

Minutes, Stogumber Parish Council Meeting

Held on Thursday 14th July 2022, at the Village Hall at 7.30pm

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

Present:

Cllrs M Symes (Chairman), T Brick, A White, V Sellick, J Foley, C Matravers, T Vesey
C Morrison-Jones (clerk)
SCC Cllrs C Lawrence and M Kravis

Public speaking:

- none

SCC Cllr C Lawrence:

- handout as per BPC last night
- 1st April 2023 – the new Somerset unitary will be in place
- Somerset Integrated Care Board replaces Clinical commissioning group. Unites health provision in Somerset.
- £3.8million will be distributed as part of the Somerset Household Support Fund by the end of September to give support with food and energy bills. Further details can be found at www.somerset.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/somerset-household-support-fund
- SEND services consultation runs until 19th September
www.somerst.gov.uk/annualsendsurvey
- Grass cutting & surface dressing will be finished by September. If there are areas that need a double cut (ie 2 passes high) need logging with Highways

SCC / SWT Cllr M Kravis:

- Attended Wessex flood & coastal board.
- Forecast of an overspend this year
- SWT push to recycle electricals & batteries
- LCNs for the new Unitary are being evaluated and assessed

Cllr M Kravis left the meeting at this point

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies of absence received from Cllr C Bramall

2. Declarations of Interest/Dispensations

AW-Beacon Field (as neighbour)

3. Receive and approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 12th May 2022 and the Parish Council meetings held on 13th and 20th June 2022

The minutes were approved by Members and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of the previous meetings.

4. Any matters arising from the minutes not covered by the agenda items below

None

5. The Beacon Field:

a) apple tree donation

ID Verde (waste disposal contractors) have donated a Cox's Orange Pippin apple tree to the Parish Council as part of The Queens Platinum Jubilee tree canopy. The Orchard Group have agreed to plant it in the Orchard in the Beacon Field and take responsibility for its future care. As the summer is not the ideal planting time, currently the tree is being kept in its pot and cared for at a parishioner's home. It will be planted in its permanent location once the tree has become dormant in the winter.

b) beacon repainting and securing

The PC had received an email requesting that the beacon is repainted to ensure its longevity and to also consider securing the supporting pole in concrete.

Councillors agreed to set up a working party to carry out the necessary works

c) the biodiversity project

No updates from last meeting

d) request for permission to use the field for a go kart race next year

The PC has received a request to use the Beacon Field for a go-kart race next year. Councillors felt that there were health and safety concerns and resolved not to give permission

e) any other matters concerning the Beacon Field or car park

It was noted that there were several dead elm trees in the hedge between the Beacon Field and the adjoining field

6. Highways / Footpaths

a) previously reported matters concerning Highways or Footpaths

The grips and gullies have still not been cleared on Ashbeer Hill. During the last heavy rainfall, water washed down the road and flooded a house further down the hill. The clerk was asked to contact Highways again in the anticipation that this work would finally be done before the autumn rains.

b) raised footpath along Station Road

MS reported that the replacement of the fencing on the inside of the raised path is now scheduled to take place in July.

c) signage from Station Road to the shop/pub

A request had been received for a permanent sign be put up at the Station Road end of the footpath to the shop and pub. The property owner next to the footpath entrance has been contacted and is happy to have a sign mounted on their fence. Councillors agreed to the purchase of a sign with the clerk being delegated to organise.

d) parking Brook Street/Station Road junction

Recently inconsiderate parking at the Brook Street/Station Road junction caused the school bus to get stuck (with children on board) for over an hour. The Police were contacted (incident log no ASZ0220701-0624) and with their assistance the cars were

moved to allow the bus to pass. This is not an isolated incident, parked cars regularly make negotiating the junction difficult and dangerous.

The problem was discussed by councillors, and it was agreed to discuss with the PCSO how incidents could be logged in order to build up a record of obstructions at the junction. It was also agreed that an article in the Stogumber Standard could raise awareness of the problem and the clerk was requested to contact Highways to ask about the possibility of yellow lines being installed

e) lighting along footpath through church yard

The clerk reported that she had spoken with the SCC Senior Lighting Engineer and the joint financing scheme for new lighting is only available for lighting on adopted highways and paths. The path through the church yard is not an adopted path. Any mains powered lighting would have to be run from a metered supply drawn from nearby.

He advised that excavations / cable laying in a church yard is fraught with difficulty as permits are required to break ground – both for installation and for future maintenance purposes. For these, and other reasons, his recommendation was to consider solar powered options

Councillors requested the clerk investigated the solar option further with the hope that site meetings could be set up with suppliers with the anticipation of obtaining a quote.

f) new footpath connecting the car park to the school

The clerk reported that she has repeatedly contacted Highways regarding this but has yet to make any progress or meaningful response

MS reported that he had spoken with residents opposite the school, and they are happy to be involved in any consultation process regarding where the path could potentially exit the Beacon Field

g) any other matters concerning Highways or Footpaths

The clerk reported that the flashing street light at Slade Close, opposite the Beacon Field entrance, is still ongoing with Magna

7. New Item of Playground Equipment

a) update on order

The deposit for the climbing pyramid has now been paid to Morti Sport and the anticipated installation date is the week commencing 5th September. The Chairman is meeting with Morti Sport at the playground next week to confirm the exact location for the installation.

b) to consider delegating authority to the clerk to commission the post installation safety inspection

It is anticipated that the installation of the new piece of equipment may be completed outside of the PC meeting cycle. Before it can be opened for use and the final 15% of the invoice settled with Morti Sport a satisfactory post installation inspection needs to be carried out. The Play Inspection Company have indicated that this will cost in the region of £300 and can be commissioned with an anticipated 5 days lead time.

Councillors resolved that the clerk could commission this inspection as soon as the installation is completed.

8. Planning:

a) Any current planning concerns

None

b) Previously reported planning concerns

None

c) Any other matters concerning planning

None

9. Finance

a) to approve bank reconciliation, 31.5.22

Councillors resolved to approve the bank reconciliation, dated 31.5.22, of £39,121.84
£6,805.65 of this balance is held in reserved funds.

b) consider grant to Stogumber Play Ground Association

A grant request was not necessary at the present time

c) payments to approve

C Morrison-Jones	£610.27	Salary – June 22 & July 22 and expenses
HMRC	£61.80	PAYE
SALC	£40.00	councillor training (28th April & 3rd May)
Village Hall	£20.00	hall hire, 9th March 2022
Morti Sport	£8,790.00	(inc VAT of £1,465) deposit, climbing net

d) amounts received

10.6.22	£5250	Lottery grant for new playground equipment
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e) any other financial matters reported to the clerk prior to the meeting

None

10. Governance Documents Review:

a) Standing Orders

Councillors had previously received a draft of the proposed Standing Orders and resolved to delay a decision regarding adoption until the September meeting

b) Financial Regulations

Councillors had previously received a draft of the proposed Financial Regulations and resolved to delay a decision regarding adoption until the September meeting

11. Items of report and matters for the next meeting

None

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.07pm

Stogumber Playground Association Meeting

Held on 14th July 2022,

at the Village Hall. Commencing at 9.07pm

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

Present:

Cllrs M Symes (Chairman), T Brick, A White, V Sellick, T Vesey, J Foley, C Matravers
C Morrison-Jones (clerk)

1. To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllr C Bramall

2. To approve the minutes of Playground Association meeting held on 12th May 2022

The minutes were approved by Members and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of the previous meeting.

3. Any matters arising from the minutes not covered below

None

4. Playground upkeep:

a) New piece of equipment

This was discussed during the Parish Council as the PC are purchasing the new piece of equipment

b) Any other matters concerning playground upkeep

- CM will organise more woodchip now that the weedkilling has been done
- The basket ball hoop has been bent down

5. Finance:

a) Payments to approve

None

b) Amounts received

None

c) Approve bank reconciliation

As there had been no financial movement within the account since the previous meeting the previously approved bank reconciliation dated 31.3.22 of £227.96 is still correct

6. Any other business by permission of the Chairman

None

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.13pm