

**Minutes of the 926<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council  
Held in the Village Hall 16 December 2013**

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| <b>PRESENT:</b>  | Councillors: Mr John Padfield (Chairman), Mr M Daniels, Mrs J Davies, Mrs L Gittings, Mr D Stock,                                      |
| <b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>  | Clerk, 6 members of Public   |
|  | ACTION   |
| <p><b>PUBLIC FORUM:</b></p> <p>A resident (Sarah Batik) concerned about a possible proposal to restrict parking in South Street with driveways being encouraged, asked the Parish Council to consider opposing this if/when Mendip District Council sent details. The Chairman stated that nothing had been received to date from MDC Planning Dept but would keep the comments in mind, although the Parish Council could only recommend and would not have the final decision.</p> <p><i>Sarah Batik left at 8.00pm</i></p> <p>A representative of the Mendip Mobile Service, Laura Miller, wished to ascertain whether Stratton needed this facility and wished the service to attend. It incorporated several charities - Mendip Care &amp; Repair, YMCA, Mendip Community Support, Elm Connect(Rough Sleepers), Aster Housing. Internet access was available on the vehicle. This was a pilot scheme, but after 2 years would become a permanent hub. Ten villages would share on a rota basis, although the hub could be booked for an event. Cllr Daniels would be sent an advertisement to place on the Parish Web-site. It was suggested that the Parish Council discussed and returned its comments via the Clerk.</p> <p><i>Laura Miller left at 8.10 pm</i></p> <p>Jerry Scovell previous owner of Stratton Motor Services reported that the business had been put on the market to sell 18 months ago. It had been hoped to sell the garage as a going concern, but it had now been sold to a developer. From today the garage ceased trading and Mr Scovell wished to thank his former customers/friends for their support over the last 10 years of trading. The developer had approached Mendip District Council and MDC would forward plans to the Parish Council in due course. It was confirmed that the plot would not be used for light industry or housing association/low cost housing and that houses would be built to the character of the village.</p> <p><i>Mr Scovell left at 8.15 pm</i></p> |  |
| 1.   | <b>APOLOGIES:</b> Mr R Jones (Vice Chair), Mr Jeremy Padfield, Mr W Quinn, Mr A Norris, Mrs I Duggan, C C Rachel Carter, PCSO Housley. |
| 2.   | <b>MINUTES:</b><br>The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 18 November 2013 were approved as a true record and duly signed.        |
| 3.   | <b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST:</b><br>There were none.  |

4.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

The Clerk reported on the following action taken since the last meeting:

| ACTION POINTS  | ACTION BY DATE   | NAME                                   |
|--|--|--|
| <p>1. Contact Charlie Higgins at Highways to establish why the planned alterations to the Chicane had not happened and why the alternative work had taken place without the PC's opinion sought before work completed.<br/><i>Clerk had emailed letter re above with cc to Harvey Siggs</i><br/><i>Jeff Bunting emailed stating that:</i><br/><i>"The width of the kerbed build-out was reduced to encourage vehicles to take a different path through the chicane; the kerbing on the footway opposite was raised to reduce the problem of vehicles over-running. By reducing the width of the build-out the amount of lateral clearance between vehicles and the kerb line is increased and therefore a consequent reduction in collision risk between pedestrians and vehicles should follow. After careful reflection, I believe that the new arrangements have achieved this and whilst I note that your council's concern on this matter the site constraints that exist at this location make any other form of improvement difficult to achieve within budget."</i></p> <p><i>Councillors were still unhappy that the Parish Council had not been consulted before the new design was implemented. CC Harvey Siggs will look into this matter.</i></p> |  | Harvey Siggs                           |
| <p>2. Adopt Financial Regulations and place on Web-site<br/><i>Clerk &amp; Cllr Daniels held meeting to discuss Forwarded Councillors Draft financial Regs Propose to Adopt at Meeting</i></p>   | January Meeting  | Agenda January                         |
| <p>3. Drop Kerbs - Clerk waiting reply from Chris Betty (replacement to Jeff Bunting)<br/>Received email 8 Aug 13 which was forwarded to Councillors<br/>Chairman read out: The suggested sites have been registered and will be looked at and work completed when finances permit.<br/><i>Clerk to write to prioritise 2 sites: at Old PO and junction of South Street.</i></p>   | On MDC's List to do<br>Will contact<br>With update<br><br>Have noted |  |
| <p>4. Dog Fouling Bin<br/>When positioned notify MDC who will place sign FOC<br/>When positioned notify MDC who will arrange to empty</p>  | As/when<br>As/when   | Clerk<br>Clerk                         |
| <p>5. Traffic signs obscured by vegetation - Highways have cut around sign, but vegetation obscuring motorist view is the responsibility of landowner. Landowner being Downside. The work on the overgrown vegetation at Green Lane junction had been completed. Chairman reported that Downside had made an excellent job of cutting back at the junction, but wondered if a further 50 yards along the main road toward the lay-by could be cut back also.<br/><br/><i>Downside acknowledged letter but stated that because it was now term time the work might be delayed.</i><br/><i>Harvey Siggs will request that Highways completes the job</i></p>   | phoned letter<br><br>letter<br><br>asap                              | Clerk<br><br>Clerk<br><br>Harvey Siggs |
| <p>6. Rubbish collected at Pinch Points - left message not got back<br/>Needs digging out.<br/><i>If Done - PC considers not good enough</i></p>   | Chase  | Clerk                                  |
| <p>7. Organise Playground Inspection due 08/10/13<br/>Report received</p>  | Completed<br>Report sent   | Jeremy<br>John<br>Marie                |

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| 8. | Reported to MDC - drains along A367 and Green Lane blocked   | Chase    | Clerk              |
| 9. | Contact Dog Warden MDC to ask advice and/or extra signs denting consequences to dog fouling on Playing Field<br>Contacted Dog Warden stated that would look at and report back.<br><i>Clerk had not been contacted by Dog Warden and is difficult to contact. Clerk to chase</i>   | Chase    | Clerk              |
| 10 | Playground Inspection Report for last Month  | Next mtg | Cllr Stock         |
| 11 | Meet to discuss future Contract for Lengthsman Duties<br><i>Obtain list of tasks from Cllr Quinn</i>   | Asap     | MD Chair<br>Jeremy |
| 12 | New Lamp Post erected in middle of traffic calming island.<br>Notify Western Power/SCC as Health & Safety issue.<br>Contacted SCC(Phone& email)who will report back-<br><i>No contact to date</i>  | Chase    | Clerk              |
| 13 | Contact Tessa Munt MP to register PC's interest in receiving a Defibrillator. Letter sent 23 Oct 2013<br><i>SOF Parish Council's bid not successful, but Tessa Munt will investigate another organisation that might provide one.</i>  |          | Tessa<br>Munt      |
| 14 | Attend Meeting to discuss footpath problems on Thurs 21 Nov 2013 at Batcombe 4.15 - 6.30<br><i>Cllr Gittings attended but nobody turned up</i>   | 21/11/13 | LG                 |
| 15 | Letter to Downside re ivy encroaching ivy on pavement.<br><i>Awaiting reply</i>  | 08/12/13 | Clerk              |
| 5. | <b>COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:</b><br>No Report received.   |          |                    |
| 6. | <b>DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT:</b><br>No Report received.   |          |                    |
| 7. | <b>POLICE MATTERS:</b><br>PCSO Housley was not in attendance but sent a Report as follows:<br>22/11/13 Report of black ice on the road between Stratton and Chilcompton.<br>30/11/13 A three car shunt as you enter SOF from Shepton – no injuries.<br>02/12/13 Report of youths letting off fireworks on Downside school grounds.<br>07/12/13 Report of motorbikes on Downside School grounds.  |          |                    |
| 8. | <b>PLANNING MATTERS:</b><br><u>Applications:</u><br><b>Ref : 2013/2290/FUL</b><br>Location: Former the Royal British Legion, South Street, SOF<br>Proposal: Demolition of former RBL Club & erection of 4 off dwelling Houses.<br><br><i>All Councillors present looked at the plans and although there was no issue with the development of the proposed 4 houses, they were concerned about the closeness of the neighbouring property of St Patrick's to one of the dwellings.</i><br><i>The Chairman introduced Lee Wright and John Hammond (representative of Point Cloud Development) and invited them to join the debate. A member of the public, Mr Ian Rose, resident of St Patrick's was also invited to join the discussion.</i><br><i>A suggestion to flip the plans and move the offending proposed dwelling and car-park forward was thought by all to be acceptable. This would also allow the resident of St Patrick's to gain access to an outside storage facility, which in the original plans would have been inaccessible.</i><br><i>The Clerk to advise Mendip District Council of the Parish Councils views – a letter had already been drafted – by email. Contents of which as follows:</i> |          |                    |
|    |  |          | Clerk              |

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|-----|---|------------|
|     | <p>In consideration for the proposed development of the former British Legion site, although the Parish Council welcomes the new development of the 4 proposed dwellings, it is most concerned about the siting of the 2 dwellings adjacent to South Street.</p> <p>The new build is far too close to the dwelling of St Patrick's Cottage. It would block the front views of the main living area and the bedroom will only look out on a blank brick wall, thus impeding the light to the cottage.</p> <p>The Parish Council wishes to make 3 suggestions:</p> <p>The new buildings are moved away from the house, thus eliminating the proposed visitors parking area as there should be adequate parking already shown on the plan.</p> <p>Create an access alongside St Patrick's Cottage to gain access to the parking area between the 2 cottages. This would enable the resident to gain access to his storage facility.</p> <p>Enlarge the garden at the front of the property and reduce the garden area at the rear.</p> <p>All of the above suggestions would alleviate some of the Parish Council's concerns.</p> <p><b>3 Members of the public left the Meeting at this point 8.30 pm</b></p> <p><b><u>Permission granted by MDC : None</u></b></p> |            |
| 9.  | <p><b>FINANCIAL MATTERS:</b></p> <p>9.1 The <b>Clerk's salary</b> for the period <b>Oct-Dec 2013</b> amounting to <b>£699.90</b> was agreed by all present to be paid. <b>Cheque No.000969</b></p> <p>9.2 An Invoice from <b>The Play Inspection Company</b>, for the Annual playground inspection 2013-14 amounting to <b>£71.94</b> was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. <b>Cheque No.000966</b></p> <p>9.3 It was also agreed that the Clerk should register for next year's inspection with the same company to receive a guaranteed price freeze.</p> <p>9.4 An Invoice from <b>Wayne Palmer</b> for cutting the Community Gardens Playing Field amounting to <b>£135</b> was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. <b>Cheque No.000971</b></p> <p>9.5 An Invoice from Chris Perkins for <b>Lengthsman's duties</b> amounting to <b>£84</b> was agreed by all Councillors to be paid. <b>Cheque No 000970</b></p> <p>9.6 Bank Forms were reconciled and signed.</p>   |            |
| 10. | <p><b>BUDGET FOR YEAR END 2015:</b></p> <p>10.1 The Budget details had been discussed at the last meeting. Cllr Daniels proposed that the Parish Council increase the Precept by £500 and set the Precept at £8,500 - all Councillors present agreed.</p> <p>10.2 The Clerk to inform Mendip District Council of the Precept request.</p>   | Clerk      |
| 11. | <p><b>FINANCIAL REGULATIONS:</b></p> <p>The Financial Regulations to be placed on the January Agenda</p>  | Agenda     |
| 12. | <p><b>COMMUNITY GARDENS:</b></p> <p>12.1 Cllr Stock gave the Clerk his weekly Inspection Report of the Play-Park conducted since the last PC Meeting. Also the Report that had been conducted during the</p>  | Cllr Stock |

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|     | <p>month of September. There was nothing to follow up.</p> <p>12.2 Cllr Daniels reported that, at a meeting with Dist Cllr Rachel Carter, it was agreed to get Downside pupils involved with the Community Gardens in the Spring.</p> <p>12.3 The Clerk had forwarded the Playground Inspection Report to Cllr Jeremy Padfield Marie Taylor and Cllr John Padfield. The Clerk confirmed that any action that was needed would be dealt with by the Community Gardens Committee.</p>  | Comm Gardens |
| 13. | <p><b>STREET CLEANING/LENGTHSMAN SCHEME:</b><br/>A meeting was still to be held to discuss details of the Lengthsman Contract.</p>   | MD<br>JP     |
| 14. | <p><b>HIGHWAYS:</b><br/>It was noted that the Stop Sign at the junction of B3355 and B3139 had been damaged again. The Clerk to contact Highways to suggest a re-design at this junction.</p>  | Clerk        |
| 15. | <p><b>FOOTPATH:</b><br/>Cllr Gittings stated that although she had gone to the Meeting at Batcombe, nobody else had turned up.</p>   |              |
| 16. | <p><b>PARISH FORUM REPORT:</b><br/>There was nothing to report and the next Meeting would not be until next Year.</p>  |              |
| 17. | <p><b>WEB-SITE:</b><br/>Cllr Daniels would appreciate any photographs to place on the Web-site.</p>  |              |
| 18. | <p><b>CORRESPONDENCE:</b></p> <p>1 Laura Miller                      Email: Project Co-ordinator Mendip Mobile Advice Service - Working with 6 charities. Citizens Advice, YMCA, Elm Connect(rough sleepers),Mendip Care &amp; Repair, Mendip Community Support , Aster Housing. Aim to visit on regular basis using mobile hub 10 of the 20 villages listed in first year adding rest in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Aim to leave 3 permanent hubs in the community after the 2yr period. Will attend Meeting and give information.</p> <p>2 Sarah Bacik                      Email: Re reported proposal to changes to the street parking availability wish to attend Meeting to express concern.</p> <p>3 Mr Ian Rose                      Letter re RBL Planning Application ref 2013/2290/FUL<br/>St Patrick's Cottage</p> <p>4 Chris Perkins                      Invoice No 37 for 6hrs work £84</p> <p>5 SALC                                  Section 137 now £7.20 per elector</p> <p>6 MDC                                  Dropped Kerbs – confirmation of 2 priorities in village noted.</p> <p>7 PCSO                                  Crime Report</p> |              |

|                      |   |                      |          |             |             |  |       |                 |         |               |     |    |        |  |
|----------------------|---|----------------------|----------|-------------|-------------|--|-------|-----------------|---------|---------------|-----|----|--------|--|
|                      | <p>8 Tessa Munt MP Re Defibrillator - Stratton not successful, but impressed by letter of application and will investigate another organisation from which SOF might obtain a defibrillator.</p> <p>9 Safer Somerset Partnership Funding opportunities obtained from the Police &amp; Crime Commissioner. Welcome proposals from local communities re excellent work organisations contribute within the local community. Suggest look at varying range of small projects with costs eg road safety or youth activities or mobile equipment. Application by Friday 17 January 2014</p> <p>1 SCC 0 Cheque for £500 for Community Gardens Committee – re Health &amp; Wellbeing Budget Scheme grant.</p> <p>1 Pi 1 The Play Inspection Co Ltd Inspection Report received – forwarded to Jeremy &amp; Marie Invoice amounting to £71.94 Option to secure inspection for next yea at guaranteed price of this year.</p> <p><b>Magazines/ Brochures:</b><br/> <b>Planning: Application:</b> Ref 2013/2290/FUL Demolition of RBL &amp; erection of 4 dwellings</p> <p><b>Bank Statements:</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Business Reserve A/C</td> <td>November</td> <td>20,483.67 *</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Current A/C</td> <td></td> <td>50.00</td> </tr> </table> <p>*This does not include £ 500 banked for the Community Gardens</p> <p><b>Letters sent:</b> Downside – re Ivy on pavement</p> <p><b>Cheques:</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Valerie Attwood</td> <td>£699.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chris Perkins</td> <td>£84</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pi</td> <td>£71.94</td> </tr> </table> | Business Reserve A/C | November | 20,483.67 * | Current A/C |  | 50.00 | Valerie Attwood | £699.90 | Chris Perkins | £84 | Pi | £71.94 |  |
| Business Reserve A/C | November  | 20,483.67 *          |          |             |             |  |       |                 |         |               |     |    |        |  |
| Current A/C          |   | 50.00                |          |             |             |  |       |                 |         |               |     |    |        |  |
| Valerie Attwood      | £699.90   |                      |          |             |             |  |       |                 |         |               |     |    |        |  |
| Chris Perkins        | £84   |                      |          |             |             |  |       |                 |         |               |     |    |        |  |
| Pi                   | £71.94  |                      |          |             |             |  |       |                 |         |               |     |    |        |  |
| 19.                  | <p><b>MATTERS OF REPORTS &amp; ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:</b></p> <p>19.1 Cllr Stock reported that the Cricket Club had been asked to leave the site at Downside. The Club had been playing there for many years and had been very successful.</p> <p>19.2 Agenda items:<br/>Adoption of Financial Regulations.</p>  | Agenda               |          |             |             |  |       |                 |         |               |     |    |        |  |
| 20.                  | <p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</b></p> <p>20.1 The date of the next Meeting will be on <b>Monday 20 January 2014 at 7.45</b></p> <p>20.2 There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.25p.m.</p>  |                      |          |             |             |  |       |                 |         |               |     |    |        |  |

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