

**Minutes of the 976th Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council
Held in the Village Hall 18 June 2018**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Dist. Cllr Rachel Carter from 8 pm.

PUBLIC FORUM:

1. **APOLOGIES:** Clerk, Councillors: Mr. K Fosdike, Mrs. S Crawshaw, Mr. Jeremy Padfield
Dist. Cllr John Carter

2. **MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 18 June 2018 were approved and signed.
Cllr M Daniels recorded the current minutes in the absence of the Clerk.

3. **DECLARATION OF NEW INTERESTS:**

There were none.

4. **MATTERS ARISING:**

No written action points were available

There were no matters arising other than those covered by the agenda.

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

In the absence of the County Councillor, there was no report.

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

None presented at this point. Dist. Cllr. Rachel Carter arrived later at 8 pm.

She reported that a number of new planning officers had been recruited by Mendip District Council. She also reported that the waste bin that she had personally purchased and installed in the layby on Mile Road had been stolen within a week of installation.

7. **POLICE REPORT:**

None advised and no presence.

8. **PLANNING MATTERS:**

Applications:

None Advised

Permission granted by MDC:

None advised

9. **FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

Applications

The Council decided that the Lengthsman bill could not be paid until he had presented a detailed invoice. This had been pointed out to him in advance of the meeting, but none had been forthcoming. When the bill was presented to the Chairman, it was agreed that he could pay it without waiting for the next Council meeting. Proposed Cllr Murtagh and Seconded by Cllr Davies and agreed unanimously.

Receipts

Burial Fee £303.00

10 STANDING ORDERS:

This was tied up with the Financial Regulations, see below.

11 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS:

Cllrs. Daniels and Fosdyke had been working on these and had cut down the long document to around seven pages which were relevant to the Council. There was further work to be done in conjunction with both the Chairman and the Clerk and it was hoped that a proposed document might be presented to the next meeting of the Council in September.

12. DEFIBRILLATOR:

The matter of insurance for the two volunteer Guardians of the defibrillator who were not Parish Councillors was discussed. The insurance status of other volunteers in general should also be clarified. Clerk to enquire of the insurance company. (The position should then be included in the Standing Orders.)

It was decided to ask the Midsomer Norton Journal and the Somerset Guardian to publish pieces, including photographs, to publicise both the fact that the defibrillator was available and to give publicity to the generous sponsors.

13. BURIAL GROUND:

The chairman reported that David Evans had been buried.

14. COMMUNITY GARDENS:

The monthly inspection report for the community gardens was received from Cllr Stock. Cllrs Daniels and Stock had tidied up the floor of Gazebo where it had been burned in order to remove the sharp edges as much as possible. Tape had been put around the entrance on a number of occasions with the intent of stopping people using the Gazebo until it had been repaired, but it had been removed each time.

Cllr Jeremy Padfield was in the process of getting three quotes for repair. It had been decided that a concrete floor would be the best option.

The future use of a CCTV surveillance camera was again mooted, especially as there had been further problems in the Village Hall carpark with people causing disturbances and leaving much litter in the middle of the night. There had also been rumours of drug dealing late at night, although this could not be confirmed.

Cllr Daniels agreed to look into costings for CCTV.

Suggestions were also made about the possibility of having floodlights in the car park although it was felt that this would be intrusive to local residents.

The conclusion of the lease agreement with Downside School is still pending.

A proposal for eight 1m³ bags of Playpark Bark to be ordered was proposed by Cllr Daniels and seconded by Cllr. Davies and agreed unanimously. The cost to be of the order of £800.

15. STREET CLEANING/LENGTHSMAN SCHEME:

The lengthsman's contract to be further discussed in time for the end of his contract in November.

The lengthsman was congratulated on the appearance of the Playground despite the extended period of dry weather. He had cleared much of the outer areas, beyond the normal grass cutting and this had improved the look of the area considerably.

There is a new bin to be fixed. The bin is currently in possession of the Chairman.

The tree at the rear of the War memorial needs attention.

16. HIGHWAYS:

It was noted that there was an increasing problem with parking in Middlemead, with a number of vehicles parked on the pavement on the north side of the road. This to be referred to our PCSO by the Clerk.

Cllr. Stock suggested that there should be a radical review of the area of the garages, which were in his opinion rarely used. His suggestion was to pull down the garages, which in any case were generally too narrow to house modern cars and use the space to create more parking. It was considered that around 15 parking spaces could be provided, thus easing the situation greatly.

A part of the stonework at the base of the War Memorial is broken. The Chairman will inspect. Cllr Norris enquired as to when the fingerposts were to be painted. The action had been approved and the weather was ideal.

The matter of a bus stop opposite the former Nettlebridge Inn had been raised by a parishioner Carolyn Drouin. There used to be a bus stop at that point and a picture taken in 1968 was presented as proof included in her letter. She also quoted an article from the March 16th, 2017 edition of the Somerset Guardian entitled ‘What is the story behind the bus stop that vanished.’ The Council discussed the matter and decided to support the case. The lengthsman will be asked to look at the bus stop post, which is still there, and see whether it can be uncovered. This type of action helped to have another previous bus stop reinstated near Bath View. The bus company could then be approached after this was done.

The road closure that had been announced for August 2018, has been postponed until the summer of 2019.

17. FOOTPATH:

The positioning of the flagpole was agreed to be in front of the Village Hall. The Chairman agreed to action this.

18. WEB-SITE:

Nothing new to report

19. CORRESPONDENCE:

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|----|---------------------------|---|
| 1 | MDC | Information Bulletin |
| 2 | Somerset Rivers Authority | End of year report c/w photos |
| 3 | Somerset Prepared | Get Ready for Summer Heatwave advice |
| 4 | SALC | Re Mobile Houses – Planning Permission - Council Tax |
| 5 | SALC | Legal Briefing on Judicial review claim brought against Ledbury Town Council and Code of Conduct. |
| 6 | SCC Peter Elliot | Somerset Fingerpost Restoration Project set up by SCC and Southwest Heritage Trust in 2016. |
| 7 | James Heapey MP | Newsletter |
| 8 | MDC | Gypsy Count on July 19 |
| 9 | MDC | Consultations on proposals for a new Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy open to the public until 31 July |
| 10 | MDC | Parish Forum 19 July at 6.15 Shepton Mallet |

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| 11 | Came and Company | Public Liability for Defibrillator Guardians |
| 12 | Somerset Scientific Services | Private Water Supply Article |
| 13 | SALC | Councillor Training Employment Wed 12 September at Somerton 6-9pm.
Local Councillor Finance Wed 3 October Somerton 7 to 9 pm. |
| 14 | Sweetspot Group Ltd. | Info on IVO Energy Tour of Britain Cycle Race, Tuesday 4 th September. Chilcompton, MSN and Radstock on Route |
| 15 | Carolyn Drouin | Bus Stop at Nettlebridge asking for Parish Council's help to reinstate. |

20. MATTERS OF REPORT & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

The silhouette and bench re WW1 celebrations
 WiFi for Village Hall
 Parking in Middlemead
 PCSO attendance of Sheila Thompson and reporting.
 GDPR training event
 Insurance of the gazebo in the Playpark.
 CCTV in the Village Hall carpark
 Possible Wifi for the Village Hall
 Signposts

21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

- 21.1 The date of the next Meeting, will be on **Monday 17th September 2018 at 7.45 pm.**
There being no August Meeting.
- 21.2 There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

CHAIRMAN _____ **DATE** _____