

Minutes of the 956th Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council Held in the Village Hall on 17 October 2016

Present were: Councillors: Mrs J Davies(Vice-Chair), Mr D Stock, Mr K Fosdyke, Mrs S Crawshaw, Mr M Daniels, Mrs H Murtagh, Mrs C Downes, Mr Jeremy Padfield

In Attendance: District Councillors J Carter and Mrs R Carter

Public Forum: No members of the public were present

1. Apologies: Mr A Norris, Mr John Padfield, Mr K Fosdyke, The Clerk Mrs V Attwood, County Councillor H Siggs, PCSO Housley

In the absence of Mr John Padfield, the Vice-Chair, Mrs J Davies took the chair. In the absence of the Clerk, Mrs V Attwood, Cllr M Daniels was asked to take the minutes.

2. Minutes: The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th September 2016 were read. It was pointed out that the heading read 954th meeting and should have read 955th meeting. Cllr Crawshaw also pointed out that she did not make a complaint regarding the planning 2016/2194/VRC and that her comments were purely an observation. With these alterations / addition the minutes were proposed by Cllr Stock and seconded by Cllr Crawshaw and agreed by all.

3. Declaration of New Interests - There were none.

Cllr Jeremy Padfield arrived at 7.55pm.

4. Co-option of New Councillors - there was none

5. Matters Arising:

Action Points from the Meeting of 19th September 2016.

1	Adopt Financial Regulations and place on Web-site – when completed.	Pending	Cllr Daniels
2	BHF (PADS) Make further enquiries as to what training given and how much time this involved. Funding run out – new scheme to run in March. Clerk to check funding available or other avenues.	Pending	Clerk
3	Send letter from PC to resident re hedge cutting spilling onto the pavement; ongoing problem in the last few years. Letter to be sent to Residents at numbers 12 & 14 Middlemead stating if help needed to get in touch with PC	asap	Clerk
4	Cllr Jeremy Padfield to engage a person to weed spay around the village. Downside unable to help.	see minute 13.1 below	Clerk Cllr Padfield
5	Somerset CC Highways Jobs: 294729 Sunken Inspection Cover opposite 9 Middlemead Road Label U2741/10 294730 Water Valve sunk southside of junction to Middlemead Road Label A367/6	Pending	Somerset Highways
6a	On the B3355 on the bend at the Rugby Club trees in need of cutting back. Report to highways. Acknowledged Ref No.19.7	Trees Cut	
6b	Drains blocked throughout village. Lengthsman asked to be asked to clear grids	Asap	Cllr Padfield

7	After the site Meeting held with Charlie Higgins of Highways, re issues with A367, it was noted that the issue of lorries through the village had not been addressed in the follow up correspondence. Cllr Fosdyke stated that he would follow this up.	Nov Meeting	Cllr Fosdyke
8	Enquire if the Community Gardens was eligible for the Centenary Fields Programme as it is leased from Downside. Discovered that the lease is not long enough	Complete	
9	Certificate of Insurance to be placed on Web-site	Pending	Clerk Cllr Daniels
10	Audit Return to be placed on Web-site when received back from Auditor	Done	Cllr Daniels
11	A meeting of the Finance Committee to discuss the Budget to be arranged.	To be arranged	Clerk Cllrs. Daniels Fosdyke Murtagh
12	The gap in administration, with the police not being aware of accidents as they were seemingly not reported, would be taken up by Cllr Daniels with the Police Commissioner and Highways Supervisor. Thought letter should come from Parish Council	Nov Meeting	Clerk Cllr Daniels
13	Purchase Plaque for Bench		Cllr Stock

6. County Councillor's Report

There was none.

7. District Councillor's Report

District Cllr John Carter reported that there had been a lot of debate at District Council about Planning Enforcement Policy. Many feel that it needs to be tightened.

8. To receive Community Police Report

The following had been received from PCSO Nichola Housley:

05/10 a minor road traffic collision in the vicinity of the white post roundabout

07/10 A road traffic collision involving a parked vehicle near the Kings Arms

10/10 An attempt break to a storage building at Downside Abbey

(It was noted that there were two items on the Agenda numbered 8. The second therefore was taken as Item 8a.)

8a.To discuss Planning Matters:

Applications: None. Noted

Road Closure: Benter Cross to Upper Benter, Ashwick and Stratton-on-the-Fosse

From 01 November 2016 for 2 days for trees to be trimmed. Noted

9. Financial Matters

1. Invoice for duplicate keys for Notice Board £15.75 Prop. Cllr Jeremy Padfield Sec. Cllr Stock

2. Lengthsman Duties - deferred as invoice not received.

3. Cam Valley Wildlife Group Annual Subscription Prop. Cllr Crawshaw Sec. Cllr Downes

Cllr H Murtagh arrived at 8.25pm.

4. Audit Return received from External Auditor - Councillor Daniels reported that a copy had been put on the Stratton Website.

5. There were no Bank Statements presented.

10. To discuss the Car Scheme - Update

Cllr Crawshaw said that organisation of the scheme was going well. She reported that she, with the considerable help of Cllr. Downes, had been working hard to get the system operational which it now was.

Car insurance for the scheme would be £8 per driver, but that for the first six months or so it would be paid for by the County. The Council would need to expect a charge in May 2017. Cllr Crawshaw said that she would be doing the first trip the day after the meeting. She also pointed out that at RUH, drivers need to be registered before obtaining free parking. Any person who wanted to volunteer as a driver should contact Mr Mellotte on the scheme's mobile no 07932 494780

11. To discuss the Burial Ground

There had been no meeting of the Burial Committee and as Cllr Padfield was absent, the matter was delayed until the next meeting.

12. To discuss the Community Garden

Cllr Stock reported that Mole Hills were increasing in number in the Gardens and that they were both unsightly and small children could damage limbs in the holes. Cllr Stock proposed and Cllr Padfield seconded that Cllr Padfield should contact Danny Baron to take care of the problem as he had done so in the past.

It was proposed by Cllr Padfield and seconded by Cllr Daniels, that the lengthsman's contract should be increased by 5 hours per month to take in the expanding amount of work that needed to be done. Cllr Daniels reminded the Council that up until 2013 we had both a lengthsman and a grass cutter at the same time costing much more than we had been spending in 2015/6. The proposals were agreed unanimously.

13. To Discuss Street Cleaning / Lengthsman Scheme.

It was noted that some of this had already been covered in Item 12.

1. Taking up the earlier point about weed killing and especially at the time of setting our budget, it was considered necessary to establish whether either Somerset CC or Mendip CC had weedkilling in Stratton programmed in their schemes and if so to what extent. Clearly there was little point in the Council paying for a job that was already programmed. The Clerk will be asked to contact both SCC and MDC to ask them.

2. The fine detail of the Lengthsman's contract would be considered at the next meeting

3. A discussion took place, led by Cllr. Downes. It was felt that people, particularly those living on the main road should be encouraged to put up Christmas Lights and parishioners in general to take part in Christmas Celebrations as Community Spirit could do with lifting. Ideas included having more events at the pub and the use of the Village's Facebook Page.

District Cllrs John and Rachel Carter left the meeting at 8.45pm.

13. To Discuss Highway Matters.

1. As Cllr Fosdyke was not able to be present, the matter of lorries through the village was postponed until the next meeting.
2. To discuss the interaction of Police and Highways with regard to accidents. - this had already been discussed under matters arising section 12.
3. To discuss the painting and repairing of Finger Post Signs
4. To discuss SID results. It was decided to include these in item 13.2 above for comment from the Police Commissionaire and Somerset County Council.

The Council had received an email from Pam and Jon Languid of Nettlebridge Hill about the danger of cars leaving the road just below the sharp bend and their failure to persuade Somerset Highways to provide a crash barrier at that point. Cllr Daniels said that he was surprised at the fact that no Chevrons had been included in the recent scheme on the hill. Several members agreed that a lot of accidents had happened on that bend with a number of vehicles leaving the road. Cllr Daniels agreed to have a meeting with the Langmaids and report back to the next meeting.

15. To discuss Footpaths - There was nothing to report.

16. To discuss the Parish Website

Cllr Daniels reported that he had make fairly large alterations to the website. When the new rules on transparency had been brought into being regarding the publishing of Audit returns in 2015, it was brought in very quickly by the government and so the audit returns had been added as a one-off. For the second and subsequent years this has had to be changed to make the system suitable for logging annual returns.

18. To receive Correspondence - Items received were:

1. Somerset Waste Partnership Newsletter for September 2016
2. Centenary Field in Trust: The Council informed that our Community Gardens could not be included due to the short length of the lease.
3. Somerset Commission for Justice Partnership - Appeal for donation and notice board leaflet.
4. Cam Valley Wildlife Group - reminder of membership renewal - see Item 9 financial matters
5. Somerset County Council - National Adoption Week October 17 - 23 2016
6. Mendip District Council October News Bulletin
7. SCC SIDs Report August / September 2016
8. PCSO Police Report
9. email from resident re Nettlebridge Safety Barrier - see item 13.

19. Items of report and Items for the next Meeting.

Report of meeting with the Langmaids regarding a Nettlebridge Hill safety barrier.
Lorries through the Village and damage to housing.
Length of Lease for the Community Gardens and playing field

20. Date of the next meeting: 21November 2016
The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

