

Stogumber Parish Council, SPC.

Minutes of meeting held in Deane Close Common Room on July 14th 2011

The meeting started at 19:30

Present

J. Spicer, Chairman

C. Bramall

J.Danson

C. Matravers

K. Rew

V. Sellick

M. Symes

T. Thomas

T. Simpson

J Leeming, Clerk

| Item | Topic | Action |
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| 1 | Apologies: A Trollope-Bellow (District and County Councillor). | |
| 2 | Declaration of Interests. CB declared a personal interest in item 7, Miss May's field as a neighbour. VS declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 16c as applicant. | |
| 3 | Public comments, questions or suggestions. There were no members of the public present. | |
| 4 | Minutes of Meeting held 19/5/11 and 27/6/11. It was proposed and passed unanimously that the minutes of the meetings on 19 th May 2011 and 27 th June 2011 were a reasonable record of the meeting. They were signed by the chairman. | |
| 5 | Report on the Devolution and Delegation meeting held at West Somerset Council 4/7/11. a) WSC wishes to reduce the frequency of road sweeping to reduce costs. Maps of the roads currently being swept were circulated. It was agreed that road sweeping on the lanes was unproductive and could result in blocked gullies and run offs (these are the responsibility of SCC not WSC). It proposed and passed by a majority to write to WSC and suggest that road sweeping be confined to roads which have a kerb. b) WSC wish to empty the village litter bins fortnightly instead of weekly. It was proposed and passed that weekly collections should continue but that the small bin by the church yard and the large bin at Slade Close should be exchanged because of the need for a larger bin by the church yard. c) WSC have calculated a cost incurred maintaining the village car park (the parking spaces opposite the village shop and pub) and are considering introducing car parking charges to offset those costs. JS asked for clarification of those costs and WSC responded that there had been no actual expenditure but that the calculated costs were an apportionment of the total car parking maintenance budget and that the Chief Financial Officer would propose no charges. It was agreed unanimously that JS would write to the Chief Financial Officer and explain the negative impact such charges would have. WSC have suggested that SPC could consider getting the car park dedicated as part of the public highway then maintenance would be SCC responsibility or transferring the ownership to SPC when maintenance would then be SPC's responsibility. It proposed and agreed that the possibility of SCC taking it on as part of the Highways would be explored first. | JS JS JS MS |
| 6 | Parish energy plan – presentation by FORUM 21. Lorna Scott and Joe Hull joined the meeting. JH introduced LS. LS gave a short explanation of the work of Forum 21 and how it could help individuals in the community through information, advice and awareness. LS explained what grants are available to individuals and how they can help to access them. It was agreed that KR write an article for the Standard to see if there would be support for a working group to be set up to explore initiatives for the village. CB volunteered to be SPC's representative on such a group. Lorna Scott and Joe Hull left the meeting. | KR CB |

- 7 **Miss May' Field.**
 There was lengthy discussion on the ideas for the use and feedback from the Parish picnic. It was felt that the car parking and the track to join with the possible location of the new graveyard should be the priority. All
 It was proposed and agreed that a separate meeting should be held so all aspects of developing the field be considered. This meeting to be at the field on 12th August at 6pm.
 JL reported that the payment for the grass let had been received and banked. JL
 CB to chase up when the changes to the water supply were to be implemented and ensure the correct notices for works were given. CB
 JL requested that a proper vat invoice for the legal costs be requested from Clark Willmot Clarke so that the vat could be reclaimed. JS to write to them. JS
 The previous meeting had suggested that SALC be contacted regarding how SPC could protect the field from travellers. JL to contact for advice. JL
 As there is no redemption penalty on the loan for the field, JS stated he wished to enquire if a cheaper loan could be obtained. JS
- 8 **Parish Survey results.**
 Top 4 priorities were identified as:
 1 Protection of green fields from development.
 2 Better public transport.
 3 More car parking spaces in the village.
 4 Protection of historic building and their surroundings.
 It was felt that the purchase of Miss May's field had addressed 1 and in the future would address 3.
 TT had explored the possibility of the school bus being used to provide a community service. The school had felt it unlikely because of insurance and not always knowing their requirements for the bus.
 There was discussion about what exactly was needed from public transport. KR
 It was agreed that KR should write an article for the Standard requesting more feedback.
 It was agreed that TT should quantify the obstacles for using the School bus. TT
 There was a discussion about whether the conservation area within the village should be extended or whether a conservation area should cover the hamlets. There are planning restraints within conservation areas.
 It was proposed and agreed that letters would be sent to residents in the hamlets to ask if they would want a conservation area. JS
- 9 **Stogumber Top 5 Priorities.**
 It was agreed to look at these at a later date.
- 10 **Stogumber Play Area.**
 There was a meeting held at the site between representatives from Magna, the police and councillors. Magna agreed to share the cost of removing the spoil from the site. TT to get quotes. TT
 Magna agreed to fence off the culvert area and to finish the road to the kerbed edge and insert posts at the boundary of the play area to enable a fence to be erected.
- 11 **Finance.**
 The assets are as follows:

| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Current account | £5550.45 |
| Reserve account | £7.95 |
| AMC account | £5925.35 |

 The following expenditures were all agreed and the appropriate cheques signed:

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| Outgoing clerk's salary to 15 th June 20 | £166.54 |
| Clerk's salary and PAYE 15 th June – 17 th August | £366.84 |
| Clerk's travel expenses for training (Edington 1 st July) | £24.30 |

 A letter to NatWest was signed to request letters and statements be sent to JL
 Additional bank account signatories would be decided once the this request has been actioned.

- 20 **Publication of notices, agendas and minutes.**
The village hall have been approached and have agreed that their notice board can be used to display notices. JL
- 21 **Any other business by permission of the Chairman.**
A question was raised regarding the new local plan and whether the only development in the villages would be for affordable housing. As WSC have not issued a draft plan yet there is no housing policy proposed for discussion.

The meeting closed at 21:45. The next meeting will be on 8th September 2011 at Deane Close Common Room.