

**Minutes of the 958th Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council
Held in the Village Hall on 19 December 2016**

PRESENT: Councillors: Mr John Padfield(Chairman), Mrs J Davies(Vice-Chair), Mr K Fosdike, Mr M Daniels, Mr D Stock, Mr Jeremy Padfield Mr A Norris, Mrs H Murtagh.

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Action

1. APOLOGIES: Mrs S Crawshaw, Mrs C Downes, Dist Cllr R Carter, Dist Cllr J Carter, CC Harvey Siggs, PCSO Housley.

2. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 21 November 2016 were approved and signed.

3. DECLARATION OF NEW INTERESTS:

There were none.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

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. <i>Clerk to invite Mr Clive Setter of Heartsafe to a Meeting.</i>	January Mtg	Clerk
3	Send letter from PC to resident re hedge cutting spilling onto the pavement; ongoing problem in the last few years. Letter sent to Residents at numbers 12 & 14 Middlemead stating if help needed to get in touch with PC <i>It was suggested that the l/man should be asked to do this – Chair would ask Wayne first.</i>	asap	Chairman
4	Cllr Jeremy Padfield to engage a person to weed spray around the village. Downside unable to help – SCC does not perform this task anymore.	pending	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	Ongoing	Somerset Highways
6	Drains blocked throughout village. Lengthsman asked to be asked to clear grids. Clerk to inform that this is urgent	Pending	Clerk
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 Fosdike stated that he had forwarded comments and awaiting reply. <i>Minuted at 16.8</i>	ongoing	SCC Highways
8	A meeting of the Finance Working Party to discuss the Budget to be arranged. Meeting held and Budget details forwarded to Councillors to be discussed at December Meeting. <i>Minuted at 11</i>	completed	

9	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. Minuted at 16.5		Cllr Daniels
10	Purchase Plaque for Bench. Measurements to be supplied.	Next Mtg	Cllr Stock
11	Bus Stop – vegetation to be removed by parishioners (Cllr Crawshaw offered to help). Then a request to the Bus Company to reinstate the bus to stop at this point. Parishioners to attend next Meeting.	Jan 17 Jan Mtg	Parishioners Cllr Crawshaw
12	Budget details distributed to Councillors to be studied before the next Meeting with a view to deciding the Precept.	completed	
13	Investigate other Broadband/Telephone packages to obtain a cheaper price.	Jan 17	Clerk
14	Deliver leaflet to every household in village to advertise car-scheme.	completed	Cllr Crawshaw
15	Churchyard rules to be approved by Parish Council. Minuted at 13.3 Cllr Jeremy Padfield arrived at this point 8.02	Jan Mtg	Chair
16	November's Monthly Playground report to be presented at next meeting.	completed	Cllr Stock
17	Contact Downside to increase lease of Community Gardens	Jan Mtg	Clerk
18	List of tasks performed by L/man in connection with the Invoice in November to be received. Minuted at 15	completed	L/Man
19	Report to Highways: Electric Post opposite Bainsbury View by the pinch point leaning dangerously. Contact Western Power The overgrown bank behind the post to be cut back. Damaged Chicane light/post on entering the village from Radstock.	Chase Reported	Clerk
20	The issue of the safety barrier request by resident at Nettlebridge turned down by SCC. To be investigated by Cllr Daniels. Clerk to forward to Cllr Daniels the past correspondence from SCC re suggestions from PC about gates/roundels which was turned down. Clerk to arrange a meeting with SCC and Councillors in regard to signs and Safety Barrier at Nettlebridge. Minuted at 16 1-4	Completed contacted	
21	To obtain 2 more quotes re painting finger-posts within the parish	pending	Cllr Jeremy Padfield
22	Rubbish left between Manor Farm and White Post after the Carnival Also Fly-tipping in Watery Lane – To notify MDC	completed	

5. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

None received

6. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

Dist Cllrs Rachel & John Carter emailed that they were sorry not to be able to attend the meeting. They stressed that they both like to attend when possible to have the opportunity to expand on what is going on at MDC, but more importantly be able to hear direct from the Parish Council of what is going on in the Stratton Parish.

7. POLICE REPORT:

None received.

8. PLANNING MATTERS:

Applications:

There were none.

Permission granted by MDC

Ref:2016/2456/APP The George at Nettlebridge, Bath Rd, Oakhill

Revocation and 40mph Speed Limit Order 2016

Cllr Jeremy Padfield brought to Councillor's attention the fact that the Planning Application for the housing at the site of the garage and old post office, having been turned down, was being put before the Planning Board on appeal. MDC was recommending refusal. It was decided that the Chair would enquire from Dist Cllr Carter as to when the Planning Board was to meet and the procedure to follow, as the Parish Council wished to object strongly to its refusal. Also to request that Cllr Daniels wished to be present at the Appeal to represent the Parish Council.

Cllr Jeremy Padfield left the Meeting at this point 8.25

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

The Clerk's salary, amounting to **£722.46** for the period **Oct-Dec 2016** was agreed by all Councillors to be paid. **Cheque no. 001101**

All Councillors present agreed to pay **W Palmer** for Lengthsman Duties amounting to **£250** **Cheque no.001100**

An Invoice from **The Play Inspection Company** for the Annual Inspection of the Playground amounting to **£75** was agreed to be paid by all Councillors present. **Cheque No. 001099**

Payment to **Brian Bailey** for the cutting of the Churchyard grass amounting to **£170** was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid **Cheque No. 001102**

Invoice for grass cutting (football field) from JD & JS Padfield will be dealt with at next Meeting.

The **Precept** request would be forwarded to MDC (**£10k**)
Bank Statements were reconciled and signed.

10. DEFIBRILLATOR:

10.1 It was noted by the Chairman that three other organizations wished to contribute to the purchase of a defibrillator for the village. (Namely St Benedicts, St Vigors and the Village Hall Trust.) Therefore the Parish Council would not need to find the full amount of £2,000.

10.2 It was decided that a defibrillator was needed in the village and to obtain further information on it best positioning etc the Clerk was to invite Mr Clive Setter from Heartsafe to the next Parish Council Meeting in January. The Chair would inform the other interested parties of the date when confirmed.

Cllr Jeremy Padfield arrived at this point 8.43

11. PRECEPT:

- 11.1 Budget requirements were again discussed – recognizing that the village finger posts were in need of attention (approximate cost £1k) – and the proposed purchase of a defibrillator. Also that other items such as grit bins, proposed car scheme, insurance, general increases in insurance and salaries, needed to be factored in.
- 11.2 Cllr Daniels proposed that £2k was available from Reserves, (towards fingerpost maintenance and defibrillator purchase), leaving £12,700 approximately in Reserves – all Councillors present agreed. Therefore Cllr Daniels proposed, seconded by Cllr Norris, that the Precept be set at £10,000 – all Councillors present agreed. The Clerk to notify Mendip District Council of the Precept requirement of Stratton.

12. CAR SCHEME:

Cllr Crawshaw, although not able to attend, had notified the Clerk that leaflets had now been distributed to the whole village. There would be an article about the scheme in the next Parish Newsletter. There had been 2 enquiries to date about the scheme.

13. BURIAL GROUND:

- 13.1 The Chairman stated that, after asking Chris North to verify that all was in order and correct, it had been decided to use Holcombe's very comprehensive Rules and Regulations as a template for Stratton's Cemetery.
- 13.2 After the Catholic Church has been given the opportunity to inspect and all necessary documentation is in place, several authorities needed to be informed and given the relevant information.
- 13.3 Adoption of the Rules and Regulations at January's Meeting.

14. COMMUNITY GARDENS:

- 14.1 The Clerk was given the Playground Inspection Report for the months of November and December which stated that all was in order.
- 14.2 The Clerk confirmed that the Annual Inspection had taken place and a Report had been circulated to Councillors. The Community Gardens Committee was already aware of several items flagged in the Report, ie bark needing to be replaced, which was already in the process of being addressed - most items listed were low risk. The need for the top gate at Middlemead to be padlocked was raised on the Report, but it was thought that this needed to be left accessible for pushchairs etc.

15. STREET CLEANING/LENGTHSMAN SCHEME:

- 15.1 The following list of tasks completed by the Lengthsman:
Cut grass 4 times - Strimmed park - Tidied village
= 15 hours = £250 Cheque 001093
Cleared leaves – Cut banks – cleaned chicanes – tidied VH car-park
= 15hours = £250 Cheque 001100
- 15.2 It was confirmed that the Lengthsman had been stood down until the Spring.

16. HIGHWAYS:

- 16.1 The Chairman read out the emails which the Clerk had forwarded to Highways regarding issues at Nettlebridge ie speed restriction, signs, erection of a safety barrier and requesting a site meeting to discuss the above issues.
- 16.2 A reply received from Andrew Tranter, Consultant Engineer, SCC stated that the speed reduction scheme was being progressed and it was envisaged that the signs would be in situ sometime in February.
- 16.3 Mr Chris Betty, Senior Traffic Engineer, SCC replied that no funds were available for a safety barrier that the Parish Council requested for the A367 at Nettlebridge.
- 16.4 He hoped that the introduction of the 40mph proposed speed limit and other associated warning signs in the area will address the injury accident record, but this stretch of road would continue to be monitored.
- 16.5 A Revocation and 40mph Speed Limit Order had been issued by SCC.
- 16.6 Cllr Daniels has written a report of the Parish Council's concerns over the lack of interaction of the Police and Highways in regard to accidents within the parish. Also the refusal to give any information to Councillors about accidents or report accidents to the Parish Council. This report will be sent to the Police Committee, SCC Board member of Highways and Stratton's MP.
- 16.7 The Sid (Speed Indicator Data) scheme was also a disappointment, as although data was collected regarding speeding through the village, nothing was seen to be done with it.
- 16.8 Cllr Fosdike's letter, regarding the condition of A367 through Stratton, had been acknowledged by Charlie Higgins at Highways. Points addressed were as follows:

Sinking trench at the entrance of Middlemead (within the Keep Clear Lettering).

At the time of our site meeting this was not recorded as an actionable defect. I will however ask our Area Superintendent to undertake a further inspection and arrange for any necessary remedial to be carried out in accordance with the Highway Inspection Manual.

I can confirm that the A367 is on the County Council's provisional programme for surface dressing in 2017/18, subject to confirmation of funding.

Dangerous Inspection Chamber. A367 North of the Village. 100 metres past the last Traffic Calming Island.

An inspection of this site has been arranged Our Ref: 297234

Drain Cleansing.

We provide a drain cleaning service which includes road drains on all highways maintained by SCC throughout Somerset. As the Highway Authority we operate a planned maintenance programme for cleaning highway surface water drains.

The gully emptying cycle is carried out on a risked-based approach, whereby gullies are emptied more frequently in areas where there is a risk of flooding; this is designed to allow flexibility to respond to need. The planned maintenance programme will be as follows:-

Flood Susceptible Areas – Once a Year.

Non - Flood Susceptible, Rural Areas – Once Every 2 Years.

Non-Flood Susceptible, Urban Areas – Once Every 4 Years.

I can confirm that all gullies throughout Stratton on Fosse were cleared in April this year. It was noted that additional jetting works were required between Green Lane and Watery Lane, for this reason this site has been added to the current works programme.

Contact Details

Somerset County Council. 0300 123 2224

Mendip District Council. 0300 303 8588

Utility Companies

Wessex Water. 08435040264

Gas Board. 08000480202

BT. 0800800150

Western Power. 08000963080

Any concerns relating to environmental issues should be forwarded to Mendip District Councils Environmental Enforcement Team; you can e-mail them on env-health@mendip.gov.uk, or telephone. 0300 303 8588

- 16.9 Cllr Fosdike would contact the relevant Utilities about any issues outstanding.
- 16.10 It was stated that the concrete slabs connected to the new drainage system on the A367 at Nettlebridge were damaged. The Clerk to report to Highways.
- 16.11 The light in Middlemead was out – this to be reported by the Clerk.

17. FOOTPATH:

Nothing to report.

18. WEB-SITE:

Nothing to report.

19. CORRESPONDENCE:

1	SCC Andrew Tranter	Reply to email sent Charlie- Signs envisaged to be installed sometime in February plus new traffic regulation order.
2	SCC Chris Betty	Reply to email sent Andrew Tranter(cc Chris Betty) Introduction of 40mph speed limit & other associated warning signs in the area is hoped to address the accident record. Will continue to monitor.
3	SCC Karen Tunnock	Notice of Revocation and 40mph Speed Limit Order.
4	SCC Highways	Charlie Higgins reply to Cllr Fosdike's letter to Highways re condition of A367 through Stratton. Also contact details given of Councils and Utility Companies.
5	MDC	Parish Info Bulletin
6	Somerset waste Partnership	Newsletter November 2016
7	Mendip Community Transport	Request for Donation
8	SCC Public Health Communications Officer	Information on how to stay well this Christmas Leaflet for Notice Board
9	SCC Highways	Public can now report to SCC potholes etc on www.travelsomerset.co.uk Notice for N/Bard.
10	SCC	School Admissions Arrangements 2018/19 consultation 6 weeks ending 31 January 2017 Newsletter/Web/Notice Board.
11	James Heapey MP	Newsletter from MP for last month. Forwarded to Councillors.
12	Avon & Somerset Police	Policy Plan Book

Planning Application: None

Bank Statements: Business Reserve A/C Nov £21,779.22
50.00

Letters/Emails sent: Letter SCC Highways re condition of A367 through SOF
Emails re site meeting & request for signs/barriers at Nettlebridge.

Cheques:

W Palmer	£250.00
V Attwood	£720.45
Comm Gardens	91.90
Brian Bailey (grass cut C/yard)	£170.00
J D & JS Padfield(grass cut f/ball field)	
Playground Inspection	£ 75.00

Precept Request by 26 January 2017

20 MATTERS OF REPORTS & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- Agenda items for the next Meeting:
- Defibrillator
- Bench dimensions
- Police Report

21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

- 21.1 The date of the next Meeting will be on **Monday 16 January 2017**
- 21.2 There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.25 pm

CHAIRMAN _____ **DATE** _____