

**Minutes of the 936th Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council
Held in the Village Hall on 15 December 2014**

PRESENT:	Councillors: Mr John Padfield (chairman), Mrs J Davies (Vice-Chair), Mr A Norris, Mr D Stock, Mr E Hall, Mr Jeremy Padfield, Mrs H Murtagh, Mrs C Bushill.		
IN ATTENDANCE:	Mr Graham Downes, PCSO, Clerk.		
	PUBLIC FORUM: Nothing to report	ACTION	
1.	APOLOGIES: Mr I Jackson, Mr M Daniels, Dist Cllr Rachel Carter.		
2.	MINUTES: The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 November 2014 was approved by all to be a true record and duly signed.		
3.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST: There were none.		
4.	CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS:		Clerk
4.1	Cllr Hall introduced Graham Downes, who lives in the village and had previously been on a Parish Council dealing with Planning matters. Cllr Hall proposed that Graham be co-opted onto Stratton Parish Council, Cllr Davies seconded this proposal and all Councillors present agreed.		
4.2	The Chairman welcomed Graham onto the Parish Council and the Clerk would bring the necessary forms, for signing, to the next Meeting.		
5.	MATTERS ARISING:		
	5.1 The Clerk reported on the following action taken since the last meeting:		
	Action Points	Action by Date	Name(s)
1.	Adopt Financial Regulations and place on Web-site – when completed.	pending	Cllr Daniels
2.	Dog Fouling Signs Clerk established No Dog Fouling signs can be obtained from MDC FreeOfCharge when dog bin positioned Notify MDC Also when positioned let MDC know to empty Downside had been consulted about the position of the dog fouling bin – and it was confirmed with Dist Cllr Carter that it was to be on the wall 10 yards from the pinch-point in Green Lane. <i>This has now been fixed. The Clerk to inform MDC.</i>	Inform MDC	Clerk
3.	The purchase of petrol can & gloves for use with strimmer.	pending	Cllr Daniels
4.	Letter sent to Downside regarding the collapsed fence onto the pavement at the North end of the village. Downside will look at. Cllr Jackson will forward photo of damage to Bursar. Downside's response that this would be looked at by the end of the Year was deemed unacceptable by Councillors. It was thought that this was a Health & Safety issue and should be made safe immediately, until a full repair could be made. Cllr Jackson would report the PC's views to Downside. <i>Letter to be sent to state above views of PC</i>	asap	Clerk
5.	A small sub-committee, to decide on which quote to take-up if/when the grant from the war memorial Trust was successful, would consist of the Chairman and Cllrs Hall, Jackson, Norris. <i>The grant application accepted. 2nd phase application forms to complete by Trust's decision meeting held 28 Feb 2015. Sub-committee to meet and forward claim.</i>	Site Meeting Jan 2015	Chair Cllrs Hall, Jackson Norris

6.	Suggestion for Memorial for Richard Jones to be placed on the next Agenda. To be further discussed at next Meeting. It was thought that this should not be maintenance of the Village Hall. The Chairman had discussed this further with the family and its suggestion was for a Clock for the Hall. The present Clock was donated by the WI a long time ago and could be re-positioned in the Kitchen. This was thought a good idea by all Councillors present – to be followed up at the next Meeting.	pending	Agenda
7.	Telephone Box was in need of painting and window repair – thought that these might be a job for the Lengthsman?	pending	L/man Jeremy
8.	The PCSO to also forward a Police Report to the Clerk	Nothing received	PCSO
9.	To establish the cost of training in the use of weed-kill and Certificate from Norton-Radstock College. Jeremy had contacted College, but to date had heard nothing back.	pending	Jeremy Padfield
10.	Area around the memorial in need of tidying ie trees and bushes cut-back. Placed on L/man list of jobs	pending	L/Man Jeremy P
11.	Pavement at Bainsbury View needs brambles etc cut-back Placed on L/man List of jobs.	pending	L/man Jeremy P
12.	Well-Being Grant Forms to be completed and forwarded. (Request funding for Cycle Lane or Pedestrian footpath from end village to White Post. Cllr Hall reported that it was probably not reasonable due to costs and would also need the County Councillors backing for any chance of success. More of a long term project with facts & figures collected.	Deferred	Cllr Hall
13.	Mole Hills were still abundant in the Community Gardens – Jeremy to seek further advice on this problem.	pending	Cllr Jeremy Padfield
14.	Pavement throughout the village in need of a sweep - to be placed on the L/man List	completed	SCC
15.	Playground Inspection Report to be forwarded to Marie Taylor and Cllr Jeremy Padfield .	Received 15/12/14 Completed	Clerk
16.	Contact Dave Grabham to arrange a site meeting with the Chairman to decide the position of Sid at the South end of the village.	Arranged January 2015	Chair
17.	Pot-hole at North end of village (Radstock) on LH side at the 30mph sign. Notify h/ways. Ref:286422	Notified Ref	Clerk
18.	Tyres dumped in lay-by at North end of Village. Report to H/Ways.	Notified Ref	Clerk
6.	<p>COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:</p> <p>Strategic Planning and Commissioning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued flood scheme construction at Beer Wall, opening on 19th December 2014 and Muchelney, opening February 2015. Continued business case preparation for Taunton Rail Station Improvement & Huntworth junction improvement. <p>Highway Maintenance and Rights of Way</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 2000 LED light units have now been installed in various locations in Somerset. Mercury lamp replacement scheme is now under way which will see an extra 600 LED lanterns in Somerset, which combined will give approximate £35k energy savings. Invest to save investment still ongoing, will result in more energy savings. Winter salt collection day at the Area Highways Offices on 22 November saw around 40% of Parishes take up our offer of 10 x free grit bags. <p>Transport Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small Schemes: 123 schemes are now finalised (either completed or removed) from the overall two year programme, with a further 20 currently in construction / pending a start. 33 schemes from the 2012/13 programme are complete, 7 are in the construction phase. 68 schemes from the earlier 2011/12 programme are complete 		

with 2 in construction / pending a start. Of the new schemes requests, 29 are still in the feasibility stage, 50 are either in the design stage awaiting design commissioning, 2 schemes are complete with 3 at construction stage and 6 are either on hold or abandoned.

Transporting Somerset

- Annual voluntary driver drop-in sessions in Wells and Taunton the 10 & 11 Nov. Road Safety Team also attended to give a presentation to our volunteers on driving safely. The number of weekly driver available days has fallen from 698 driving days available per week in January 2013, to 592 as of October 2014. The impact of reduced volunteer driver availability, has an impact on our cost efficiencies as we then have to look at facilitating transport via our taxi contractors. The number of volunteer drivers has reduced for a number of reasons; there were issues last year with HMRC that had to be addressed and due to this, changes in reimbursement were introduced which meant that volunteer drivers were responsible for notifying HMRC of any mileage they may have completed over 10,000 miles during a financial year. Volunteer drivers became nervous of the situation and some of them left, some reduced their availability also loss due to ill health/health issues of loved ones, two have passed away.

Leisure

- Mendip District Council confirmed the Preferred Bidder for their leisure portfolio on Monday 24th November, as Fusion. SCC will be supporting Frome Community College in discussions with the Prefer to negotiate a new Dual-Use Agreement at Frome Leisure Centre, securing the College's future access to affordable curriculum PE facilities.

Heritage

- The trust successful vested at the start of November. Outstanding issues with the complex legal agreements which underpin the financing of major improvements to the Rural Life Museum are nearly completed and the first part of the Vidior funding will be drawn down imminently.

Libraries

- The consultation on the libraries MTFP options commenced at the start of November and nearly 1500 responses were received in the first two weeks, with a positive response (so far) on all proposals. Many complements have also been received on the proposals process e-questionnaire, with FOSL recommending that the rest of SCC should learn from the approach we have taken to consultation. A number of drop-in events have been run and, whilst attendance has not been as high as expected, these have been valuable in reassuring key members of the local community. Much on-going work continues to ensure that potential proposals around the Taunton County Forum and other potential community hubs are progressed in a robust fashion which aligns with the strategic approach being taken on libraries and which effectively manages the risks and potential reputational impacts of such changes. Discussions have been held with Devon to understand more about their trust proposals, and it is clear that DCC are at an early stage. We will maintain a watching brief.

Registration Services

- Registration Services has had an extremely busy month implementing new arrangements for the conversion of existing civil partnerships to marriages (which take effect from 10th December), as well as progressing key projects in the transformation programme (finalising arrangements for the relocation of the Shepton Office and the new Mendip Ceremony Room.

	<p>Hinkley Deal – Infrastructure funding. DfT provided funding to be used for the following four schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £295,000 for a cycle route linking Bridgwater to Hinkley Point. • £150,000 for a scheme linking Taunton’s new inner distributor road to the rail station. • £800,000 for rail station improvements in Bridgwater, with the emphasis on linking trains with local bus services. • £1,600,000 for roads maintenance along the C182 to allow the existing road to be put in good order in advance of the commencement of works at Hinkley Point C. <p>Recycle More Trials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trials in several areas of Taunton Deane are going well so far, with significant uplift in food waste and recycle in some of the rounds, and few issues or complaints around the changes in collection frequency. • The addition of new materials (plastic pots, tubs and trays, cartons, small electrical equipment and batteries) into the trial areas only, has been very popular. The trials will continue up to this side of Christmas. • At an informal non-decision making workshop on 30th October SWB members felt on this basis it might be helpful to plan some further trials in the summer of next year, but the nature and location of these will not be considered until after the current trials are fully evaluated. <p>I hope to come along to as many Parish Council meetings as I can in the New Year and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.</p>	
7.	<p>DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT: No Report received.</p>	
8.	<p>POLICE MATTERS:</p> <p>8.1 PCSO Housley was in attendance and reported that everything in the village seemed to be quiet at the moment. There had been just one incident of a vehicle broken into at the pub car-park on 15.11.14.</p> <p>8.2 Cllr Stock asked if the Community Gardens might be placed on the police patrol of the village, as youths had been seen hanging around in the evenings.</p> <p>8.3 It was confirmed that the Police Report would continue to be sent to the Clerk.</p>	<p>PCSO</p> <p>PCSO</p>
9.	<p>PLANNING MATTERS:</p> <p>9.1 <u>Applications:</u> There were none.</p> <p>9.2 <u>Permission granted by MDC:</u> Ref:2014/2106/TPO South Street,SOF Tree works-Crown lift & thin tree to eastern side adjacent to & overhanging Fosse House Nursing Home.</p>	
10.	<p>FINANCIAL MATTERS:</p> <p>10.1 The Clerk’s Salary for the period October-December 2014 amounting to £699.90 was agreed to be paid by all Councillors present. Cheque No.001012</p> <p>10.2 The Invoice from Pi (Playground Inspections) amounting to £72 was agreed to be paid by all Councillors present. Cheque No.001014</p> <p>10.3 An Invoice from D Barron for the removal of a Wasp Nest in the Community Gardens amounting to £40 was agreed by all present to be paid. Cheque No.001013</p> <p>10.4 The Chairman collected voluntary contributions for the RBL Wreath laid in November.</p> <p>10.5 The Bank Statements were reconciled and signed.</p>	

<p>11. PRECEPT:</p>	<p>11.1 The Clerk distributed Budget details (present expenditure and expected expenditure) and, along with Bank reserves, Councillors discussed these in detail.</p> <p>11.2 The Parish Council reserves at the end of Year End 2015 Financial Year would be approximately £ 12,874 It was decided that the cost of improvement to the War Memorial would be met out of the Parish Council Bank reserves. As would the Memorial for Richard Jones.</p> <p>11.3 Therefore it was unanimously decided, by all Councillors, that the Precept should be kept at £8,500 the same amount as this year and the Clerk would forward the Parish Council's decision to Mendip District Council.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>12. WAR MEMORIAL:</p>	<p>12.1 The Chairman reported that the meeting held by himself and Councillors Hall, Jackson and Norris had been held, but a site meeting would also be held early in the New Year to establish exactly what was needed to fully improve the appearance of the War Memorial.</p> <p>12.2 Cllr Hall suggested that Contractors should be asked to quote against the List on the War Memorial Trust's Form, thus ensuring all quotes were compatible.</p> <p>12.3 The 2nd stage of the Grant process needed to be returned to the Trust by 28 February 2015.</p> <p>12.4 The Chairman read out Cllr Jackson's email regarding Downside's knowledge of the War Memorial. The Bursar's Office confirmed that it does not hold any records relating to it. Therefore Simon Johnson of the Monastery Library has been asked to dig through indexes to ascertain whether anything is held by the Monastic Community. In particular any old photographs or any documents relating to the building of the memorial or vesting maintenance in the Parish Council.</p>	<p>Chair Cllr Norris Hall Jackson</p> <p>Cllr Jackson</p>
<p>13. COMMUNITY GARDENS:</p>	<p>13.1 Cllr Stock gave the Clerk the monthly Report of the Community Gardens play park. Everything was okay with nothing to report; other than litter and mole hills.</p> <p>13.2 The mole hills were also still abundant and Cllr Jeremy Padfield would seek further advice on this problem.</p> <p>13.3 The Clerk had received the Playground Inspection Report this afternoon, after chasing. Apparently, the Report was held up due to a missing photograph which was taken late in the day and was too dark to print. The inspector had not been in the area until December to re-take the photograph, thus it had just been received.</p> <p>13.4 The Clerk gave a printed copy of the Report to Cllr Jeremy Padfield.</p> <p>13.5 The Clerk confirmed, with Councillors present, that the Parish Council would engage Pi (Playground Inspections) to perform the Annual Inspection of the Community Gardens for the next Year - at a slightly increased price of £75.</p> <p>13.6 The Annual Inspection would now take place in the month of December.</p>	<p>Cllr Jeremy Padfield</p> <p>Clerk</p>

<p>14. STREET CLEANING/LENGTHSMAN SCHEME:</p> <p>14.1 The Lengthsman would present the jobs completed at the next Meeting. This was expected to be £150 approximately.</p> <p>14.2 Items to be added to the Lengthsman jobs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tidy hedge at Village Hall car-park. • Repair broken glass in Kiosk. • Prune greenery around War Memorial. • The brambles at Bainsbury View – Cllr Jeremy Padfield thought had already been done. <p>14.3 The Chairman reported that the Village had received a pavement sweep and that the contractors had done a very good job. The Clerk was to report this back to Highways.</p> <p>14.4 Cllr Jeremy Padfield stated that Radstock College had not yet returned his enquiring about the weed spraying course.</p>		<p>Cllr Jeremy Padfield</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>15. HIGHWAYS:</p>	<p>The Chairman stated that after the serious accident outside of the Village Hall 2-3 weeks ago, the damaged lights and signs on the traffic calming system had been reported to both Charlie Higgins at Highways and CC Harvey Siggs by Cllr Daniels, the Clerk, Dist Councillor Carter and himself. The damage had been repaired and the Chairman thanked Cllr Daniels for his part in the process.</p> <p>A site meeting will take place with the Chairman and Dave Grabham with a view to positioning the Sid at the Shepton Mallet end of the village. This will take place in the New Year.</p> <p>Lights out in the Village had been reported on 15 December 2014.</p>	<p>Chair</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>16. FOOTPATH:</p>	<p>16.1 The Chairman read out a letter to inform the Parish Council about consultation on the draft second Rights of Way Improvement Plan, which will take place between 10 December 2014 and 10 March 2015.</p> <p>16.2 The Clerk to forward to Trevor Letcher, the Footpath Officer.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>17. PARISH FORUM REPORT:</p>	<p>There was nothing to report.</p>	
<p>18. WEB-SITE:</p>	<p>18.1 Cllr Daniels had added various events to the site. Also the daily weather forecast for five days to the front page. Photographs contributed by Dale James and Helen Murtagh have been added, but Cllr Daniels is still appealing for more. A piece on Police Neighbourhood Watch alerts have been included.</p> <p>18.2 Cllr Bushill reported that St Vigors School now had a new Web-site stvigorandstjohnschool.co.uk</p> <p>18.3 The Clerk to relay this information to Cllr Daniels, in order to up-date the Parish Council Web-site.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

19. CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1 MDC Charlie Higgins MDC Charlie Email re Pothole north end of village by 30mph sign. Will arrange for necessary remedial works to be carried out. **Ref 286422**
Reported dumped tyres to MDC street cleaning dept.
- 2 MDC FAO Chantelle Mitchell Precept notification date of 15 January 2014 Plus Form
Clerk to forward PC's decision to MDC
- 3 MDC Highways Response to email re damaged signs & lights at Chicane outside Village Hall - After accident 20/11/14
Could not see any damage on going through - will inspect
Ref28638 Clerk notified Charlie that this had been sorted
- 4 Pi(playground inspections) Invoice £71.94 & Report received late this afternoon after chasing. Held up as a photo was no good – too dark – so took again when in area in December.
Form to engage again next Year. Next Year will be due in December. Slight increase eg £75
- 5 Harvey Siggs Report .
- 6 SCC Dave Grabham Emailed to confirm will set up Site Meeting with Chairman to organize siting of Sid's in New Year.
- 7 MDC Parish Info Bulletin Issue 139 May want to advertise in Parish Mag – **Clerk to supply details.**
- 8 SCC Somerset Access Forum Recruitment of New Members. Closing date 27 Feb 2015
Provides local, regional & national organizations such as SCC, Natural England, DEFRA with advice on improving outdoor access to green space for walkers, horse riders, cyclists & drivers.
- 9 MDC Leisure Facilities Investment. To grant long term leases for its leisure facilities to a not-for-profit organization.
- 10 SCC Rights of Way Improvement Plan consultation between 10Dec-10March2015 View plan & questionnaire on internet
www.somerset.gov.uk/rightsofway **F/ward Trevor Letcher**
- 11 Somerset Waste Partnership Trial across Somerset to separate & recycle the trigger tops & flip caps from plastic bottles at large Tesco stores & Recycling Centres. Tesco stores participating:
Ilminster, Langport, Minehead, Wells, Yeovil.
Also groups can sign up at www.terracycle.co.uk/triggertops
- 12 Ian Jackson Points for Meeting: Downside re War Memorial & Thanks for info on travellers/homeless on Downside ground.
Min No 20.1
- 13 M Daniels Email – points for Meeting. Website & Neighbourhood watch. Minute No.20.2
- 14 M Daniels Issues with Lights 24,25,26,27 – **Clerk reported 15/12/14**
Issues with signs no's BD BE & AE – **Clerk phoned Lighting Dept but all personal out of office. Sent email.**

Clerk

Clerk

Trevor Letcher

	<p>Planning: Application: None Permission granted: None</p> <p>Bank Statements: Business Reserve A/C November 18,357.79 Current A/C 50.00</p> <p>Emails sent: Highways re Pot hole & Dumped tyres Cllr Eliot re War Memorial Forms Charlie Higgins,Dist.Cllr Rachel Carter,CC Harvey Siggs - re damaged signs outside Village Hall.</p> <p>Cheques: Valerie Attwood £699.90 Wayne Palmer – deferred until January Malcolm Daniels – deferred until January</p>	
<p>20.</p>	<p>MATTERS OF REPORTS & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>20.1 Cllr Jackson reported by email that the Bursar’s Office wished to express its gratitude to the Parish Council for alerting it to the possibility that travellers or homeless people occasionally occupy land at the southern end of the village that may belong to Downside. The Bursar’s secretary Helena Graham has asked that she be informed whenever this recurs; she agrees that there may be a child-safeguarding issue for the school.</p> <p>20.2 Cllr Daniels reported by email that he had received a concern about a residential caravan in a garden in South Street. The concern being whether this needs and has planning permission and is particularly worried about extra vehicles parked in the road. Also whether effluent from the caravan was being dealt with in an effective manner and in accordance with regulations.</p>	
<p>21.</p>	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>21.1 The date of the next Meeting will be on Monday 19 January 2015 at 7.45 pm</p> <p>21.2 The Chairman wished everyone a Happy Christmas and invited everyone to stay for wine and mince pies.</p> <p>21.3 There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.</p> <p>CHAIRMAN _____ DATE _____</p>	