

## Minutes of the 966<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council Held in the Village Hall on 18 September 2017

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Dist Cllr John Carter, CC Mike Pullin, Clerk, Mr T Langridge, Tracy Hancock –Aster, 1 member of the public.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** Action

**1. APOLOGIES:** Dist Cllr Rachel Carter,

**2. MINUTES:**  
The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 17 July 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.	pending
2	Contact Downside to increase lease of Community Gardens. <i>Decided on 25 year lease request. <b>Downside granted 25 yr Lease to Community Gardens</b></i> <b>Clerk to send letter of thanks and PC to acknowledge Downside's support of this community facility.</b>	Clerk Agenda
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 <i>Clerk in receipt of contractor's name but before contacting for a quote will await the outcome of sign post survey.</i>	pending
4	BT Telephone box in need of repair: Glass replaced and painted Suggested using perplex. <i>Perplex purchased. <b>Place on Oct Agenda to discuss fixing.</b></i>	Oct Mtg
5	Letters re sponsorship to be sent to: St Benedicts, St Vigors, VH Trust Letters to local companies, inviting sponsorship sent. <i>£300 received from St Benedicts and St Vigors Thank you letters sent</i> <b>£300 received from VH Trust – Clerk to send thankyou letter.</b>	Clerk
6	Order placed with Heartsafe, but need Post Code for Village Hall before processing – now forwarded. Clerk to ascertain when training session is scheduled.	Oct Mtg
7	Sliver Birch area in need of weeding. <i>Improved – more work needed</i>	asap
8	Discuss doing something special at November 2018 Remembrance Service	Sept mtg
9	Nick Taylor to be asked to cut back tree at War Memorial; after okaying with neighbour. <b>Chairman will contact and sort</b> <b>Cllr Norris reported that a stone was loose on the Memorial and was in need of repair</b>	Chairman Asap
10	Stones fallen onto pavement from a stone wall at Nettlebridge. Investigate who the landowner is and contact. <b>An engineer has been arranged to inspect the wall</b>	pending
11	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. <i>Police will look into this matter.</i> <b>Highways will paint white hatching lines Minuted at Item 15.9</b>	pending
12	The state of property at Church Row, believed to be owned by Downside, has been reported by a parishioner. <b>Downside's groundsman will tidy.</b>	pending
13	Vehicle parked at the Poppies development since Dec 2017. The Clerk to report to MDC <b>Reported but since removed.</b>	Completed

14	Enquiries to be made as to whether PC should be notified about an Enforcement Notice and whether Parish Council could enter into discussion. <b>Contacted Philip Gait and Mr Simon Snartt on this matter and informed that Enforcement Office cannot discuss or have meeting with any other party: as need to be neutral. If discussed prior could be deemed to be biased. When Enforcement Notice served goes first to Offender and secondly to PC (shortly after).</b>	completed
15	Purchase of Flag and Flag Pole- <b>Purchased by Credit Card</b>	completed
16	Liaise with Cllr Norris about the amount of sponsorship from the Carnival Club. Then confirm purchase of defibrillator with Heartsafe	completed
17	Forward funeral director's details re recent Headstone to Chairman; so that this can be invoiced.	completed
18	Enquire whether MDC supplies No Dog signs – <b>left message no response to date.</b>	Clerk pending
19	Get confirmation from H/Ways that potholes would be dealt with before the re-surfacing of A367. Also confirmation from H/ways that the road now surface dressed would be re-surfaced.	Completed
20	Chase the reported junctions in need of cutting due to visibility making this a Health & Safety issue	completed
21	Grit Bin – moved to enable to access – needed to be drained in first instance. <b>Also the broken Grit Bin was in need of replacing. Clerk to obtain quotes-Oct Mtg</b>	Chairman Clerk

**County Councillor Mike Pullin arrived during Action Points 7.55 pm**

## 5. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

- 5.1 The Chairman introduced County Councillor Mike Pullin who started off by apologizing for not attending a meeting before, due to having 12 parishes to accommodate. However, as already reported to the Clerk, if Councillors had an urgent issue he could be contacted and would try to help.
- 5.2 Councillors asked CC Pullin's advice on the fallen wall on the A367 at Nettlebridge. It had been reported to Highways by Dist Cllr John Carter who had been informed that an engineer would be sent to inspect the wall. CC Pullin stated that in the first instance a polite letter from the Parish Council might resolve the issue before SCC was able to act.

**Cllr Crawshaw arrived at this point 8.06 pm**

- 5.3 CC Pullin reported on the Small Improvement Scheme (SIS), already discussed with the Clerk, of 2-off awards available across 12 parishes. The Clerk had asked whether the purchase of a SID would be viable. CC Pullin stated that when submitting the form this should be addressed as a problem and not the solution and advised collecting evidence and information. The Parish Council had already been advised by police to obtain a SID and held feasibility studies on speed throughout the village. CC Pullin advised sending him the information/evidence by 31 October 2017 in order to be considered for the scheme.

## 6. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

- 6.1 Dist Cllr John Carter reported that the quarry at Wells and Doultong were having a problem with obtaining the correct labour; 300 persons were needed. This was a positive scene for the Mendip area, although pressure would be on providing new housing.

6.2 Dis Cllr Carter thought that, as the Community Gardens had just received a new lease of 25 years from Downside Abbey and School, it would be an appropriate gesture for a sign at the entrance recognizing this fact. All Councillors present agreed and Dist Cllr Carter would draft wording for a plaque.

6.3 It was stated that CC Pullin had just come from a Meeting where Planning was discussed regarding obtaining better communication with Parish Councils and to organize training sessions for Councillors. Dist Cllr Carter stated that the Parish Forum (next one to be held 26 October) had a half hour Planning slot where there is feed-back on how planning works.

6.4 Cllr Daniels stated that the recent planning application at Pitcot Lane had not been competed correctly and on contacting the officer dealing with such, by phone and email, had to date not received a reply. Therefore Cllr Daniels thought this could not be scrutinized in full as there was not enough detail. Dist Cllr Carter would look into the matter and report back.

## 7. **POLICE REPORT:**

It was reported by Councillors that the new Beat Officer was no longer assigned to Stratton, having been moved to another area.

## 8. **PLANNING MATTERS:**

### Applications:

Ref:2017/2239/HSE

Location: Warley, Pitcot Farm, Pitcot Lane, SOF

Proposal: Single storey extension to east elevation.

*The above planning application was discussed and the plans looked at by all Councillors present. Cllr Daniels stated that, in his opinion, this was a creeping development and he was therefore opposed to recommending approval. Cllr Daniels pointed out that the application form had not been completed properly and queried whether the Agent had connections with Mendip Planning and proposed to object to the application. The Chairman asked for a vote by a show of hands for approval of the application. The result of which was 5-off in favour of recommending approval; 2-off against; 1-off abstinence. Therefore the proposal for approval was carried.*

*Dist Cllr John Carter would make enquiries from Mendip as to what connection the applicant and the agent had to Mendip Planning. The Clerk was instructed to wait for the outcome of Dist Cllr Carter's findings before forwarding a recommendation of approval to Mendip District Council.*

Extraordinary Mtg: - Held on 7 August 2017

Ref:2017/1940/HSE

Location: Beach Cottage, Fosseway, SOF

Proposal: Erection of double garage with ancillam accommodation over.

*The Parish Council recommended approval of this application. Councillors were pleased to note that the original stone or similar is being used.*

*The above comments had been forwarded to Mendip Planning Department.*

Permission granted by MDC: None received.

Temporary Road Closure: Old Frome Road to Underhill

Advance Notification of: Major Road Works 9-27 October 2017  
A367 Fosse Way, SOF

***Highways would firstly fill-in potholes and utility works etc before re-surfacing the road. The road would be shut but open to residents for access.***

***CC Pullin left the Meeting at this point 8.35 pm***

Advance Consultation:

The Chairman introduced Mr Tony Langridge and Tracy Hancock from Aster Homes.

Mr Tony Langridge gave out notes on the planned future development at the Poppies and addressed the meeting; in order to answer any questions that Councillors might have regarding the proposed layout for a 3-bed detached house in advance of submission of an application.

He stated that he had been in communication with a few of the residents, whose main concerns were parking and retaining access to their properties. He reported that the parking had been revised; the plan now was to remove the present garages and replacing with car-park spaces. The question was raised whether 2 smaller affordable houses could be built to accommodate local buyers instead of 1 larger house. The building of 2 smaller houses had been looked at, but it was decided that this would leave a larger footprint with more parking needed. Tracy Hancock declared that this would not be sufficiently financial viable for Aster.

In attendance was the resident from Fossway Cottage, Mrs Elizabeth Maggs, who wanted to be assured that her property's access was protected. Tony Langridge stated that there were no intention to alter pedestrian or vehicular access to this property.

Concerns had been received by the Parish Council from the resident of Ivy Cottage as to access and Tony Langridge declared that the pedestrian access would be retained at this property and that the vehicular access was being investigated.

Mr Tony Langridge thanked the Council for the opportunity to attend and the Chairman thanked him for answering questions raised.

***Mr Tony Langridge, Tracy Hancock and a member of the public left the Meeting at this point 8.50 pm***

## **9. FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

An Invoice from **W Palmer** for lengthsmen duties amounting to **£736.86** was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. **Cheque No 001129**

The Clerk's Salary for the period **July-Sept 2017** amounting to £729.60 plus back-pay for £7.20 totaling **£736.86** was agreed to be paid by all Councillors present. **Cheque No. 001132**

An invoice from **SoVision IT Ltd** for lap-top service amounting to **£49** paid by **V Attwood** was agreed by all Councillors present to be reimbursed. **Cheque No.0011133**

An Invoice from **Coopers of Stortford** for a Flag and Pole amounting to **£44.98** already paid by **V Attwood** was agreed by all Councillors present to be reimbursed. **Cheque No.001134**

An Invoice from **X2 Connect Ltd** amounting to **£30.62** for BT Kiosk glass already paid by **Kris Fosdike** was agreed by all Councillors to be paid. **Cheque No. 001130**

An Invoice from **Tibbs Tree Surgeons** for weed kill amounting to **£216** was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. **Cheque No. 001131**

A cheque for the purchase of a Defibrillator amounting to **£2,547.60** had been forwarded to **Heartsafe (AED Locator (E.U.)Ltd)**. **Cheque No.001128**

A cheque had been received from **Glastonbury Festival Carnival Club** amounting to **£2,000** towards the purchase of a Defibrillator. **Pay-in Cheque no.100173**

A cheque had been received from **The Village Hall Trust** amounting to **£3,000** towards the purchase of a Defibrillator. **Cheque No.100174**

The bank Statements were reconciled and signed.

#### **10. DEFIBRILLATOR:**

10.1 Cllr Norris had secured a donation amounting to £2,000 from Glastonbury Festival Carnival Club. After a chance conversation with a neighbour, about the Parish Council hoping to purchase a Defibrillator, it transpired that the neighbour's son, in connection with the Carnival Club, had monies to award for the purchase of a Defibrillator. The only proviso being that a plaque declaring that the Carnival contributed towards the purchase; this would also include other contributors.

10.2 The Clerk stated that the extra monies collected (£900) would pay for sundries in connection with the Defibrillator, for example an extra set of Pads to be kept in the cabinet, cost of an electrician, annual cost of Guardian Reporting System etc. The Clerk had ordered the defibrillator form Heartsaafe at a cost of £1,994 along with replacement pads £99 plus delivery charge £30 plus Vat £424.60 making a total of £2,547

10.3 An electrician was needed to install the Defibrillator once received. Cllr Jeremy Padfield would organize this.

10.4 A Guardian would also have to be appointed; this was to oversee taking off the data every 2 weeks. This item to be placed on October's Agenda.

10.5 The Clerk to confirm with Heartsafe that the training sessions would take place 2 months after installation of the Defibrillator.

#### **11. BURIAL GROUND:**

There was nothing to report.

#### **12. CAR SCHEME:**

12.1 Cllr Crawshaw stated that a decision would have to be made as to whether to continue with the car-scheme, as at the moment it was not being sufficiently used.

12.2 Cllr Crawshaw would make efforts to re-publicize the scheme, along with Cllr Daniels putting more information on the Web-site, and if this did not generate more interest by November it was probably not viable for the Parish Council to finance. It could be looked at again in 2 years' time.

12.3 The Chairman thanked Sarah for her work setting up the scheme.

*Dist Cllr John Carter left the Meeting at this point 9.10 pm*

**13. COMMUNITY GARDENS:**

13.1 The Clerk received the monthly inspection report completed by Cllr Stock; there was nothing needing attention.

13.2 Cllr Stock reported that the rubbish bin at Middlemead entrance was in need of emptying, after the successful Village Day.

13.3 The Parish Council was in receipt of a letter from Downside Abbey & School, regarding the extension to the Community Gardens lease; this stated that Downside was willing to grant an extension of 25 years starting from the end of the existing lease. The Clerk to forward a letter of thanks to Downside. As previously stated, a plaque would be organized denoting Downside's support for this community facility.

13.4 Cllr Daniels reported that at the moment two Duke of Edinburgh youths were working with him on the raised beds. One bed would be grass, one herbs and one Mediterranean plants that would tolerate dry weather. The work consisted of digging out weeds/roots and laying down weed suppress mats, soil improver, then topping-off with slate ovals. Sponsorship had been secured from Cleeve Nurseries, who supplied the ovals free of charge and supplied plants at a discount. A thank you letter, plus photos of the work when completed, would be forwarded to the nurseries.

13.5 The Community Gardens Committee was not happy with the look of the Gardens on Village Day. Therefore the lengthsman had been given a scheme of work for the Gardens before he takes his winter break along with the normal street cleaning duties.

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

14.1 The lengthsman's duties were as follows:

2 Months work

Cut Community Garden

Strim Community Garden

Strimmed in and around Village etc

14.2 It was stated that weed kill would be completed this week.

14.3 The Bench that was placed in the wrong position in the Community Gardens would be moved by the Lengthsman after consultation with Cllr Stock

14.4 It was suggested by Cllr Daniels that a new contract should be drawn up for the Lengthsman for next year.

**15. HIGHWAYS:**

15.1 Cllr Stock reported that the light (no 2) at Middlemead was still out – the Clerk to chase.

15.2 A discussion took place about the purchase of a SID by the Parish Council.

15.3 Cllr Daniels had completed a thorough study of the positioning and pricing of the SID:-

The SID's needed to be moved between sites; 2-4 weeks moved between 4 sites.

The SID's were not to be placed on lamp posts, therefore poles by pinch-points eg above Downside, immediately outside St Benedicts and opposite St Benedicts were thought to be a good siting.

Apart from the purchase of the SID, the following items were needed

a laptop to record data (£360)

Excel (£116)

AntiVirus (£20)

Laptop Bag (£20)

Training of which SCC would pay half (£300-£500).

A volunteer to be responsible for the organization and recording of the SID.

15.4 The discussion continued; Councillors were in doubt as to whether the costs involved were worthy of the outcome and whether it would make any difference to the speeding through the village.

*Cllr Norris left the meeting at this point 9.36 pm*

15.5 The Clerk suggested that maybe an application to the Small Improvement Scheme could be made and, therefore if successful, there would be no cost to the Parish Council.

*Cllr Daniels left the Meeting at this point 9.40 pm*

15.6 The discussion continued about the pros and cons of having a SID. All Councillors present agreed that speeding was a massive issue, but were not sure how to solve the matter and whether a SID was the answer.

15.7 Although all Councillors agreed that the traffic-calming measures in place were not ideal; it was noted that prior to the chicanes being introduced there had been 5 fatalities within a period of approximately 10 years. The traffic-calming system in Stratton was the first to be installed in the country, after which the scheme was introduced at other sites nationally. The chicanes, not being the perfect solution to speeding in the village had made a difference.

15.8 It was decided to place this item on the next Agenda and to give CC Mike Pullin the information collected for obtaining a grant through the SIS.

15.9 It was reported that the street sign at Sunnymead had although in situ was off its posts. The Clerk to report.

15.10 Parking in South Street – An email had been received from Chris Betty of SCC stating that white hatching to discourage parking, ( yellow lines tended to be used for treating longer lengths of roads and routes through a settlement), could be used. He would add the works to his programme.

**16. FOOTPATH:**  
There was nothing to report.  
**WEB-SITE:**  
There was nothing to report.

**17. CORRESPONDENCE:**

- 1 Downside Abbey Letter re Church Row's neglected garden.  
***Downside will ask groundsman to tidy.***
- 2 Downside Abbey Extension of lease to 25 years.
- 3 MDC Parish Forum 26 October 2017
- 4 Somerset waste Newsletter  
partnership
- 5 SCC RE Parking in South Street.

**Planning Application:** Ref:2017/2239/HSE Warley,Pitcot Lane,SOF

**Planning permission:** None

**Temporary Road Closure:**Old Frome Road to Underhill

**Advance Notification:** Major Road Works 9-27 Oct 2017 A367 Fosse Way SOF

**Advance Consultation:** The Poppies,South Street, SOF

<b>Bank Statements:</b>	Business Reserve A/C	July £25,827.81	Aug £25,180.16
	Current A/C	2,050.00	50.00

**Letters/Emails sent:**

**Cheques:** V Attwood (Salary) 736.86  
W Palmer (L/Man) 650.00  
V Attwood(Flag) 44.98  
V Attwood(Laptop) 49.00  
K Fosdike(Kiosk) 30.62

**Cheque forwarded:** Heartsafe £2k

**Cheque Received:** VH Trust £300.00

**20 MATTERS OF REPORTS & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:**

Agenda Items for September Meeting:

- The purchase of a SID
- Plaque denoting Downside's support for Community Gardens.
- Plaque denoting sponsorship for the defibrillator.
- Appointment of Guardian for Defibrillator.
- Advertising the installation and training session of Defibrillator.

**21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

21.1 The date of the next Meeting, will be on **Monday 16 October 2017 at 7.45 pm**

21.2 There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.55 pm

**CHAIRMAN**

**DATE**