

Stogumber Parish Council.

Draft Minutes of meeting held in Deane Close Common Room on 14th May 2015

The meeting started at 19:40

Present

J. Spicer, Chairman C Matravers V Sellick

M Symes J Hull

J Leeming, Clerk

District Councillor A Trollope-Bellew

Three members of the public

Item	Topic.	Action
1.	Apologies. There were apologies from C Bramall.	
2.	Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair. J Spicer was unanimously voted into the position of Chairman. C Bramall was not present and there were no other nominations for Vice Chair, this will be carried forward to the next meeting.	
3.	Declarations of Interest and requests for Dispensations. There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations.	
4.	Public comments, questions or suggestions. There were no public comments, questions or suggestions made.	
5.	Acceptance of minutes of meetings. It was proposed and passed that the draft minutes of the meeting held on 16/4/15 was a reasonable record of the meeting. The minutes were signed by the chairman.	
6.	Co-option of councillors. G Tuckfield and T Brick were co-opted onto the council. There is 1 vacancy to fill. JL to advertise the position.	JL
7.	District and County Councillor reports. There was no County Councillor present to report. District Council. ATB has been re-elected as district councillor for Crowcombe and Stogumber. He has also been elected as leader of the Conservative group on West Somerset Council. The Conservative group increased their number of seats on WSC from 19 to 21, there are also 4 UKIP, 2 independent and 1 labour councillor. Hinkley Point has moved into a care and maintenance phase until further investment is forthcoming.	
8.	Police report. JL had not received a police report. It was agreed that JL should thank the police for their actions in resolving recent problems in the village and acknowledge the increased police presence during that time.	
9.	Neighbourhood Plan update. The agreed draft Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted to West Somerset Council for comment, ahead of the formal consultation. ATB will discuss this with WSC and report back.	
10.	The Beacon Field. a) J Shorten has submitted drawings and a letter to WSC for a visibility splay at the Beacon Field under permitted development rights. It was agreed that if WSC agree to the works being undertaken under permitted development rights, JL would obtain quotes for the work. CB and TV to be approached to write a specification to be sent out to contractors. b) Notices regarding dog mess have been put up on the gates to the Beacon Field and an article in the Standard.	JL CB
11.	Finance. a) The current account balance as of 30/4/15 is £8,703.41, which includes play area funds of £887.51. This includes the 1 st instalment of the precept of £5,500.00. The loan repayment of £3,223.02 was take out on 14/5/15. The reserve account balance is £3,370.64 b) The following expenditures were all agreed and the appropriate cheques	

signed.

Clerk's salary and tax for May	£258.31
Internal Audit fee	£32.00
SALC Affiliation fee	£167.60
Geo & Co invoice for visibility splay drawings	£148.49
Insurance renewal	£265.00

c) The accounting statements for 2014/15 were agreed and signed by the Chairman and clerk.

d) The Annual Governance statements were read out and agreed, these were signed by the Chairman.

12. Planning.

- 3/31/15/005 Extension to Higher Barn, Capton Lane, Stogumber – a planning meeting has been arranged for 18/5/15.
- 3/31/15/004 and 007, replacement shed at 1 Vellow Road, planning and listed building consent – site meeting to be arranged
- 3/31/15/006 Higher Kingswood, retrospective consent for change of use of land from agricultural to domestic fruit / vegetable – site meeting to be arranged.

13. Highways.

- It was reported that the Pickpurse Lane sign has been removed from its posts. A resident has also enquired about the repairs to the Preston Lane sign. One of the arms on the fingerpost at Hartrow Cross has been ripped off. Potholes to report on the lane off Sheep Stealing Lane, going towards South Lodge and on Coombe Cross Lane near Coombe Cross Cottage. JL
- CB approached the residents on Slade Close who would be happy to see part of their front garden made into parking spaces. JL to write to Magna to enquire if they would undertake the work. JL
- JL to write to Magna regarding the hedge at Quantock View overhanging the road.

14. Flood Group update.

GT attended the West Somerset Flood Group meeting. There was an appeal for help in tagging gullies which would enable SCC to identify and clear them better. GT to write an article in the Standard asking for volunteers. The Environment Agency has agreed clearance of waterways other than main ones where this could reduce the flood risk. MS and GT to walk Donniford Brook to identify areas and report back to the EA. GT MS

GT would like advice on how to deal with the hole that has appeared in Donniford Brook, JL to write to SCC. JL

15. Any other business by permission of the Chairman.

D Lewes's solicitor has been in contact to offer an option of 20 years on the land she has offered to SPC for use as a new graveyard subject to SPC paying the legal costs of drawing up the option. This is estimated at £750. There would be conveyancing costs to pay when the option was exercised but no purchase costs. TV reported that the current graveyard is not full and if they continued to re-use graves older than 100 years (providing no members of the family still lived in the village), he could see no need for a new site in the foreseeable future. It was agreed that SPC would approach CRASH and TV would discuss with the PCC regarding helping with the costs. SPC would make a final decision on taking up the offer when it has heard from both these groups.

The Play Area committee were happy for SPC to obtain a quote to re-instate the ditch on the play area. R Criddle has provided a quote and JS and JL to meet with the play area committee to discuss this and the future of the play area.

The meeting closed at 9:00 p.m. The next meeting will be at 7:30pm on Thursday 9th July 2015 at Deane Close Common Room.