

**Minutes of the 960th Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council
Held in the Village Hall on 20 February 2017**

PRESENT: Councillors: Mr John Padfield(Chairman), Mrs J Davies(Vice-Chair),
Mr M Daniels, Mr D Stock, K Fosdike, Mr A Norris, Mrs H Murtagh,
IN ATTENDANCE: Member of the public, Clerk.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Action

1. APOLOGIES: Cllrs Mr Jeremy Padfield, Mrs C Downes, Dist Cllr R Carter,
Dist Cllr R Carter, CC Harvey Siggs.

2. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 16 January 2017 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. <i>Distributed to Cllrs to be discussed at March Meeting.</i> | Next Mtg | Cllr Daniels |
| 2 | BHF(Pads)Heartsafe: Confirmed that the SOF PC would purchase a defibrillator when sponsorships have been firmed and site decided. Made further enquiries as to Mr Clive Setter attending APM to give training demo. <i>Minuted at 11</i> | pending | |
| 3 | Send letter from PC to residents (12 & 14 Middlemead)re hedge cutting spilling onto the pavement; ongoing problem past few years. | completed | |
| 4 | Cllr Jeremy Padfield to engage a person to weed spay around the village. SCC does not perform this task anymore. | pending | Cllr JP |
| 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. Clerk to request SCC to clear pavement first and then drains, which are completely blocked. | completed | |
| 7 | 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, James Heapy MP, David Fothergill-Cab Minister for H/Ways & Transport, Alan Jones-GIS Mapping. Letters sent. <i>Minuted at 16.2</i> | | Cllr Daniels |
| 8 | Chair contacted Charltons and will pick up the bench in the week. Cheque will need to be re-issued as original is now out of date. | completed | |
| 9 | A request to the Bus Company to reinstate the bus to stop opposite Bath View at south end village (SM) Clerk contacted bus company – bus stop always there & now cleared – elderly have to walk to the middle of village – will contact within 14 days with decision after inspection. <i>Clerk to register Councillors’ disgust and report behaviour of a particular bus driver who will not stop, whilst giving rude gestures to elderly parishioners. Clerk to seek from Bus Company confirmation that ALL drivers will stop. Also for the bus stop on the opposite side of the road to be reinstated to pick-up and drop-off.</i> | Chase March Mtg | Clerk |

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|----|--|--------------------|------------------|
| | Member of public left the Meeting at this point. | | |
| 10 | Investigate other Broadband/Telephone packages to obtain a cheaper price. Minuted at 9.2 | pending | Clerk |
| 11 | Contact Downside to increase lease of Community Gardens. Decided on 25 year lease request. Clerk & Chair to liaise with letter. | March Mtg | Clerk/Chair |
| 12 | Electric Post opposite Bainsbury View by the pinch point leaning dangerously. The overgrown bank behind the post to be cut back. Contacted Western Power would inspect and would contact BT if their responsibility. BT had attended the site and established that it was Western Power's responsibility, and was not a danger. Western Power stated that this pole was on a programme to be replaced within a 2 month time-scale. | | |
| 13 | Damaged Chicane light/post on entering the village from Radstock. Footpath in need of attention between Whitepost & Norton Down | Chase Completed | Clerk |
| 14 | To obtain 2 more quotes re painting finger-posts within the parish Clerk had received information/guidance regarding finger-posts from SCC (as per Correspondence) which was distributed to Councillors. Councillors were of the opinion to just go ahead. To be deferred until March Meeting. | March Mtg | Cllr JP Cllrs |
| 15 | Adopt Rules and Regulations for Church Burial Ground. | March Mtg | Cllrs |
| 16 | Light at Middlemead out Number 2 – Reported. Still not working. | Chase | Clerk |
| 17 | Contact PCSO Housley re van parked outside The Rectory Church Lane Camper-van parked in the VH carpark | completed Chase | Clerk |
| 18 | Footpath located between Green Lane and A367 – landowner had not rolled the designated footpath after ploughing. Trevor Letcher (f/path warden) agreed to investigate. Minuted at 17 | Asap | T Letcher |
| 19 | BT Telephone box in need of repair: Glass replaced and painted | Asap | L/man |

5. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

None received.

6. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

None received.

7. POLICE REPORT:

7.1 No Report received.

7.2 In response to the letter that Cllr Daniels had forwarded to the various bodies, regarding the lack of communication when accidents happened, the police Commissioner had replied. Also the Chief Inspector had emailed requesting dates of the Parish Council meetings with a view to attending. The Clerk had forwarded the dates of the next two Meetings, but to date had not received a response.

7.3 Councillors were prompted to consider questions to raise when the Chief Inspector attended.

7.4 Cllr Daniels and Cllr Fosdike had been looking at the Mapping System, which would be helpful for identifying lamp post numbers amongst other uses. Mr Alan Jones from Get Mapping would be willing to meet to discuss issues.

8. PLANNING MATTERS:

Applications:

There were none.

Permission granted by MDC

2016/0917/CLE Lodges Green Lane

Change of use from 6 holiday les to 6 dwellings

Planning Board:

Former Stratton Motor Services, Fosse Way, SOF

The application was considered on 18 January 2017 at MDC, Shepton Mallet, to which Cllr Daniels attended and spoke on behalf of the Parish Council and Mr Appleyard.

One of the issues, according to MDC, was the problem of overlooking. The proposed planning only looked into the back garden of one property and new houses recently built overlooked other properties and had been passed - therefore this should not be a consideration for refusal.

After debate this planning was passed with a number of conditions – eg to take up petrol tanks and the possibility of dealing with bats and asbestos.

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

- 9.1 An Invoice for **BT/Broadband** amounting to **£146.23** was agreed to be paid by all Councillors present. **Cheque no.001106**
- 9.2 The Clerk stated that, after negotiation with BT, a reduction in the amount charged was agreed - £119.94 per quarter under a new contract. All Councillors present agreed to this; with the Clerk establishing a 1 year Contract.
- 9.3 Bank Statements were reconciled and signed.

10. GRIT BIN:

- 10.1 It was agreed that a new Grit Bin was needed to replace the one damaged. The Clerk to bring quotes to the next Meeting.
- 10.2 Cllr Norris was to investigate the Grit Bin that appeared to have been moved – to check if access was impaired.

11. DEFIBRILLATOR:

- 11.1 After several attempts to contact Mr Clive Setter the Clerk eventually spoke to him regarding the Council's intention to purchase a defibrillator from Heartsafe, after sponsorship had been confirmed and other sponsors investigated. Also if he could attend the APM for training purposes.
- 11.2 The training session, which is free-of-charge, is given after purchase and after 2-3 months of siting the defibrillator.
- 11.3 Mr Setter had informed the Clerk that he would email an Invoice and Request Form to be filled out by the Parish Council, but to date nothing has been received.

- 11.4 Regarding sponsorship, letters needed to be sent to St Benedicts, St Vigors and the Village Hall Trust – the Chairman and Clerk would liaise to compile. Letters to local companies, inviting sponsorship would be organized by Cllr Jeremy Padfield.
- 11.5 The siting was agreed by all Councillors present to be at the entrance to the Village Hall.

12. CAR SCHEME:

- 12.1 It was noted that Oakhill was not yet certain if it wants to join with Stratton in the Car-scheme.
- 12.2 The car-scheme was still be utilized in Stratton.

13. BURIAL GROUND:

- 13.1 The Chairman stated that nothing had been heard from St Benedicts, therefore he would contact Father Leo. The Chairman stated that the Chris North, the Vicar of St Vigors had looked through the Rules and Regulations and thought all was correct.

Cllr Stock left the Meeting at this point 8.44 pm

- 13.2 The Fees/Charges, updated January 2017 would be adopted along with Rules and Regulations at the next Meeting.
- 13.3 Copies of the above would be forwarded to the Methodist Church and the Undertakers when adopted.

14. COMMUNITY GARDENS:

- 14.1 The Monthly playground Report was received by the Clerk from Cllr Stock; with nothing to report.
- 14.2 Two boys from Downside had dug out raised borders to include in their Duke of Edinburgh's Award.
- 14.3 Cllr Daniels had fixed the gate, flagged up in the Annual Report. It was now closing and dimensions correct. The spring was shot in the small gate to the football field and a new spring was needed.
- 14.4 At the recent Community Garden Meeting, the Annual Inspection Report was considered. It was noted that bark needed to be raked over once per month and this was to be built into the Lengthsman duties.
- 14.5 More bark was needed, which the Clerk was instructed to order. This would come out of the £600 Community Gardens Grant already budgeted for – with £180 already spent.

15. STREET CLEANING/LENGTHSMAN SCHEME:

- 15.1 The Dog-fouling Bin had been damaged and had been reported to the Clerk by Downside and MDC. The Clerk had forwarded the information to Cllr Jeremy Padfield, who would organize the Lengthsman to remove and erect a new post.
- 15.2 The Clerk to inform Downside and MDC that this was being dealt with.

16. HIGHWAYS:

- 16.1 Although Highways had responded to the letter sent by Cllr Fosdike, not all things had be addressed. Cllr Fosdike would reply to MDC Highways.
- 16.2 To date the only response to Cllr Daniels letter regarding the lack of interaction of Police and Highways after an accident has been from the Police and Get-mapping.

17. FOOTPATH:

Regarding the footpath, mentioned at the last meeting, being ploughed over with no footpath made. An email from Mr Trevor Letcher (Footpath Warden) was read out to Councillors in which he reported that this was not a designated footpath. The only designated footpath was SM19/11 linking Green Lane and the A367, which is across a beautifully mown Downside field. Any other footpaths between Green Lane and the A367 are illegal paths and are not “rights of way” footpaths.

18. BROAD-BAND SPEED:

- 18.1 Cllr Daniels stated that BT has stated that the whole of Stratton is producing High Speed Broadband, but in his findings only half of the village is on high speed. The upgraded speed should be at least 8 m/bites but some residents speed only measures 0.3 m/bites.
- 18.2 It was agreed to write to BT to register the Parish Council’s displeasure at the poor Broadband speeds in the south of the village.
- 18.3 Cllr Daniels will send a link to everyone to test Broadband speed.

19. WEB-SITE:

There was nothing to report.

20. CORRESPONDENCE:

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| 1 | Surviving Winter Campaign | Update- attracted over £90,000 in donations and gift aid this year. |
| 2 | Bridgewater Library | Hosting “Out of the Mouth of the Paret” from 21 March-8 April FOC multi-media exhibition for adults & young people (age 8+) |
| 3 | Andrew Turner SCC | Historic fingerposts signs – Draft Guidance Notes. Maybe fund safety awareness training sessions. Permission needed from SCC No funding from SCC but the Heritage Lottery Fund has grant programme Sponsorship might be an option. List of suppliers and List of Costs of SCC doing work. |
| 4 | Charlie Higgins H/ways | Footway Obstruction Norton Down to White Posts Ref 298005 Damaged Slabs Nettlebridge – Inspection arranged Ref 297915 |
| 5 | MDC Julie Jackson | Core Services Contract – Monitoring Report fly tipping www.mendip.gov.uk/streetclean Email neighbourhoodservices@mendip.gov.uk Mud on road contact Somerset County Council at roadsandtransportSD@somerset.gov.uk |

- 6 MDC Parish Info Bulletin – February 2017
New text number to combat rural crime 81819
Benefit Claims – Home visits email stuart.turner@mendip.gov.uk or
0300 303 8588
- 7 SCC Drains – request has been registered and also roads to be swept.
- 8 MDC Re dog waste bin at Green Lane damaged.
(Julie Emailed Jeremy for L/man to deal with.
Jackson)
Downside
- 9 MDC FOC Neighbourhood Planning seminar at 16 March 2017 Walton
Sally Grubb Village hall 2.15 pm
- 10 Sue Letter in reply to PC letter re more engagement and partnership
Mountsevens working with the Police & SCC regarding Road traffic Collision (RTC)
Police reports and road safety.
- 11 Kevin Request to attend PC Meeting re above concerns. Clerk forwarded
Thatcher dates of Feb and March Meetings.
Chief
Inspector

Planning Application: None

Planning permission:2016/0917/CLE Lodges Green Lane

Bank Statements: January: Business Reserve A/C £ 20,182.07
Current A/C 50.00

Letters/Emails sent: Highways, Police Inspector, Police Commissioner,
MP,D Fothergill, A Jones

Cheques: V Attwood £146.23

20 MATTERS OF REPORTS & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- 20.1 Consideration needed to be given to who should be invited to speak – now that Mr Clive Setter, Heartsafe was not a contender. A suggestion given was for Mr Trevor Letcher, Footpath Warden – The Chairman would make enquiries. Chair
- 20.2 The Clerk suggested that, as the third Monday of April would be Easter, the APM should be moved to the fourth Monday of the month; all Councillors agreed to this. Therefore the APM would be on Monday 24 April 2017.
- 20.3 The bench purchased by the Parish Council has been collected and a plaque in memory of Mrs Joyce Stock will be fixed when a site for the new bench has been agreed. Agenda

21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

- 21.1 The date of the next Meeting will be on **Monday 20 March 2017**
- 21.2 There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.20 pm

CHAIRMAN _____ **DATE** _____