

Minutes of the Stogumber Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting

held on Thursday 14th November 2019

at Deane Close Common Room, commencing at 7.30pm

PRESENT

Cllrs C Bramall (Chair), M Symes (Vice-chair), T Vesey, T Brick, G Tuckfield, V Sellick, R Foster, A White

C Morrison-Jones (clerk)

SCC Cllr C Lawrence

2 x Members of the public (just for agenda item 10b)

SWT Cllr B Allen (only for his presentation)

A short presentation by SW&T Cllr B Allen about the aims of the West Somerset Community Rail Project

- The Minehead Rail Link Group is campaigning to restart passenger services between Minehead & Taunton
- A public meeting last year in Minehead with overwhelming support from residents to reinstate the service
- The role of the group is to push the project forward, not to run any future service or project
- Asking for an expression of support from parishes
- Network rail would licence the operation, but the service would be run by local operator (probably GWR)
- They couldn't guarantee that every train would stop at Stogumber, that would be down to schedulers
- West Somerset would receive the track access charges from GWR to use the track
- Ticket price would be covered by national rail conditions of carriage
- There are a lot of unanswered questions, they are not an operator but wish to gain expressions of support to try and move this idea forward

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

Cllr C Matravers, SW&T Cllrs P Pilkington and M Kravis

2) **Declarations of Interest/Dispensations**

AW & CB declared an interest in the Beacon field (as neighbours)

AW declared an interest West Somerset Railway (as a volunteer)

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

None

4) **District and County Councillor reports**

SCC, Cllr C Lawrence:

- Chairs the Health & Wellbeing Board. Interesting work, particularly in safeguarding older people. There are 234 care-homes in Somerset, all of which need regulating to ensure they are run safely
- Neighbourhood schemes in Somerset are working to help people in their own homes with the appropriate care network.
- Brown signs - CL has talked with Kate Brown (taken over from Jo Sharp) and will try and meet with her again to talk through it and maybe arrange a visit to the village

CL left the meeting at this point

- 5) **Minutes of Parish Council meeting on 12.9.19 and planning meetings held on 16.9.19 (x2)**
The minutes for the above meetings were approved by councillors and signed by the Chair as a true record

6) **Matters arising from the minutes**

a) **Wig-Wag lights outside the school**

Now installed and working beautifully. The timings of lights cannot be altered – they are set by the operators. Village Hall Committee wrote to school asking them to use Beacon Field not Hall car park and it appears to be working; no one from the school is parking in Village Hall car park

b) **Grit Bin, Capton**

The bin has now been installed at Capton. Highways have been requested to fill it. Possibly a new bin at the end of Ashway / Old Way junction will be needed next year as the existing one is in poor repair. MS offered to patch the existing bin for this winter

c) **Matters arising from the minutes not covered by the agenda items below**

None

7) **Consider ‘support in principle’ of the parish council for the West Somerset Community Rail Project**

Concerns were raised that the commercial trains will ‘muscle in’ over the heritage trains. This will result in a drop in revenue to West Somerset Heritage Railway which currently brings a lot of tourist money into the area. Also, concerns were voiced that Stogumber station will not be stopped at on this proposed new service. Stogumber does not have a bus service, other places that they are anticipating stopping at do have a bus service

Councillors resolved to write a letter of support in principle providing that:

- Stogumber station is included as a stopping point enough times for it to be a useful commuter service
- The service doesn’t interfere with the working of West Somerset heritage railway as it is now
- The service must run from Taunton to Minehead (not just part way)

8) **Playground – consider grant to Stogumber Play-Ground Association**

Councillors agreed a grant of £500 to the Stogumber Play-Ground Association

9) **The Beacon Field**

a) **Rubbish Bin**

The litter bin is now installed on the entrance splay of The Beacon Field. There is noticeably less mess in Beacon Field as a result

b) **Allotments / Community garden**

Awaiting further information

c) **Signage**

It was agreed that a post could be put at the Beacon Field entrance to take a ‘Beacon Field Car Park sign’, with possibly another on at Majors Corner for traffic coming from Ashbeer.

d) **Grass Let 2020**

It was agreed to offer the let to P Tapp again for 2020

e) **Any other matters concerning the Beacon Field or Car Park**

CB reported that the hedge trimming has been requested, but not done yet

10) **Highways / Footpaths**

a) **Updates on previously reported issues**

The clerk reported that she had contacted Highways to request that the debris remaining from trimming in Wood Lane was cleared up, and in future years could the hedge cutter make two passes of the hedges as the standard one pass is not sufficient to make the lane passable

b) Brown information signage

Highways have forwarded the application form to start investigations if the signs are a possibility. At this point there is no indication of the possible final cost of installation, if approved by SCC. The PC has been advised that the cost of the investigation process is £250. SCC Cllr CL has offered to talk with Kate Brown (Highways) to further the investigation process.

Stogumber does appear to meet the classification of a ‘bypass community’.

c) Temporary Road Closures

i) Castlake Lane & Water Lane. Castlake Lane: from the junction with Water Lane, northwards for 100m. Water Lane: from the junction with Castlake Lane, south-eastwards for 100m.

This order will enable Utility Services Ltd to carry out telegraph pole repair works on behalf of BT Openreach.

The Order becomes effective on 10 December 2019 and the works are expected to last for 3 days (09:30-15:30hrs).

ii) Higher Lodge via Willett To Willett Lodge from 380m north of the junction with Willett Hill Cross to Thornbush Cross, northwards for a total distance of 25 metres.

This order will enable Wessex Water to renew a stop tap

The Order becomes effective on 09 December 2019 and the works are expected to last for 3 days.

iii) Stogumber to Beech Tree Cross from the junction with Escott Lane, westwards for a distance of 665 metres.

This order will enable Utility Services Ltd to carry out poling works on behalf of BT Openreach

The Order becomes effective on 03 December 2019 and the works are expected to last for 3 days (09:30-15:30).

iv) Rexton Lane from 440m south west of the junction with Boarpath Lane, south-westwards for a distance of 270 metres.

This order will enable Somerset Highways to carry out resurfacing works

The Order becomes effective on 27 November 2019 and the works are expected to last for 3 days (07:30-17:30).

d) Winter gritting arrangements

SCC have issued the gritting maps for this winter (circulated to councillors). Small salt bags will not be provided to parishes this year. The clerk reported that she has requested the refilling of all the grit bins in the parish

Some small bags are remaining stored by the church for this year if needed

e) Any issues to report

The grips on Ashbeer hill need cleaning out

11) VE Day 75

It was agreed to liaise with Village Hall committee and other village organisations

RF left meeting at this point

12) Finance

a) To approve bank reconciliation

Councillors resolved to approve the bank reconciliation, dated 30.9.19, of £26,949.86. £1,866.04 of this balance is held in reserved funds.

b) Payments to approve

Clerks Salary	£550.90
HMRC	£56.20
Clerk's expenses	£37.15

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|--|----------|---------------------|
| Grant to Stogumber Play Ground Association | £500.00 | |
| PWLB | £3223.02 | (d/d 11.11.19) |
| IDVerde. VAT element of litter bin invoice | £86.08 | Chq issued 3.10.19 |
| Water2business Beacon Field water | £13.52 | Chq issued 3.10.19 |
| Glasdon UK Grit bin | £124.48 | Chq issued 10.10.19 |
- c) Amounts received**
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|----------------------------------|------------|--|
| 6.9.19 SW&T. 2nd part of precept | £10,000.00 | |
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- d) Items for consideration during budget setting 2020/21 (January 2020 meeting)**
- Posts round path near church yard into station road (allow £500)
 - Small salt bags
 - Defibrillator contract renewal (defib contract runs out in May. Funding available from Somerset Prepared-up to 50% of defib costs)
 - Playground repairs
- e) Any other financial matters**
- The clerk thanked councillors for supporting her attending the VAT training course run by SALC. However, the course was fully booked – she hopes to attend the next one

13) Planning:

a) Previously considered applications – updates

- i) 3/31/19/006 (SWT Planning Authority)
Bosleys Cottage, Deans Lane, Stogumber, TA4 3QP
Proposal
Erection of poly tunnel for growing cut flowers (retention of works already undertaken). GRANT
- ii) 3/31/19/012 (SWT Planning authority)
Le Potager, 14 Sawpits Close, Stogumber, Taunton, TA4 3TX
Erection of an outbuilding forming a hobbies store and studio. GRANT
- iii) 3/31/19/009 (SWT Planning authority)
Outline planning application with all matters reserved for the erection of an agricultural workers dwelling
Higher Preston Farm, Preston Lane, Stogumber, TA4 3QQ. AWAITING DECISION

b) Any other planning matters reported to the clerk before the meeting

None

14) Any other business by permission of the Chairman

- It was noted that Chris Chilcott had recently passed away
- Defibrillator first aid training was held in the village hall this week

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.20

Minutes of the Stogumber Playground Association Meeting

held on 14th November 2019 at the Deane Close Common Room
commencing at 21.20

PRESENT

Cllrs C Bramall (Chair), M Symes (Vice-chair), T Vesey, T Brick, G Tuckfield, V Sellick, A White
C Morrison-Jones (clerk)

- 1) **To receive any apologies of absence**
Cllrs C Matravers and R Foster
- 2) **Public comments, questions or suggestions**
None
- 3) **To approve the minutes of Playground Association meetings held on 12.9.19**
The minutes for the above meeting were approved by councillors and signed by the Chair as a true record
- 4) **Matters arising from the minutes**
 - a) **Fencing**
The quote from C Moss to carry out the repairs / new fencing is approximately £450. MS was asked to speak to C Moss and ask that he please carries out the work.
 - b) **Any other matters arising from the minutes not covered below**
None
- 5) **Playground upkeep**
 - a) **Consider Annual Inspection report**
All matters raised were noted to be low risk apart from the Castle structure which is moderate. Repairs are ongoing
 - b) **Any issues raised in the routine inspections**
Investigate the possibility of C Moss anchoring the picnic table to stop it being moved to under the goal posts
 - c) **Litter**
A lot of litter and chairs together with an old bike have been left on the area
 - d) **Update regarding repairs /maintenance**
The clerk reported that she has contacted Woodlands SouthWest regarding weedkilling the play area but hasn't yet received a quote
- 6) **Finance**
 - a) **To approve bank reconciliation**
Councillors resolved to approve the bank reconciliation, dated 30.8.19, of £241.05
 - b) **Payments to approve**
None
 - c) **Amounts received**

23.9.19	SPC	grant	£200.00
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 - d) **Any other financial matters**
None
- 7) **Any other business by permission of the Chairman**
Tree branches are overhanging into playground from neighbours but they have offered to cut them back

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.32