 Cllr Stock reported that the play-park had been inspected by him weekly and stated that everything had been in order.</p> <p>14.2 Cllr Stock reported that a new No Dogs sign had been placed.</p> <p>14.3 The grass cutting of the play-park was raised and it was agreed to obtain 3 quotes. This job would also be offered to the Lengthsman, who Cllr Quinn would ask to quote. The specifications of the area to be cut would be needed – obtainable from Marie Taylor of Clare Bendall.</p>	<p>Cllr Quinn Clerk</p>

	<p>14.4 Cllr Daniels reported on the gate to the play-park off Middlemead. The fire brigade did not see the present gate as a Health and Safety issue and the Police thought 1 entrance better than 2 as it stopped youngsters from using it as a circuit. Also, due to the grant conditions, there could be a problem if a change to the layout was implemented within 12 months of the scheme being inspected on completion.</p> <p>14.5 It was agreed to have another meeting with the Community Gardens Committee, in which to discuss the situation and hopefully find a compromise, which Cllr Daniels, Cllrs John and Jeremy Padfield would attend. The date to be arranged.</p>	<p>Cllrs Daniels John &amp; Jeremy Padfield</p>
<p>15.</p>	<p><b>HIGHWAYS:</b></p> <p>15.1 The meeting on 12 April 2012 with representatives of Mendip Highways Department was Minuted by Cllr Jones. In attendance – Cllr Jones, Cllr Padfield, Cllr Quinn, Cllr Daniels and Jeff Bunting, Charlie Higgins from Highways.</p> <p>15.2 Meeting on site, those present witnessed proof of the problem with large lorries and quickly agreed the problem and solution; a pinch point will be created by halving (almost) the existing island and transferring to the opposite side of the road in order to divert traffic away from the pavement. The option of remaining existing islands was considered but quickly dismissed owing to the entrance to Green Lane creating danger of collision, (although it would be a cheaper option.)</p> <p>15.3 It was also agreed that the pavement should be raised for extra safety to pedestrians.</p> <p>15.4 The Meeting ended optimistically with both officers fairly confident that they could obtain funding for the project.</p>	
<p>16.</p>	<p><b>FOOTPATHS:</b></p> <p>16.1 The state of the footpaths in this parish remains, on the whole, in good order.</p> <p>16.2 In some parishes landowners have sprayed off a meter width across crops following the exact line of the path in order to encourage people to stick to the same, it would be good if this practice could be encouraged here. I believe it would be beneficial to all if this were done, especially this year, as in August Stratton is to be the central hub for a number of walks led by the Ramblers during one of their walking festival.</p>	
<p>17.</p>	<p><b>PARISH FORUM REPORT:</b> Nothing to discuss.</p>	
<p>18.</p>	<p><b>WEB-SITE:</b> Nothing to discuss.</p>	

19.	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE:</b> Correspondence was read and dealt with accordingly:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chris Perkins Invoice: Lengthsman tasks £100 College Course £210 Total £310</li> <li>2. SALC Invoice: Affiliation Fee 2012/13 £179.06</li> <li>3. MDC Precept £7k Remittance Advice 11019</li> <li>4. SCC County Council response to Local Government Boundary Commission for England's proposals for a new County Council electoral scheme.</li> <li>5 Devon &amp; Somerset Fire &amp; Rescue Result of Automatic Fire Alarm (AFA) consultation</li> <li>6 Tessa Munt MP Posters of Surgery times</li> <li>7 Anon Insurance Policy Renewal 01 June 2012</li> <li>8 Moore Stephens Audit Return by 01 June 2012</li> <li>9 SALC Councillors training; Monday 23 April 2012 West Camel VH 7-10pm Monday 26 April 2012 Ruishton VH 7-10pm £25 per head (4<sup>th</sup> one FOC) Booking Form <i>All Cllrs present agreed for Cllr Daniels to re-imbursed.</i></li> </ol> <p><b>Magazines/ Brochures:</b> Avon &amp; Somerset Police Auth Newsletter Issue 6 March</p> <p><b>Planning: Permission granted:</b> Ref:2011/3243 Mr &amp; Mrs P Rapp - Benter House, Benter, SOF Listed Building Consent – Approved with conditions. Ref:2011/3300 Mr &amp; Mrs P Rapp – Benter House, Benter, SOF – Householder Planning Permission -Approved with conditions. Ref:2011/3305 Mr &amp; Mrs P Rapp – Benter House, Benter, SOF Listed Building Consent – Approved with conditions.</p> <p><b>Bank Statements:</b> March 2012 Business Reserve A/C £14,278.11 Current A/C 50.00</p> <p><b>Cheques:</b> Community Gardens £150 Chris Perkins £310 R Jones – Mugs £362.88 (on Receipt) SALC Fee £179.06 SALC Training £ 25 (on Receipt )</p>	N/B Clerk Clerk Cllr Daniels
20.	<p><b>MATTERS OF REPORT &amp; ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:</b></p> <p>20.1 Agenda items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Web-site Annual subscription – Future-interactive.</li> <li>• Grass cutting – quotes.</li> <li>• Insurance.</li> <li>• Audit.</li> </ul> <p>20.1 Cllr Quinn offered his apologies for the next meeting.</p>	
21.	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</b></p> <p>22.1 The date of the next Meeting will be on <b>Monday 21 May 2012 at 7.45 pm</b></p> <p>22.2 There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.27 p.m.</p>	

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