

**Stogumber Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Deane Close Common Room**  
**on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017, commencing at 7.30pm**

(in the format to be presented to the next meeting for approval)

**Present:**

C. Bramall (Chair), M. Symes (Vice Chairman), V. Sellick, G. Tuckfield, C. Matravers, A White, G Rexworthy, T Brick, T Vesey  
C Morrison-Jones, Clerk

C Lawrence (County Councillor)

**1) To receive any apologies of absence**

WSDC Cllr A Trollope-Bellew

**2) Declarations of Interest/Dispensations**

CB- Beacon Field, as a neighbour

AW-Beacon Field, as a neighbour

**3) Public comments, questions or suggestions**

None

**4) District and County Councillor reports**

**SCC Cllr C Lawrence**

- Christine reported that she had been on a visit to Hinkley C. It is very impressive with 2,500 people currently working there. The construction project is opening many job opportunities- not just those directly in the construction industry but a whole range of supporting roles as well.

CM noted that the Southern Nuclear Training College (part of Bridgwater & Taunton College) opens soon in Cannington

- The Somerset Rural Life Museum, in Glastonbury, is now re-open after makeover
- SCC Children's Services is due for its OFSTED inspection in November.

Improvement is needed since the last inspection, which found services to be inadequate.

There has been a huge investment in staff levels. SCC are confident in the improvements that have already taken place but are aware that there is still an enormous amount to do to deliver the excellent services that are aspired to.

- Flu jabs are now available and CL urged anyone who was eligible to ensure that they have the vaccination

**WSDC Cllr A Trollope-Bellew**

Anthony had previously sent his apologies for not being able to attend but asked that the following points were highlighted in his absence:

- Visit to Hinkley Point C. would any councillors be interested if he were able to organise this? Probably a Tues or Fri would be best (13.30-16.00)
- As he had previously circulated to councillors, ATB has written to the Secretary of

State questioning the policy of no development in the hamlets

- No news as yet from the Secretary of State regarding the formation of a new council

#### **5) Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 14/9/17 plus the extra-ordinary planning meetings held on 11/9/17 and 28/10/2017**

Councillors agreed that these minutes represented a true record of the meetings and they were signed by the Chairman.

#### **6) Matters arising from the minutes**

None

#### **7) Neighbourhood Plan**

On 5<sup>th</sup> October the referendum was held on the adoption of its Neighbourhood Plan. 115 votes were cast in favour (59.58%) and 78 votes were cast against (40.41%). Formal adoption of the plan by West Somerset is due at the end of November and then Stogumber will have a Neighbourhood Plan which the District Council will need to refer to when considering planning matters. CB reported that he would write a piece for the Stogumber Standard to publicise the result of the referendum.

#### **8) The Beacon Field**

- The clerk has contacted Mr Criddle to confirm the cost for phase 2 if it undertaken next year. Once this has been received, grant applications can be submitted.
- Dog waste in field and churchyard: Councillors noted that if dog waste continues to be problem it will be difficult to find a grazer in future. The clerk reported that she has contacted Environmental Health at WSDC and has been advised that if the owner of the dogs concerned is known, WSDC can send a warning letter explaining the penalties for letting your dog foul a public space. The Officer offered to send out 'no dog fouling' stickers.

A dog waste bin was suggested, but the cost of emptying this would have to be borne by the PC and this was not considered acceptable at the present time. TV's suggestion of providing 'poo bags' within the Beacon Field was considered worth trialling – it was agreed to purchase an inexpensive dispenser and hang it by the field gate.

VS suggested that a report could be written in the Stogumber Standard explaining why dogs should be wormed and their mess picked up. It's a public health issue. Councillors agreed that this was a useful, educational approach.

#### **9) Parking / speeding along Station Road**

The PC had received an email from a parishioner about parking outside the school & speeding along Station Road

CB raised the need for signage to reduce the speed and Cllr CL suggested that the clerk write to Jo Sharp at County Hall re having signage (timed flashing signs) in the region of the school

It was noted that the 2 issues, speeding & parking, were separate problems (although the parked cars may in fact be acting as a form of traffic calming). Regarding the parking it was suggested that maybe the school/governors could send out a communication to parents asking for more thoughtful parking and to respect the yellow lines?

It was also agreed to seek further advice from a parishioner with professional experience of speeding issues

#### **10) Playground**

This will be covered at the meeting of the Playground Association, to be held directly after the Parish Council meeting.

## 11) Finance

### a) Payments to approve

C Morrison-Jones	Salary	£623.77
HMRC	PAYE contribution	£42.60
C Morrison-Jones	Expenses & reimbursements	£32.00
Water2business	Water in Beacon Field	£41.15
Stogumber Standard	Referendum flyer printing costs	£17.50
PWLB	Beacon Field Loan paid by D/D	£3,223.02

### b) Amounts received

21.9.17	Mr Sherren	splay donation	£200.00
19.9.17	WSDC	2 <sup>nd</sup> half of precept	£9,500.00

### c) Approve bank reconciliation

Current account balance as at 29/9/17 is £20,167.48.

Reserve account balance as at 31/8/17 is £3,373.76

Resulting in the total balance held, as of 29/9/17, is £23,540.73, including earmarked funds of £3,568.25

### d) Any other financial matters notified to the clerk in advance of the meeting

The clerk reported that NatWest have requested that the request to update the bank signatories is resubmitted. The clerk reported that she has lodged a formal complaint regarding NatWest's handling of the request to action the changes.

The required mandate forms were completed again, to resubmit to NatWest

## 12) Planning

### i. Application 3/07/17/010 at Leigh Mill Farm, Crowcombe Parish – update

The PC has received several communications regarding this application. It should be noted that this is in Crowcombe parish and it is normal parish protocol not to interfere in another parish's issue unless requested to do so by the parish concerned. However, individual members of the public are free to comment on any application that they wish to, regardless of its location.

### ii. Any other planning matters reported to the clerk before the meeting

None

## 13) To Receive Reports from Members of Meetings attended as representatives of the Parish Council.

TV reported on the West Somerset Flood Group meeting. What was suggested that areas above flood area should slow the water down naturally and farmers should be encouraged to slow down drainage. TV indicated that farmers would be compensated if this was the case and VS confirmed that this would be funded by Natural England

## 14) Highways

### i. Updates on previously reported issues

a) The edge of Vellow Road falling away: Highways have responded with this is not part of the surfaced carriageway and if vehicles move on to this area they do so at their own risk.

b) The pothole by the White Horse has been repaired – the clerk was asked to thank Highways for their prompt action

c) An order has been placed by Highways to clear a number of grips on Ashbeer Hill over the next couple of months

**ii. Japanese Knotweed by Kingswood Village Pump**

A parishioner has reported Japanese Knotweed, a notifiable plant, by the Kingswood Village Pump. The clerk told councillors that she had reported it to WSDC, who had responded that Wessex Water were responsible for the area. Wessex Water have proved most helpful, but their enquiries proved that this was not one of their sites and the matter has been passed back to WSDC. Cllr CL suggested to report to David Peake as it is bordering a Highway

**iii. Any other issues to report**

A pothole has appeared in Hill Street, opposite Boars Head cottage (sometimes under a parked car)

**15) Clerk's report**

**i. SCC, Highways:** The depot open day will be on Saturday the 25 November 2017 to enable Parish Councils the opportunity to collect 10 x 20kg salt bags in advance of the winter season.

Have plenty left from last year

This year Highways will only be filling salt / grit bins on a reactive basis (due to last year's mild weather), therefore SCC require to be informed by Friday 24 November the specific locations in the parish that require topping up. Ms will check and report to clerk

**ii. Somerset Waste Partnership:** Christmas and New Year collection dates have been released and the changes are summarised below

Monday 18 to Friday 22 Dec - No change

Monday 25 to Friday 29 Dec - All two days later, including Monday pickups on Wednesday 27 Dec and Friday pickups on Sunday 31 Dec

Monday 1 to Friday 5 Jan - All one day later, including Friday pickups on Saturday 6 Jan

**iii. Family Support Services & Children's Centres consultation:** A Somerset County Council consultation on proposed changes to the way it provides support to children and families is now underway.

The proposals are for a Family Support Service that would bring together the Council's 'Getset' service – which includes children's centre support for families and children aged 0 to 19 – and support from Health Visitors and the School Nursing Service.

More detail, supporting information and a questionnaire are available online

[www.somerset.gov.uk/familysupportandchildrenscentres](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/familysupportandchildrenscentres) The closing date for responses is 1 December 2017.

**16) Any other business by permission of the Chairman**

Parking:

- Suppliers will not deliver to shop & pub due to parking on Hill Street as lorries can't get up there.
- parked van at Vellow Road makes it difficult for school bus to get through
- builders parking in Dene Close associated with the building at Sunnydene could cause problems

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January, commencing at 7.30pm, at the Deane Close Common Room