

**Minutes of the 963<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council  
Held in the Village Hall on 15 May 2017**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Mr John Padfield(Chairman), Mrs J Davies(Vice-Chair)  
Mr A Norris, Cllr Fosdike, K Fosdike, M Daniels, H Murtagh,  
Mrs S Crawshaw,

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Clerk.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Action

**1. TO ELECT A CHAIRPERSON:**

1.1 The Clerk asked for nominations for Chairperson. Cllr Norris nominated John Padfield and Cllr Davies seconded this proposal. The Clerk asked if there were any other proposals and, as there were none, asked for a vote by a show of hands for John Padfield to be Chairman. This was carried unanimously and John Padfield was asked to take the Chair, which he accepted.

1.2 It was noted that this was John's 44th year as Chairman having been 50 years a Parish Councillor.

**2. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE:**

The Chairman would sign the Declaration of Acceptance at the next meeting in June.

**3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR:**

Cllr Judy Davies was proposed for vice-Chair by Cllr Norris and seconded by Cllr Fosdike. This was carried unanimously and Cllr Davies duly accepted.

**4 TO APPOINT COUNCILLORS :**

Councilors to oversee various items were as follows:

Planning Working Party: Councillors Davies, Norris, and Daniels.

Burial ground Working Party: Councillors John Padfield, Stock, Fosdike.

Financial Working Party: Councillor Daniels, Fosdike, Murtagh.

Lengthsman: Councillor Jeremy Padfield.

Web-site: Councillor Daniels.

Footpaths: Mr Trevor Letcher.

Bank Signatories: John Padfield, Judy Davies, Valerie Attwood.

**5. APOLOGIES:** Jeremy Padfield, Dist Cllr John & Rachel Carter, PCSO Housley.

**6. MINUTES :**

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 24 April 2017 were approved and signed.

**7. DECLARATION OF NEW INTEREST :**

There were none.

8. **MATTERS ARISING:**

**Action Points from the meeting of 24 April 2017**

1	Adopt Financial Regulations and place on Web-site – when completed. <b>Finalised over the summer.</b>	Pending	Cllr Daniels
2	Cllr Jeremy Padfield to engage a person to weed spay around the village. Downside unable to help – SCC does not perform this task anymore. Jeremy Padfield had contacted a tree surgeon with a certificate for weed spraying and was in possession of a quote for £180 plus VAT (£216) for 3off spraying. It was proposed by Cllr Jeremy Padfield and seconded by Cllr Davies to engage the tree surgeon. <b>This was now in progress; 1 spray had been completed.</b>		Cllr Jeremy Padfield
3	Contact Downside to increase lease of Community Gardens. <i>Decided on 25 year lease request. Letter sent no response to date</i>		Clerk Chair
4	To obtain 2 more quotes re painting finger-posts within the parish The Clerk was asked to contact Chilcompton PC for info on its sign re-painting. <b>Details had been received, but the Clerk would wait for the survey of signs before requesting a quote.</b>	May Mtg Clerk	Clerk
5	Light at Middlemead out Number 2 – Reported. <b>Still not working.</b>	Chase	Clerk
6	BT Telephone box in need of repair: Glass replaced and painted <b>Cllr Norris suggested perplex.</b>	asap	l/man
7	Dog Foul Bin to be re-sited by L/Man - When received Purchased new bin (50 Retriever) from Glasdon. Downside has suggested entrance to footpath LH side Wall – Wayne to meet with Downside groundsman before installing.	Asap	L/man
8	Letter Downside - Request to contribute to bin cost. <b>Downside contributed £100</b>	complete	
9	Letters re sponsorship to be sent to: St Benedicts, St Vigors, VH Trust Letters to local companies, inviting sponsorship sent. <b>Awaiting response</b>	Asap Asap	Clerk Chair
10	Letter inviting sponsorship to Fosse House – <b>A “No” response.</b> <b>NFU – Consider in Nov/Dec contact again</b>	pending	Jeremy P
11	Place bench and attach bench Will position in main field (football field) near gate.	asap	l/man
12	Contact Highways re power pole moved nearer to road and therefore disturbed earth made road narrower.	Asap	Clerk
13	Ascertain whether a footpath sign should be in place at Green Lane at Downside? A Sign received from Clare Haskins (MDC footpath officer). As a footpath/bridal way, small gate needs to be looked at as not suitable for a horse to access.	asap	Jeremy Padfield
14	Send Invitations for APM to groups/organizations.	asap	Clerk

**9. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:**

9.1 Stratton now had a new County Councillor Mr Mike Pullin. The Clerk had contacted him to invite him to the APM Meeting, but to date had received no reply.

9.2 The Clerk had emailed the dates of the May and June meetings and advised that Stratton's Parish Council meetings were usually held on the third Monday of each month, (exception being August), subject to confirmation.

**10. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:**

Dist Cllrs Rachel and John Carter were not in attendance due to attending a full MDC Meeting. A Report had been received for the APM Meeting that follows this meeting.

**11. POLICE:**

PCSO Housley had sent a Report as follows:

- 10/02/17 Six crosses stolen from Norton Down Church.
- 13/03/17 Two youths trying to get into a disused building on Fosse Road.
- 04/03/17 Two stone crosses taken from Norton Down Church.
- 08/05/17 Minor road traffic collision on the Pitcot Lane crossroads.

**12. PLANNING MATTERS:**

Applications:

There were none.

Permission granted by MDC

Ref: 2017/0551/CLE Bainesbury House Certificate of Use Existing

Permission refused by MDC

None received.

Temporary Road Closure

None received

**13. INSURANCE RENEWAL:**

13.1 The Clerk was in receipt of Came & Company's renewal for the Parish Council's Insurance cover. The Annual Premium amounted to £612.71 This was in line with a 2% index linked increase and a 2.5% Government Tax increase – a 4.5% increase in total from last year.

13.2 This policy was with Hiscox insurers; within the 3 year contract that had been taken out last year. Therefore the price increase was not as great as it would have been, as Hiscox have not increased its prices.

13.3 The Chairman read out the policy schedule to Councillors to ascertain the Council had adequate insurance and that risks were covered such as indemnity and public liability. It was agreed by all Councillors present that these were covered within the policy.

13.4 The Clerk to forward payment to be received by the renewal date of 01 June 2017. Clerk

**14. FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

Invoice from **Came & Company** for Insurance policy renewal amounting to £618.21 was agreed by all present to be paid. **Cheque No.001118**

Invoice from **Wayne Palmer** for Lengthsman duties amounting to **£650** for two months duties was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. **Cheque No.001115**

Invoice for **Village Hall Hire for Yr End 2016** (11 months) amounting to £140.25 was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. **Cheque No.001117**

Invoice for **BT/Broadband** amounting to **£153.65** was agreed to be paid by all Councillors present. **Cheque No.001113**

An Invoice for printer ink amounting to **£47.38** was agreed by all Councillors to be paid to the Clerk. **Cheque No.001114**

An Invoice for the **Annual Public Liability Insurance** for the Car-scheme amounting to **£78** was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. **Cheque No.001116**

**Data Protection** Annual Subscription amounting to **£35** was paid by **Direct Debit**.

Zen Internet Domain Name Annual charge £11.99 and monthly charge £4.79 was paid by Direct Debit.

A contribution towards the purchase of the **Dog Fouling Bin**, amounting to **£100**, had been received from **Downside Abbey & School**.

A contribution towards the purchase of a **Defibrillator** amounting to **£300** was received from **St Benedicts Church**.

The Clerk stated that the Parish Council **Precept** amounting to **£10,000** had been received.

For Audit purposes the Notice of Inspection (of the Accounts) now had to include 10 days in July, therefore the inspection dates this year will be 03 July-11 August 2017 to be confirmed with the Chairman before placing the Notice on the Web-site.

Councillors were in receipt of the Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation for the Year End 2017 which would also be presented at the following APM. Parish Council Reserves were £16,068.17 and Community Garden ring-fenced monies £2,687.31 The clerk asked if there were any questions – there were none.

The Bank Statements were reconciled and signed

**15 DEFIBRILLATOR:**

- 15.1 The Chairman was in receipt of a cheque amounting to £300 towards the cost of the proposed purchase of a defibrillator from St Benedicts. Also St Vigors and the Village Hall Trust both have committed to contributing an equal amount of £300 each. Along with the £50 already received from Mrs Cole this made a total of £950 towards the cost of a Defibrillator.
- 15.2 The Chairman stated that no reply to date had been received from John Reynolds or Jackson Fencing regarding funding/sponsorship and that the NFU asked to be contacted again in November.
- 15.3 All Councillors present agreed that the purchase of a Defibrillator should go ahead now, without waiting for any other future funding. Although the Clerk would first confirm that the British Heart Foundation's funding had now finished.
- 15.4 It was confirmed that the location of the Defibrillator was to be at the front entrance of the Village Hall.

Clerk

**16. BURIAL GROUND:**

- 16.1 The Chairman stated that St Benedicts and St Vigor had passed the Rules and Regulations presented to them of the Churchyard. The Chairman had therefore written to all local Funeral Directors enclosing the Fees and Rules and Regulations.
- 16.2 The Clerk had received an enquiry from Hobbs Marble & Granite Ltd about a memorial fee for a Headstone; which had been forwarded.
- 16.3 Cllr Daniels questioned whether there were any regulations about the length of time Headstones being placed after the burial and whether this should be in Stratton's regulations. It was thought that this should be looked into.

Burial Working Party

*Cllr Crawshaw arrived at this point 7.04 pm*

**17. CAR-SCHEME:**

- 17.1 Cllr Crawshaw had attended the AGM of the collective car-schemes which proved very informative and encouraging. Stratton's car-scheme had dealt with 2-4 trips per month since it started at Christmas; other groups averaged 16-100 trips per year. Each village had its own scheme, which made it smaller and manageable. Also the client is more likely to form a bond with the driver.
- 17.2 The next issue was whether to increase the scheme by publicizing or to leave as is at the moment.
- 17.3 Currently Cllr Crawshaw is Treasurer, Co-ordinator and Secretary – any help therefore would be appreciated.

**18. COMMUNITY GARDENS :**

- 18.1 The Clerk received the monthly Inspection Report of the Playground from David Stock, showing everything was in order.
- 18.2 Cllr Daniels stated that the bark purchased still has to be laid, but that the Lengthsman raking-over the bark areas on a weekly basis is making a great difference already.
- 18.3 The Silver Birch area was in need of weeding and the Lengthsman would be asked to place this on his list of duties.

L/man

**19. STREET CLEANING/LENGTHSMAN SCHEME:**

- 19.1 Before positioning the Dog Foul Bin, the lengthsman was to liaise with Downside's groundsman. This would be done after Wayne had returned from holiday.
- 19.2 Downside had contributed £100 to the purchase of the new Bin.

L/man

**20. HIGHWAYS:**

- 20.1 Cllr Daniels reported that two meetings had recently been held to discuss highway and speeding problems within the village.
- 20.2 The first meeting was with SCC Highways – Chris Betty and Jeff Bunting. As a result of this meeting Cllr Fosdike and Cllr Daniels wrote a detailed Report (including photographs) on all the defects of highway related matters, which was forwarded to Chris Betty; with copies to Jeff Bunting and Charlie Higgins. The Report contained 46 defects. The ideas put forward by Councillors were well received and Highways hoped to fulfil these in the current Financial Year.
- 20.3 This included the cat eyes which would be put back at the pinch-points.
- 20.4 Also the new telegraph pole, which the Parish Council had reported being installed too near the road, was being investigated by Highways with Western Power.
- 20.5 Dave Grabham had reported that the next SID would be installed in May. The data from this will be available 5 June. This will be the raw data, which means speed of each individual vehicle will now be given to the Parish Council
- 20.6 The second meeting with the Police – Mark Nicholson, Inspector and Ashley Raey, Frome Speedwatch co-ordinator –was also well received.
- 20.7 Inspector Mark Nicholson and Ashley Raey were appalled by the figures recorded by SID's. They promised that a detector van or motor cycle would be in the village as soon as possible. It was noted by Cllr Fosdike that a van had been seen in the village last Thursday and Saturday morning; staying for approximately 30 minutes.

Commented [St1]:

20.8 Inspector Nicholson would ask PCSO Housley to give a fuller Report each month to the Parish Council.

20.9 Ashley Raey was keen for Stratton to start-up a Speed-watch Scheme. It was reported, by the Chairman that the Parish Council still held the required equipment used from a previous Speed-watch scheme. The difficulty was finding the volunteers (six volunteers were needed). Cllr Kris Fosdike stated that he would participate; and it was suggested that a request for volunteers would be placed in the next Parish Newsletter and also mentioned at the following APM.

Parish  
News-  
letter

**21. FOOTPATH:**

Nothing to report.

**22. WEB-SITE:**

Nothing to report.

**23. CORRESPONDENCE:**

- |    |                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|----|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | SCC<br>Dave Grabham                         | Will allocate SID's August & December shortly will contact with specific dates.                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 2  | MDC<br>Council Offices                      | Minutes of Meeting with Police                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 3  | Lord Lieutenant<br>of Somerset<br>Mrs A Maw | Somerset Remembers: In 2018 Armistice Day & Remembrance. Plan to hold a County event in Wells – evening of 6 Nov 2018. Many civic, town, village & parish services 11 November 2018.<br><b>Chairman suggested that PC should do something special at service in November 2018</b> |
| 4  | MDC                                         | New Forms: Request for a Dispensation & Guide                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 5  | Hobbs Marble &<br>Granite Ltd               | Request permission Form & memorial fee for Headstone. Also questioned if flower holders allowed to be incorporated into the base of a headstone rather than requiring a separate vase? Answer – Yes.                                                                              |
| 6  | Westcotec Ltd                               | Contact Mike Crowe (Sales Manager) or Ollie(Sales Office) to make enquiries about purchase of a SID.                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 7  | SCC<br>Chris Betty                          | Spoken to Charlie re line markings. Requested poles for SIDs in centre of Village. Will undertake signage survey next couple months. Also Nettlebridge bend signs.                                                                                                                |
| 8  | SCC<br>Charlie H/Ways                       | Reply to email sent Chris Betty about pinch points and power pole. to contact Western Power & request return to undertake any necessary remedial works.<br>Forwarded copy of PC Report to StreetWorks Team                                                                        |
| 9  | MDC                                         | Info Bulletin                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 10 | The Moon family                             | Tree reported overhanging in need of cutting back at War Memorial.<br><b>Cllr Davies would ask Nick Taylor to attend to this – after okaying with neighbour.</b>                                                                                                                  |

Action list

Cllr  
Davies

- 11 SCC Charlie H/Ways Reply to Report on Road Survey sent by Cllr Daniels.
- 12 PCSO Housley Report from 10/02/17 – 08/05/17
- 13 Chilcompton Clerk Re name of contractor used for finger posts; Paul Emery [PEmery100@outlook.com](mailto:PEmery100@outlook.com)  
**Await survey of fingerposts before requesting quote.**
- 14 James Heapey MP Confirmation that there to help until the general election and after if re-elected.
- 15 Downside Abbey New Dog Foul Bin: £100 cheque towards bin – liaise with Steve 07931 360064 Head Groundsman to agree place for re-siting.
- 16 MSN Town Council Consultation on the new Park for MSN. Drop-in consultation on Friday 16 June 3pm-7pm at Town Hall. If wish to attend contact [assistantclerk@midsomertontowncouncil.co.uk](mailto:assistantclerk@midsomertontowncouncil.co.uk)

Clerk

**Planning Application:** None  
**Planning permission:** Bainsbury House  
**Temporary road closure:** None

**Bank Statements:**

Business Reserve A/C	March	£ 18,705.48
	April	£ 28,576.88
Current A/C		50.00

**Letters/Emails sent:** Mike Pullin, Plan II Green spaces.

<b>Cheques:</b> V Attwood	£ 153.65	Receipts: Precept	£10,000.00
V Attwood	47.38	Downside	100.00(dog Bin)
W Palmer	650.00	Downside	300.00(defibrillator)
Village Hall Trust	140.25		
Mid Somerset			
Car-scheme Partnership	78.00		
Came & Co	612.71		
DD (Data Protection)	35.00		

**24. MATTERS OF REPORTS & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:**

- 24.1 The Clerk to report to Highways that a bramble bush at Norton Down was in need of cutting back as it was impairing motorists view.
- 24.2 It was reported that stones had fallen onto the pavement from a stone wall at Nettlebridge. This was felt to be the landowner's responsibility; who would then need to be contacted. The Clerk to investigate.

Clerk

Clerk

**25. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

- 25.1 The date of the next Meeting will be on **Monday 19 June 2017**
- 25.2 There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.35 pm
- 25.3 (This Meeting to be followed by the APM at 7.45 pm)

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