

**Minutes of the 965th Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council
Held in the Village Hall on 17 July 2017**

PRESENT: Councillors: Mr John Padfield (Chairman), Mr D Stock, Mr A Norris,
Mr K Fosdike, Mrs H Murtagh,

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk, 2 members of the public.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Action

1. APOLOGIES: Mrs J Davies(Vice-Chair) Mr M Daniels, Mr Jeremy Padfield,
Mrs S Crawshaw, Mrs C Downes, Dist Cllr Rachel Carter,
Dist Cllr John Carter, PCSO Housley.

2. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 19 June 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.	Summer recess	Cllr Daniels
2	Contact Downside to increase lease of Community Gardens. <i>Decided on 25 year lease request. Request considered at Prior's Meeting at 7 August 2017</i>	pending	Clerk Chair
3	To obtain 2 more quotes re painting finger-posts within the parish The Clerk contacted Chilcompton PC for info on its sign re-painting Clerk in receipt of contractor's name but before contacting for a quote will await the outcome of sign post survey.	pending	Clerk
4	BT Telephone box in need of repair: Glass replaced and painted Suggested using perplex. Chairman read out email from Cllr Fosdike on this issue. Kris to purchase perplex. Place on Sept Agenda to discuss fixing.	Sept Mtg	Cllr Fosdike
5	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 erected	complete	L/man
6	Letters re sponsorship to be sent to: St Benedicts, St Vigors, VH Trust Letters to local companies, inviting sponsorship sent. £300 received from St Benedicts and St Vigors Thank you letters sent £300 promised from VH Trust. <i>NFU – Consider in Nov/Dec contact again</i>	pending	
7	Place bench and attach bench in the main football ground near gate	completed	l/man
8	Contact Highways re power pole moved nearer to road and therefore disturbed earth made road narrower. Highways will contact Western Power to rectify.	Pending Chase	Clerk
9	Ascertain whether a footpath sign should be in place at Green Lane at Downside? Jeremy to ask Clare Haskins (MDC footpath officer). <i>A sign had been received from Clare Haskins. The small gate would be investigated as this is not suitable for horses.</i>	Sept Mtg	Jeremy Padfield
10	Purchase form to be forwarded to Heartsafe; check first that the Heart Foundation's funding has now ceased. Minuted at Item 11	Sept Mtg	Clerk
11	The Chairman confirmed, with VH Trust, that the defibrillator can be placed on front entrance to VH	completed	Chairman

12	Sliver Birch area in need of weeding. Improved – more work needed	asap	L/man
13	Request for volunteers for Speedwatch. Placed in the Parish Newsletter – no response to date		
14	Discuss doing something special at November 2018 Remembrance Service	Sept mtg	Parish Council
15	Nick Taylor to be asked to cut back tree at War Memorial; after okaying with neighbour. Chairman will contact and sort	Asap	Cllr Davies
16	Report to H/ways that a bramble bush at Norton Down was in need of cutting back as impairing motorists view. Clerk had reported to H/ways.	pending	Clerk
17	Stones fallen onto pavement from a stone wall at Nettlebridge. Investigate who the landowner is and contact. An engineer has been arranged to inspect the wall Minuted at Item 6.2	pending	Dist Cllr Carter
18	To place the Notice of Inspection of Accounts To forward to Grant Thornton Audit Return To place relevant documentation on PC Web-site	completed	Clerk Cllr Daniels
19	Broken glass in St Vigors Churchyard – Chairman mentioned this to Brian.	completed	Chairman
20	Parking issue in South Street. Refuse vehicles denied access also emergency services would have a problem. A concern as Nursing Home in this road. Clerk reported to Highways and police. No response to date. Minuted at 9.3	pending	Clerk
21	The state of property at Church Row, believed to be owned by Downside, has been reported by a parishioner. The Clerk contacted Downside – no response to date.	pending	Clerk

5. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

None received.

6. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

Dist Cllr John and Rachel Carter had sent a Report to be read in their absence as follows:

- 6.1 Following on from organizing all the General Election detail the Council has been very heavily involved in ensuring that the Glastonbury Festival passes without a hitch (apart from the weather or groups you don't want to hear) and this year has been recognized as causing the least problems to the local community. Mendip put a lot of effort in ensuring this and are to be complimented.
- 6.2 It is hoped that the Parish Council will hear back soon from Downside in respect of the lease on the Community Gardens.
- 6.3 An engineer has been arranged to inspect the wall at the top end of Nettlebridge Hill. Photographs have been sent to him which it is hoped will speed up his visit; no notice is given of when the visit will take place.

7. POLICE REPORT:

- 7.1 PCSO Housley had sent a Report as follows:

11/07 Report of an aggressive, threatening door to door caller about updating windows, when asked for ID the caller became particularly unpleasant. House to house enquiries to follow.

- 7.2 The Chairman introduced Beat Officer Heather Anderton at this point and Councillors raised the following points:
- 7.3 Parking in South Street which narrowed the road making it inaccessible to emergency services. Although this had been reported to Highways, Councillors questioned what powers the police held in this situation. Heather stated that the police only deal with obstruction, but would ask PCSO Housley to look at this at night.
- 7.4 Residents had reported a vehicle that had been continually parked behind The Poppies development in South Street since 25 December 2016. This was on Mendip District Council land. The police position on this was that if it was abandoned on the road then it was a police issue but if on private land it was the owner's responsibility. Therefore the Clerk was instructed to contact MDC.
- 7.5 Cllr Fosdike stated that he had already reported to PCSO Housley the parking problem at Middlemead but to date had not had a response. This concerned 5 to 6 vehicles outside the property and also on the junction. Heather will email Nikki about this matter.
- 7.6 The Chairman read out Cllr Daniels email concerning threatening behavior of a doorstep caller, which he had reported by ringing 101. Cllr Daniels stated that he was impressed by the service received from all members of the police he had dealings with; a "No Cold Callers" sticker was being sourced. PCSO Housley was already aware of this incident and the matter was being investigated.

Beat Officer Heather Anderson left the Meeting at this point 8.15 pm

8. PLANNING MATTERS:

Applications: None received.
Permission granted by MDC: None received.
Temporary Road Closure: None received

Enforcement Notice:

Two members of the public had attend the meeting to discuss an Enforcement Notice that had been received by Mrs Cossey. Cllr Daniels had visited the site and had also spoken to the enforcement officer, but told that the matter could not be discussed with him.

Mrs Cossey stated that originally the field had been rented out for ponies, but then tents and then sheds were erected and, as they were temporary, she thought that planning permission was not needed. There is no water or electricity on site. It is not a permanent arrangement and a contract set up states that a two month notice can be given by either side. The site is only used during the summer months on Friday, Saturday, Sunday.

A complaint about this arrangement had been received by Mendip District Council and an Enforcement Officer (Mr Simon Snartt) visited Mrs Cossey and stated that Planning permission would have to be sought within 28 days.

The Chairman read out two letters that Mrs Cossey had received from MDC on the above subject. The Chairman also read out a letter from Cllr Daniels in which he raised the question of whether the Parish should have been informed of the Enforcement Notice and whether the Parish Council could have this deferred until C C Rachel Carter can take up the case (2nd week in August).

Councillors could not understand why the Parish Council had not been informed of the Enforcement Notice and the Clerk would make enquiries as to the correct procedure in this matter.

The Chairman advised Mrs Cossey to seek Planning Permission and the Clerk would advise her when the Parish Council received the application and the date of the Meeting at which it would be discussed.

Two members of the public left the Meeting at this point 8.30pm

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

BT/Broadband amounting to **£95.98** was agreed to be paid by all Councillors present. **Cheque No.001127**

An Invoice from **W Palmer** for lengthsman duties amounting to **£320** was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. **Cheque No 001126**

The Clerk reported that a pay-rise had been given dating from April 2017 and the new rate was £12.161 per hour, making this an increase of £7.20, a total payment of £ 729.66 per quarter. The new rate would be applied at the September payment with and adjustment for the first quarter.

The bank Statements were reconciled and signed.

10. PURCHASE OF FLAG:

Two quotes had been received for the purchase of a Flag and Pole. The Chairman had a quote from Hampshire Flags for £65 plus VAT and Cllr Norris had a quote from Coopers for £49.99 c/w VAT plus £4.99 delivery charge; but a £10 discount was also available making the total amount £44.98 All Councillors present agreed for the Clerk to go ahead and order from Coopers.

11. DEFIBRILLATOR:

11.1 Cllr Norris stated that, as already mentioned to the Clerk and Chairman, his next door neighbour who had connections with the Carnival Club had offered to give a donation towards the purchase of a Defibrillator. Last year a donation had been given to provide a defibrillator at Westfield and the amount offered to Stratton PC was for the full amount of a defibrillator.

- 11.2 A discussion took place regarding the monies already received towards the purchase (£650 to date with another £300 promised) and the full cost of a defibrillator.
- 11.3 The conclusion was that, firstly the Clerk would check the precise amount on the Invoice received from Heartsafe and whether this included fitting of the defibrillator. Secondly, the Clerk would then inform Cllr Norris the amount that the PC would like to be donated in order to proceed with the purchase, taking into account the monies already promised.

12. BURIAL GROUND:

- 12.1 The Chairman stated that the Burial Working Party would meet in the next couple of months to discuss matters; one of which would be to purchase more Beech hedging to replace that which had perished.
- 12.2 The Clerk to forward details of the funeral director so that the recent Headstone placed could be invoiced.

13. CAR SCHEME:

Cllr Crawshaw had supplied, in her absence, a report on the scheme in which she stated that it was doing well and that a leaflet drop would take place in September to increase awareness of the scheme ready for the winter months.

14. COMMUNITY GARDENS:

- 14.1 The Clerk received the monthly playground Report from Cllr Stock. There was nothing to high-lite.
- 14.2 The bins in the Community Gardens, both dog fouling - which has now been emptied- and rubbish, have been overflowing. The Clerk had reported both to MDC.
- 14.3 It was reported that it had been cut and tidied around the Silver Birch trees, but there is still work to be done.
- 14.4 Recently it had been reported that dogs were in the Gardens and the Clerk was to enquire from MDC as to whether they could supply "No Dog" signs.
- 14.5 A meeting of the Community Garden Committee is to be held and Cllr Jeremy Padfield will be informed of the outcome.

15. STREET CLEANING/LENGTHSMAN SCHEME:

- 15.1 The lengthsman's duties were as follows:
Work completed 17 June 2017
Cut and strimmed park – 4 times.
Tidied play areas
Removed weeds
Strimmed Silver Birch area
Installed new seat
Fitted new dog foul bin

- 15.2 It was noted that the footpaths were in need of a clean; dead weeds needed clearing and leaves were collected at the pinch-points.
- 15.3 A sweep of the village should be requested after the road works completed

16. HIGHWAYS:

- 16.1 The Chairman read out an email sent to Chris Betty at SCC questioning whether the potholes and utility trenches would be dealt with before the re-surfacing; to date there has been no reply.
- 16.2 The Clerk to further stipulate that the road has been surfaced dressed and not re-surfaced; as decided at the meeting with Highways. The Clerk to also ask for a response to the question on the pot-holes.
- 16.3 The Clerk to report to Chris Betty that the Lines and Signage proposed by SCC were approved by the Parish Council.
- 16.4 The Clerk to report pot-holes at the entrance to Middlemead.
- 16.5 The Clerk to chase Highways about the reported junctions in need of cutting, due to visibility making it a health and safety issue; there has been no response to date.
- 16.6 Cllr Daniels had forwarded a Report to Councillors regarding SID's, in which he stated that he had been liaising with Dave Grabham of Somerset County Council. Information given was that a SID would cost £3k approximately purchased from Westcotec, with a £300-£500 training cost per person (SCC would pay 50% of training undertaken). It was decided by all Councillors present to place this item on the next Agenda in September for further discussion.

17. FOOTPATH:

There was nothing to report.

18. WEB-SITE:

There was nothing to report.

19. CORRESPONDENCE:

1	SCC Chris Betty	Lining proposals for A367 SOF. Reply needed, that all is ok, after discussed at Meeting.
2	SCC Chris Betty	Parking at South Street. – reply to email requesting more info. Clerk forwarded more info.
3	PCSO Housley	Report
4	MDC	Agenda Standards Committee
5	James Heappy	Weekly Newsletters
6	John Carter	Re Wall at Benter – has reported
7	John Carter	Letter re Lease – had gone to wrong person and had not been dealt with. Dispatched to correct person and will be dealt with asap.
8	MDC	Gypsy Count – would appreciate a nil response also.
9	MDC	Proposals for introducing Space Protection Order. Fill out questionnaire by 14 August.
10	Somerset Waste Partnership	July Newsletter
11	Cllr Daniels	Re SID's – the possible purchase of a SID.
12	MDC	Parish Info Bulletin – July

Planning Application: None
Planning permission: None

Bank Statements: Business Reserve A/C June £ 26,964.41
Current A/C 50.00

Letters/Emails sent: SCC Chris Betty-Parking South St & pot holes before re-surfacing.
Downside Thank you letter re Dog Foul Bin contribution.
Property in Church Row.
St Benedicts and St Vigors thank you for donation.

Cheques: V Attwood (BT) 95.48
W Palmer 450.00

20 MATTERS OF REPORTS & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

Agenda Items for September Meeting:

- The purchase of a SID
- The re-siting of Grit Bin.
- Payment for Flag purchased.
- Payment for replacement glass for Kiosk.

21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

21.1 The date of the next Meeting, will be on **Monday 18 September 2017 at 7.45 pm**

Note that there is no Meeting in August.

21.2 There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.20 pm

CHAIRMAN _____ **DATE** _____