

**Minutes of the 987<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Stratton-on-the-Fosse Parish Council  
Held in the Village Hall 22 July 2019**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Dist Councillor Sam Phripp, Clerk.

***PUBLIC FORUM:***

1. **APOLOGIES:** Councillors: Mr Jeremy Padfield, Dist Cllr Josh Burr, County Councillor Mike Pullin, PCSO.

2. **MINUTES:**  
The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 17 June 2019 were approved and signed.

3. **DECLARATION OF NEW INTERESTS:**

4. **CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS:**  
No candidates at present.

5. **MATTERS ARISING:**

1	Adopt Financial Regulations and place on Web-site – when completed.	In due course
2.	Paul Emery to paint signposts 8-off at a cost of £300 each approx. To date 4off painted and paid for £1,130.00 Contact to enquire when re-starting painting? <b><i>In January Paul suffered a heart attack and is still recuperating now – Clerk to contact again in 2 months.</i></b>	Pending Clerk
3	Footpath at Mogg Hill in need of attention. Contact landowners Mr & Mrs Jackson for the path to be made wider – by spraying the vegetation. Wayne Palmer cannot do but suggested weed kill on the vegetation to widen the path. Cllr Jeremy Padfield will make enquiries to whose responsibility the footpath is from Care Haskins f/path officer at MDC The Chilcompton Clerk had advised that the Farmer had help maintain its side of the footpath. Footpath has now been strimmed, but awaiting footpath officer to inspect. <b><i>Minuted at 17.1</i></b>	pending
4	Inspection of salt/grit Bins to ascertain whether any needed to be filled. Chair will inspect Grit Bins before Clerk orders salt. Clerk notified Highways of Grit Bins in need of refilling. Highways placed on list to be filled. <b><i>Contact MDC with a request to fill all grit bins that are not full. Chair to inform of sites.</i></b>	Clerk Chair
5	Instructed Gould & Swayne to act as solicitors re Downside Lease and notified King Stone solicitor for Downside. <b><i>Letter from Downside re “peppercorn” rent to be forwarded to Gould &amp; Swayne solicitors.</i></b>	Clerk pending
6	Nettlebridge pavement in need of attention – Cllr Carter would investigate. Inspection team will be sent to investigate and report back. Chairman read email stating this had now been done. Councillors thought nothing had been done – Cllr Daniels will take a look. Chairman to ask postman for resident’s address for PC to write. <b><i>Highways emailed to report is on list to do.</i></b>	Pending
7.	Make enquiries from MDC Highways whether a mirror could be erected at the crossroad at Tunnel Lane and the War Memorial, as a Health & Safety measure for traffic. Also ascertain if the PC would be responsible if an accident occurred at these sites if a mirror was installed. Some Councillors thought this was not needed. <b><i>After communication with SCC, Councillors decided not to pursue this.</i></b>	Completed

8	Make enquiries as to what Somerset County Council propose to do about the road from Norton Down to the Rugby Club when the Norton Hill development is built. Emailed BANES Council – no response Emailed Mendip Council and Highways – replied sent to correct department. <b><i>Clerk informed that this planning was passed in February and SCC Highways did not raise any objections to the road. Also informed that Stratton was not entitled to be informed of this planning as in Banes. See Dist Cllr Report. Minutes Item 10.5</i></b>	completed
9	Sign to be purchased “Please Park in Village Hall car-park” Cllr Daniels to ask Marie Taylor where best to obtain.	pending
10	Bus Shelter clean to be placed on Lengthsman list. <b><i>Placed on list</i></b>	completed
11	Removal of BT Kiosk, Cllr Stock to enquire at reclamation site. Cllr Norris stated that he would like to have the Kiosk if it could be moved. The Chairman stated that he would be able to organize. <b><i>See Mins Item 19</i></b>	Agenda Item
12	Contact Faulkland PC to ascertain whether AutospeedWatch would be a viable purchase for Stratton.	Clerk
13	War Memorial – Horse Chestnut Tree – <b><i>will let L/man know</i></b>	Chair
14	Community Gardens – piece missing back Bandstand – <b><i>L/man inform</i></b>	Chair

**6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:**

No Report received.

**7. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:**

Dist Cllr Sam Phripp introduced himself. Councillors stated that Mendip District Council Planning did not take in to account the Parish Council views, which was a concern.

**8. POLICE REPORT:**

8.1 Report specific to Stratton:

18/07 Pitcot Lane Loose Horse, owner located and horse secured.

23/07 Bath View Items taken from garden, CCTV in situ, ongoing investigations.

8.2 It was noted that the PCSO was very supportive with setting up Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

**9. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME:**

9.1 A Meeting had taken place to discuss setting up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. After a lively discussion, attended by an encouraging number of parishioners, it was agreed to form a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

9.2 Initially, Cllr Daniels would set-up a closed Whats Up Group. There would also be a stand at Village Day, with the police present, to encourage parishioners to join the scheme. The scheme works by being proactive.

**10. PLANNING MATTERS:**

**Applications:**

**Ref: 2019/1533/HSE**

Location: Fairwinds, 11 White Post, SOF

Proposal: Demolition of existing garage and replacement with single storey side extension to include larger living space. (re-submission of 2019/0399/HSE)

***It was thought this would be an improvement and would not impinge on anyone. All Councillors present agreed that the Parish Council would register No Objection to this proposal with MDC.***

**Approval:** There were none.

**Withdrawn:** There were none.

**Road Closure:**

*Stockhill Road* from 220m north of junction with Coalpit Lane northwards for 15m on 6 August 2019 for three days.

*Bath Road* from the junction of Fosse Road northwards for 115 m approx. on 28 August 2019 for four days.

**11. FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

Invoice from W Palmer (Lengthsman) amounting to **£650** was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. **Cheque No.001217**

The Clerk's salary for the period **April-June 2019** amounting to **£729.66** was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. **Cheque No.001211**

**MDC Election Costs** amounting to **£104.50** was agreed by all Councillors present to be paid. **Cheque No. 001212**

An Invoice from **Glasdon** for two Rubbish Bins amounting to **£406.84** was agreed by all Councillors to be paid. **Cheque No.001214**

All Councillors present agreed to pay **Mr Ty Schlecter £40** for completing the **Internal Audit**. **Cheque No.001213**

The Bank Statements were reconciled and signed.

End June 2019: Current A/C: £50      Business Reward A/C: £28,339.42

Cllr Daniels reported that the Clerk's lap-top had ceased working and, after discussion with Microbitz in Wells it had been confirmed that it was not viable to repair. Therefore Cllr Daniel had investigated purchasing a new computer and the best deals had been found with PC World at Cribbs Causeway and Microbitz. It was thought that the back-up offered by Microbitz was better and the location was more accessible.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Daniels for making the enquiries and all Councillors present agreed for the purchase of the computer to go ahead asap.

**12. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS:**

This was pending along with Standing Orders.

**13. BURIAL GROUND:**

There was nothing to report.

**14. COMMUNITY GARDENS:**

14.1 Cllr Daniels reported on the Community Gardens Committee Meeting:

- Mrs Frances Daniels had been co-opted onto the Committee.
- The Wildflower area was underway with the area between two tyres being rotavated, which would take 3-4 hours at £25 per hour. An appeal to villagers to be put on the Parish Facebook site to help weed and some seeds were to be planted by local school children.

- Cllr Daniels asked for the authority to spend £75-£100 from Parish Council funds—all Councillors present agreed to this request.
- The Pi Inspection highlighted that the area under the birch trees had not been dug deep enough and was a trip hazard. Therefore something would need to be done to improve this area in the near future and it was hoped that the Parish Council would support this financially.
- Marie Taylor was hoping to obtain a grant towards a ground level trampoline and net-ball hoop.

*Cllr Daniels left the Meeting at this 8.25 pm point*

- 14.2 Cllr Stock presented the Clerk with the monthly playground Inspection Report.
- 14.3 Cllr Stock reported that he had spoken to a youth riding his trail bike in the Gardens and had him tidy the mess that the bike had made with the bark.
- 14.4 The Chairman read to Councillors the last letter received from Martin Holden from Downside, regarding the notification of a “peppercorn” lease. With the ending of the present lease being July 2020, Councillors were concerned that the renewal was not progressing. Therefore the Clerk was to write to Downside to chase the progress of the renewal.

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

The Lengthsman, Wayne Palmer, had completed various tasks around the village.

**16. HIGHWAYS:**

- 16.1 Yellow Ragwort had been noted in the parish. This being an illegal plant, which must be pulled and not cut, should be reported to Highways. The Dist Cllr will report this, as the Clerk is without a computer at present.
- 16.2 The drain on the main road, at South Street opposite the Poppies Estate, needs attention. Also vegetation on the electric pole needs trimming back. The grass at Killings Knap and Norton Down crossroads and at the white Post roundabout needed cutting. The Dist Cllr would report these matters to Highways.

**17. FOOTPATH:**

- 17.1 Clare Haskins had contacted Trevor Letcher regarding Mogg Hill footpath stating that there was no funding available to improve this footpath. She suggested that volunteers were found to dig out the encroaching grass.
- 17.2 Trevor Letcher had reported a wooden kissing gate that had fallen down to Jake Taylor at SCC. The gate was on footpath SM19/15 300 yards from the A367 behind Mogg Hill House. The Clerk had also emailed SCC.

**18. WEB-SITE:**

There was nothing to report as Cllr Daniels was not present.

**19. BT KIOSK:**

- 19.1 Cllr Stock reported that the reclamation site would charge £400 to remove the Kiosk.
- 19.2 The Clerk reported that, according to SALC, the Parish Council could not give the Kiosk away as it was on its Asset Register . It would have to be advertised within the parish to invite interested parties to make financial offers.
- 19.3 It was suggested that a notice could be placed on the Notice Board and on the Parish Website, stating that the Kiosk was not being used and was in need of repair, therefore the Parish Council were thinking of removing it. The Clerk to contact SALC to ascertain the correct procedure.
- 19.4 Cllr Murtagh suggested that the books at present located in the Kiosk could be relocated inside the Village Hall.

**20. TO DISCUSS GREEN STATEMENT:**

Cllr Murtagh suggested that a clothes bank was installed within the village.

**21. CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Correspondence was read and dealt with appropriately.

**22. MATTERS OF REPORT & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:**

- 22.1 Agenda Items:
- Clerk's Salary
  - BT Kiosk
  - Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

22.2 It was noted that Village Day would be held on 8 September 2019

**23. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

- 23.1 The date of the next Meeting will be on **Monday 16 September 2019 at 7.45 pm**
- 23.2 There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

**CHAIRMAN**

**DATE**