

Stogumber Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held in Deane Close Common Room at 19.30 on July 14th 2010. The meeting started at 19.30.

Present

J. Spicer, Chairman

C. Bramall

D. Criddle

C. Matravers

K. Rew

V. Sellick

M. Symes

T. Thomas

A. Weir, Clerk

T. Taylor, West Somerset Council

One parishioner

1. Apologies

Mr A. Trollope-Bellew

2. Declaration of Interests

KR declared an interest in CLOWNS.

3. Minutes of Meeting held on January 13th 2010

An amendment to the item on the Telephone Box was agreed, and then it was proposed and passed unanimously that the minutes of the meeting on 12th May be approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. Public comments, questions or suggestions

None were made.

5. County Council

There was no County Council report

6. West Somerset Council

WSC has a huge challenge with the EDF proposals for the New Nuclear Power Station at Hinkley Point. WSC has become more involved rather than leaving everything with Sedgemoor. The many topics include; how the workforce to the site will travel and the effect on the local road usage; where the workforce will live; how the local skilled labour will be used; how the effect of such usage will affect the price of normal services to the community and how Bridgwater College will be affected. WS is hoping to be able to cut £430,000 from their budget of 5.5 million. TT hopes there will be a surplus in a few years.

7. Co-option of Parish Councillor

7.1 It was proposed and seconded and passed unanimously that Mr Jeremy Danson should be co-opted to the Parish Council. Mr Danson agreed to be co-opted.

7.2 It was proposed and unanimously agreed that a letter of thanks for all his work on Council should be sent to Mr John Merrick and that this letter should also be submitted to the Standard for publication.

7.3 It was proposed and passed unanimously that Mr C. Bramall should become the Vice Chairman of the Council. Mr Bramall accepted.

8. Standing Orders.

8.1 It was proposed and agreed that we should adopt the draft standing orders that circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting, the draft being based on discussions at the previous meeting.

8.2 The Risk Analysis was not considered at this meeting

9. Electronic service of meeting notices, agendas, etc

After careful consideration, it was proposed and agreed that meeting notices, agendas, etc would be sent electronically to those Councillors who wished to receive them this way and who were prepared to sign a declaration to this effect, whilst other Councillors would continue to receive meeting notices, agendas, etc by hand or by post.

The wording of the declaration to be agreed at the next meeting.

10. S106 Money

The Chairman reported that WSC are pursuing the £18,000 (owed by Gadds in relation to Butt's Orchard / Archer's Grove) through legal processes. The Parish Council asked TT to ensure that WSC reviewed its S106 legal agreements and processes to minimise the risk of future S106 monies not being paid promptly. It was noted that with the houses that had been sold since Gadds found itself in financial difficulties, considerably more than £1M had changed hands, so it was hard to see why the £18,000 had not been obtained by WSC.

Action TT**10.1 Play area and Magna**

It was proposed and agreed that the Chairman would write to Magna to express the Council's concern and displeasure that still no action had been taken to return to the play area committee in good condition the part of the play area used by Magna's contractors.

11. Finance

11.1 Changing the bank account signatures is not yet complete.

11.2 Present situation is: Current Account £60. Reserve Account £7. AMC account £7918.

It was proposed and agreed that £2000. should be transferred from AMC account to the current account

11.3 Proposed and agreed to pay £25 to CLOWNS

11.4 The questions in the Annual Governance Statement in the accounts Audit Form were Read to the Council and it was proposed and agreed that the Chairman should sign the declaration.

11.5 The Clerk will bring to the next meeting the Finance Regulations for consideration.

Action AW**12 Planning**

12.1 Catford Cottage, Escott. It was reported that it was agreed at the site meeting held on 10th July that the Council would support the application.

12.2 Higher Vexford House. A site meeting will be arranged.

Action AW

12.3 Wayside, Monksilver. It was proposed and agreed that the Council did not wish to take a view on this application in Monksilver parish.

12.4 After looking at the boundary between Monksilver and Stogumber as last amended, it was agreed that no further action was necessary.

12.5 Councillors were requested to inform the clerk if they were going to attend or not going to attend site meetings.

Action all Councillors**13. Area Meeting**

Potholes. The Clerk reported from the Area Meeting that a new material was being used for filling potholes and that it could be a bit fluid, but its performance was being monitored.

Magna. The Clerk reported that the arrangement that District Council had two elected members on the Magna Board had now ceased and Magna now present a half yearly report to the Council's Scrutiny Committee. This was felt to be satisfactory by the District Council

14. Review of County Council owned land, particularly Railway Lands near Turks Castle

This was outside the Parish Boundary and whilst it was good to be informed of such actions it was felt in this case that it should be left to Bicknoller Parish to make any recommendations.

15. Avon and Somerset Strategic Policing Plan 2010-2013

It was proposed and agreed that the Vice Chairman would consider the plan and respond on the Council's.

Action CB**16. Highway matters**

16.1 Station Road new footpath. After some discussion it was proposed and agreed that the wooden fencing on the barn side of the path along Station Road should be maintained by the Parish Council but would not accept responsibility for the continuation of this fencing leading down Hall Farm drive.

It was understood that the County Council would be responsible for the wooden fencing on the of Station Road side of the path, along the top of the retaining wall.

- 16.2 Tree at Pickpurse Lane junction. It was proposed and agreed that the Clerk would write to the County Council to express the Parish Council's concern that the tree recently planted at the junction of Pickpurse Lane and Station Road obscured visibility and created a hazard.

Action AW

- 16.3 Permissive path to Kingswood. The Chairman reported on discussions with the new owner of Higher Kingswood house about re-opening the permissive path down to Kingswood. The new owner is going to consider this over the next few months.
- 16.4 Path to cricket club. TT reported on discussions with Summerfield about clearing undergrowth from the path from Pickpurse Lane to the cricket club, which we think remains their responsibility. It was proposed and agreed that if it appeared that Summerfield would not clear the path before the school summer holidays start, TT would request Colin Hawkins to do so at the Parish Council's expense.

17. Telephone box

There was nothing to discuss.

18. Salt Bins

It has previously been proposed and agreed that we should purchase two more salt bins, and the Chairman undertook to identify the supplier so the Clerk could place the order.

Action JS and AW

19. Waste bin to be moved from telephone box to Village Hall gate

The Clerk reported on discussion with WSC and will continue to seek the move of the bin as soon as possible.

Action

20. Bus shelter by Archer's Grove

The Chairman reported that he was not pursuing Gadds over this matter whilst the £18,000 S106 money is still outstanding, so as not to confuse the two matters.

21. Meeting of interest

Next West Somerset Area Panel Meeting will be on 24th August 2010 at 19.00 at the Council Offices in Williton.

22. Correspondence available.

The Clerk went through some of the recent correspondence that had been sent through to The Council and indicated that most of the information available, will be in the Church should anyone wish to find out any further information

23. Matters by permission of the Chairman

Junction of Ashway and Ashbeer Hill. VS raised the possibility of creating a wider verge on the up hill side of the junction between Ashway and Ashbeer Hill, to enable larger vehicles to turn especially when cars are parked opposite the junction. This work would be done in conjunction with the landowner George Daniel. It was agreed that VS would continue to investigate this, and if the widening appeared to be possible, would ask the Clerk to call a formal site meeting to enable Councillors to consider the matter and residents to express their views.

Action VS and AW.

Projects for Parish Council. The Chairman asked that all Councillors come to the next meeting with ideas of projects or activities that the Parish Council could pursue that could be completed before the end of the current Council in May 2011.

Action all Councillors

24. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 15th September.

The meeting closed at 21.27