

Stogumber Parish Council.

Draft Minutes of meeting held in Deane Close Common Room on 12th July 2012

The meeting started at 19:30

Present

J. Spicer, Chairman	C. Bramall	K. Rew	C Matravers
M. Symes	V Sellick	J Danson	T Simpson
J Leeming, Clerk	PCSO P Bolton	K James	

11 members of the public

Item	Topic	Action
1	Apologies: Apologies were accepted from A Trollope Bellow	
2	Declaration of Interests. CB declared a personal interest in item 8 Miss May's field as a neighbour.	
3	Public comments, questions or suggestions. Members of the public raised concerns about a dangerous dog, which had attacked and injured a dog on the public footpath behind Zinch House. This was not an isolated incident; it was alleged that the same dog had attacked a previous dog owned by the same person. Initial police advice was that it was a civil matter because it was a dog on dog attack. Photos of the injuries and a letter with 55 signatures were given to the clerk asking SPC to take action. JS read out the letter and the advice the public had sought regarding dangerous dogs. PCSO PB stated he had contacted the owners and given them strong words of advice. The owners had paid the vet bills incurred as a result of the injuries. He said the owners had signed an undertaking form in the past to keep the dog under control but there were no sanctions the police could take if this undertaking was breached. SPC were extremely concerned about the incident and alleged previous incidents and wished the Police to take further action to ensure the safety of the people and dogs on the public footpath. TS offered to take the matter up and work with the police and report back.	TS
4	Acceptance of minutes. It was proposed and passed that the minutes of the meetings held on 1/5/12, Annual Meeting 17/5/12, 17/5/12, 6/6/12, 7/6/12 and 14/6/12 were reasonable records of the meeting. They were signed by the chairman.	
5	Co-option of New Councillor. It was proposed and seconded that Kate James be co-opted as councillor to replace Tracey Thomas who had resigned. The was unanimously passed. KJ then declared an interest in item 8 Miss May's Field as solicitor acting for Miss May's beneficiaries.	
6	District and County Council Reports. ATB (District and Council Councillor) not present to give reports. JL reported that the Electoral Review had been completed and as expected SPC would move to the Dunster ward. The next step would be for these changes to be passed by parliament.	
7	PCSO Report. PB reported 15 calls since the last meeting from the area including Stogumber. They were all minor incidents or non-injury accidents. There continues to be is an increase in non-dwelling burglaries and the police are appealing for sightings of suspicious people, callers or vehicles with details of time, date, place and registration numbers. An old explosive device was found in the village and a Naval Bomb Disposal Unit was called to deal with it. PB recorded his thanks to VS for the use of a field to detonate the device safely.	
8	Miss May's Field. Car Park Survey. Copies of letters, which had been received in response to the survey, have been circulated to all councillors. JS read out the results of the survey and a	

summary of the comments. 2 late submissions were also read out. JS then asked for comments from the public. Comments mirrored those in the responses and also included: the existing entrance was inadequate and the gate difficult to open, the car park as drawn on the survey leaflet was expensive and on the most valuable part of the field for possible future development, was a picnic area still a possibility, could a new village hall be built on the field, could the car park be incorporated into recreation facilities which could attract a grant. The council were asked if there was a tie on selling some of the land, JS explained there wasn't but if planning permission was granted on part of the field then 25% of the increase in the value would be payable to the beneficiaries. It had been suggested that a car park could be created on a higher part of the field without the need for such deep excavation although there would still be a need to excavate for an entrance and splay. CB said others had expressed the same view. CB said there was a degree of urgency to provide car parking for events and if access could be improved to the field then parking on the field as a temporary measure might be the way forward. It was suggested that this could act as a pilot for a permanent car park. MS felt the survey was a first step but that the council would eventually have to make decisions and act on them. . It was agreed to ask R Criddle for advice on improving the access, JS to organise this. It was agreed that the survey showed that there was a wide range of opinions suggestions which had not been anticipated, such as the sale of land for development, which lead SPC to hold a public meeting so that residents could have the opportunity to consider these new suggestions. TS to co-chair this open meeting with JS. JL to book the Village Hall for a suitable date in September.

JS CB

JL

It was reported that a discussion group with representatives from various organisations / clubs in the village, was starting to consider the village as a whole and share information among clubs. CB asked if there would be a council representative in this group. Any suggestions made by this group to the Parish Council would appear on an agenda for consideration at a normal Parish Council meeting.

9 **Transport to Minehead Eye.**

There has been no feedback from J Perrett, SCC transport manager regarding use of the minibus. Volunteer drivers have come forward. JS felt that possible use of the minibus could be incorporated with the youth club starting up. JD said that if sufficient funds were raised from the Beerfest, the Cricket Club was considering buying a minibus to transport teams and if so that may be available for other uses. JS to pursue J Perrett.

JS

10 **Stogumber Play Area.**

Plans have been drawn up and are ready for submission. The play area committee have requested SPC loan them the money to pay for the planning application. This was agreed to if the committee could not use the funds they had received from the police. CM to contact Magna regarding their contribution to the removal of spoil. JL to copy correspondence with Magna to CM. CM / CB to contact R Criddle regarding a start date for the work. JS reminded CM that if the play area committee want to apply for S106 money there is a form to complete.

11 **Adoption of new Code of Conduct.**

JL explained that parish councils were no longer bound by local council's codes of conduct but that SPC would have to adopt one of their own. The choices were, adopt one drawn up by WSC or NALC or devise our own. SALC are running training sessions in August, WSC probably in the Autumn. There would be changes needed to Standing Orders once a new code was adopted. It was agreed that JL would forward the WSC + NALC versions to the councillors for consideration and that she would attend the August training.

JL

12 **Finance**

a) The assets on 10/7/12 are as follows:

Current account **£4,0009.12**

Reserve account **£5,936.64**

Nat West has credited the current account with a further £100 compensation for their errors over the mandate.

b) The £200 donation to the Jubilee Committee has been returned and banked, as it was not required.

c) The statements on the year-end audit were read out and the council unanimously agreed that they were accurate and true.

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

Clerk's salary and PAYE June 2012 £181.97

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Office expenses – printer, printer ink, paper, envelopes £69.16

Printing costs for Survey leaflet £12.80

Internal Audit Fee £40.00

e) Youth Club

Gemma Baily outlined the plans to restart the Youth club January in conjunction with Rev. Val. They are looking for volunteers to help run the club for 3 hours per month and to join the committee. There won't be any summer activities as training and CRB checks won't be done in time. The Church will pay for CRB checks. Gemma asked SPC to pay for 1 person to attend a Paediatric First Aid training course at £95.00 and 1 person to attend a Food Hygiene course at £45.00. CB felt the Food Hygiene course could be done online cheaper and would forward details to GB. It was agreed to fund the courses and GB to give details to JL. It was suggested that GB write a piece for the Standard. The council thanked GB for taking on the responsibility of the Youth Club.

CB

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Risk Assessment

Internal audit highlighted the need to hold an annual risk assessment.

CB CM

CB and CM to meet with JL to undertake this

JL

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Planning

a) Togford, external and internal works, approved

b) 17 Oldway, retention of sheds - approved

c) Higher Vexford Farm, new agricultural building - approved

d) The Manor House, 1 Hill Street - approved

e) Periwinkle Cottage, 17 Oldway - approved

f) 4 Hill Street – approved

g) The Manor Linneys, High Street, felling of trees, and h) Kingswood Farm, Kingswood, replace 2 windows - it was decided not to hold a planning meetings, JL to respond to WSC to say SPC had no comment.

JL

i) Land near Northam Mill possibly being used as permanent residence without planning permission. A letter from 3 residences close to the property has written to SPC to voice their concerns regarding the use of this land. JL to refer this to WSC planning department.

JL

j) Keepers Cottage, replace existing extension – a planning meeting to be held on 19/7/12 at 7pm.

k) Lawful development certificate for existing carport at 7 Oldway – a planning meeting to be held on 19/7/12 at 7:30pm.

All

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Highways

a) WSC are drawing up a legal agreement for the transfer of ownership of the car park to SPC. JS read out the Heads of Terms. KJ suggested altering the term regarding keeping the area free from rubbish. JS to revise and forward to WSC.

JS

b) Still waiting feedback from Summerfield regarding them raising the kerb on Station Road.

c) MS has reported blocked gullies to Highways; their response was that these wouldn't be cleared unless there is a safety issue. Gullies are now

only cleared every 2 years.

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Any other business by permission of the Chairman.

TS asked for a reminder to be sent to WSC about replacing road signs at Wood Lane and Slade Close. JL to contact WSC. JL

Marilyn Bramall has been suggested as a replacement SPC representative school governor. There were no other nominations. JL to contact Roy Harbour, Chair of the governors JL

The meeting closed at 20:45. The next meeting will be at 7:30pm on Thursday 13th September at Deane Close Common Room. An open meeting will be held at 7:30pm on Wednesday 19th September at Stogumber Village Hall.