

# Stogumber Parish Council.

Draft Minutes of meeting held in Deane Close Common Room on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2015

The meeting started at 19:30

## Present

J. Spicer, Chairman                      C Matravers    V Sellick  
M Symes                                      J Danson        C Bramall

J Leeming, Clerk

Advisors: T Vesey, D Ilman, M Griffiths

Consultant: J Shorten

County Councillor C Lawrence

One member of the public

Item	Topic.	Action
1.	<b>Apologi es.</b> There were apologies from G Tuckfield, J Hull, K Rew, District Councillor A Trollope-Bellew and advisor R Sharpe.	
2.	<b>Declaration of Interest and request for dispensations.</b> CB declared a personal interest in item 6 Beacon Field as a neighbour.	
3.	<b>Public comments, questions or suggestions.</b> There were no comments from the member of the public present.	
4.	<b>Acceptance of minutes of meetings.</b> It was proposed and passed that the draft minutes of the meeting held on 12/3/15 was a reasonable record of the meeting. The minutes were signed by the chairman.	
5.	<b>Neighbourhood Plan Update.</b> J Spicer and J Shorten have held a meeting with WSC to discuss the NP and revised it to include some of their comments. Once this draft has been agreed, there will be a 6 week formal consultation. Following that it will be handed to WSC for their formal consultation. The changes made are as follows: It was agreed to amend the introduction to include the Church in list of services and make it clear that it is a 10 year plan. EN3 Setting of Stogumber policy – this has been simplified with the descriptive text removed and an appendix added which has photos and descriptions of Stogumber. There was a discussion regarding this policy but it was agreed that sites on the approaches and outskirts of the village would be considered as long as the proposed development maintained or enhanced the setting of Stogumber. On advice from WSC, support for commercial scale renewable energy has been removed. There has been minor changes to the text in the Housing Delivery section and change to C4 Live-Work policy to mirror WSC policy. There was a discussion regarding the 100mm2 average size for new properties. It was agreed that if a site was only suitable for a single dwelling, then consideration would be given to a larger property if the applicant could justify the need. C8 School and Village Hall policy, WSC were supportive of this policy. Wording slightly amended to tighten the policy. C9 Existing Public Open Spaces has had the Cricket Club removed from the list of public open spaces but included as a valuable facility. C10 The Beacon Field - the potential uses of the field have been clarified. C12 Essential services has had reference to the Post Office removed as the shop has no control over this service. EC1 local economy has had specific business types removed as permitted development rules allows for changes between different types. Consideration to all possible types of business, when considering an application, has been added. EC4 Agricultural Land seeks to protect agricultural viability but has the only negative policy statement with regard to commercial scale solar arrays. EC7 Dwellings on New Holdings - reference to low impact holdings has been removed and replace with a longer period of temporary consent for dwellings. Appendix with statistics has been added.	

**6. The Beacon Field.**

The ball cock in the water trough has been repaired.

A resident has requested a dog bin be placed at the entrance to the Beacon Field. A dog bin would cost in the region of £200 per year to service. It was felt that one would not be sufficient, that it would not solve the problem of dog mess in the field as some dog owners would not use a bin and SPC could not afford the cost without an increase in precept. WSC will not move the bin at the top of Slade Close to that position. It was agreed that a strongly worded notice should be placed on the gate and in the Standard.

It was agreed to give the grass let on the Beacon Field to M Waldock, for the same amount as the previous year. M Waldock agreed to vacate the field for the Gardens Open and Music Festival and top the grass prior to these events if needed. M Waldock asked if in future years, the grass let could run from February to September as that was the period he would have the most need. This was agreed and tender letters would be sent out in December.

**7. Finance.**

a) The current account balance as of 9/4/15 is £3,489.25, this includes play area funds of £887.51. (Play area funds now includes the reclaimed vat on play area expenditure). 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 April	£258.31
Office expenses	£48.88
Wessex Water bill	£27.53

JL had authorised payment of the hedge cutting invoice and 2 councillors had signed the cheque prior to the meeting.

Hedge cutting invoice	£180.00
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**8. Risk Assessment.**

CB, CM and JS have reviewed the Risk Assessment, Asset Register, Statement of Internal Controls and Financial Regulations with JL (clerk) and are satisfied that they are up to date and relevant. Copies were made available to councillors for further comment. No further comments were made.

**9. Election.**

There have been 6 names put forward for nomination. As this is fewer than the required number, there will not be a parish council election. There will be 3 places available for co-option at a future parish council meeting after the election.

**10. Planning.**

a) 3/31/15/003 amendments to previous application at Quantock View, Wood Lane, Stogumber - granted JS

b) ABD31/15/001 Barn at Lower Vexford Farm prior approval for change of use – granted

JD reported that some residents had expressed disappointment in the decision of the Parish Council to support the planning application 3/31/15/002, Proposed New Dwelling at Purseys.

**11. Highways.**

A resident has reported that cars parked on Station Road opposite the entrance to Wood Lane is causing large vehicles to mount the kerb and damage the grass verge. It was suggested that if Magna made parking spaces in the gardens of those properties, this would alleviate the problem. CB to discuss with the residents if this would be acceptable to them before approaching Magna. CB

JL to write to Magna about the state of the hedges in Station Road, opposite the school. It was reported that the drains on Ashbeer had been cleared. JL

**12. Any Other Business.**

JS has discussed with the residents of Zinch House the possibility of digging an exploratory ditch on their land. They think that the only pipe crossing their land is the waste pipe and would like to see the ditches on the play area re-instated to see what effect this would have. JL to discuss this with the Play Area committee JL

and if they are in agreement, get a quote for the work.

JD reported that he had seen rubble tipped on farm land and asked what the position was regarding tipping.

There was a query regarding whether the residents of Pitts Cottage needed planning permission to remove part of their garden wall as it is in the conservation area. JL to write to the residents.

JL

There was a vote of thanks to councillors J Danson and K Rew, who are standing down, for their work for the council.

The meeting closed at 10:00 p.m. The next meeting will be at 7:30pm on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at Deane Close Common Room.