

Stogumber Parish Council, SPC.

Draft Minutes of meeting held in Deane Close Common Room on 17th May 2012

The meeting started at 19:20

Present

J. Spicer, Chairman

C. Bramall

K. Rew

M. Symes

V Sellick

J Danson

J Leeming, Clerk

| Item | Topic | Action |
|------|---|--------|
| 1 | Apologies: Apologies were accepted from Cliff Matravers and Trevor Simpson. Apologies were accepted from PCSO's Peter Bolton and Dave Rowe JL reported that Tracey Thomas has tendered her resignation as a councillor. JL to contact Elisa Day regarding the procedure to follow to advertise for a new councillor | JL |
| 2 | Declaration of Interests. CB declared a personal interest in item 8 Miss May's field as a neighbour. MS declared a personal interest in item 13E planning application as applicant. | |
| 3 | Public comments, questions or suggestions. There were no public comments from the member of the public. | |
| 4 | Acceptance of minutes It was proposed and passed that the minutes of the meetings on 8/3/12 and 24/3/12 were reasonable records of the meeting. They were signed by the chairman. The minutes of the meeting held on 1/5/12 have not yet been circulated and their acceptance will carry forward to the next meeting. | |
| 5 | Election of Officers. It was proposed and seconded that JS continue as chairman and that CB continue as Vice chairman. These resolutions were unanimously passed. | |
| 6 | District and County Council Reports. A Trollope-Bellow (District and Council Councillor) joined the meeting. County Report. There is a new Leader of SCC, John Osman who is councillor for Wells City Council and was formerly a cabinet member responsible for children and young people. The Deputy Leader is now David Hall, councillor for Bridgwater East and Bawdrip. There are service reviews taking place and savings and efficiencies will have to be found. The Hinkley Point local impact report has been submitted to the National Infrastructure Directorate. Of the £25M held in Icelandic banks, £15M has been recovered and SCC expect to receive a further £8M. District Report. WSC will have to hold a referendum for the council tax increases needed next year. The level of increase is not yet known because the size of government funding is not set. WSC portion of council tax is 9%, if a referendum votes against a tax increase, WSC may no longer be viable because of the level of cuts that would be needed in services. The planning performance agreement has run out, which means WSC will bear the future costs incurred during the Hinkley Point planning process rather than EDF. Plans for Williton supermarket have not yet been submitted. The civil parking enforcement will come into force in June; this means that councils rather than the police can enforce parking restrictions on street and in car parks. WSC have decided it will be cheaper to do this themselves rather than pay SCC to do it. SCC Adult Social Care staff are to move into the ground floor offices of WSC and their Minehead offices will close. | |
| 7 | PCSO Report. P Bolton had e-mailed a report, which JS read out. There were 20 calls between 17/4/12 and 17/5/12 to police from the area including Stogumber. There were 5 crimes reported, none of which were of a serious nature, they included 2 attempted breakins at the same property and | |

1 domestic incident. There is an upsurge in non-dwelling burglaries, with some items stolen. This is in outbuildings on farms and rural premises. The police are appealing for sightings of suspicious people, callers or vehicles with details of time, date, place and registration numbers.

8 **Local Plan**

The joint response to WSC draft Local plan has been submitted to WSC and an acknowledgement received. JS reported that Old Cleve had used our responses in their submission.

9 **Miss May's Field**

JS had circulated a revised consultation plan. He stated that he was unhappy with this plan as he felt the field frontage was dominated by the car park and road and the village green area would be lost. CB felt a combined pedestrian and vehicle access would be unsafe for pedestrians. MS felt this plan was the most practical and cost effective and that being able to provide a car park was the main reason the field was bought. JS questioned what should be the priority, ease of creating a car park or positioning as close to school and village hall as possible and impact on field. VS felt if people can't see the car park they won't use it. It was suggested that if the current village hall parking was designated as disabled parking than the pedestrian access could be stepped and take up less space. It was agreed that the first 3 pages of the consultation plan should be circulated for feedback, with a date for responses. KR to publish in the Standard. JL to find distribution list from previous consultation and print sufficient copies of the plan. KR
JL

10 **Parish Survey Results**

JS has been in contact with Minehead Eye regarding children from Stogumber using their facilities. J Perrett SCC transport manager has requested details of when and how often the school minibus would be required. It was agreed that until it is confirmed that using the minibus is a viable option, it would be unfair to approach children, parents and volunteer drivers. JS responded to J Perrett that initially Wednesday evenings, 1 or 2 times a month would probably be the usage. Awaiting further responses from JP

11 **Stogumber Play Area**

As TT has resigned from the council there is no longer a direct link with the play area committee. It was agreed that a possible way forward would be to ask the play area committee if they would authorise SPC to get the work done. JD felt it would be a good idea for SPC to write to the committee with the facts regarding funding. CB to then talk to the play area committee and R Criddle regarding moving the development of the play area forward.

12 **Finance**

a) The assets on 30/4/12 are as follows:

Current account **£8,615.64**

Reserve account **£5,936.64**

Payment for the grass let and the first instalment of the precept has been received. Nat West will be crediting the current account with £100 compensation for their errors over the mandate.

b) The following expenditures were all agreed and the appropriate cheques signed:

Clerk's salary and PAYE May 2012 £181.97

Clerks expenses for stationery, stamps,
travel & car park for training course in March £17.32

SALC affiliation fees £164.62

Insurance renewal £440.10

Jubilee Donation £200.00

The D/D for the loan repayment of £3223.03 will be taken in May

The council did not approve payment of last year's audit invoice, awaiting a response from the Treasury; JL informed SPC that the auditors would be asking The Audit Commission to recover the outstanding amount directly. JL to write to the Audit Commission to explain the reasons for non-payment.

- 13 **Planning**
a) Manor Mill, Vellow Road - conservatory and utility room, approved
b) Coombe Sydenham Estate – new boilers and solar panels, approved
c) Stogumber School – outdoor area, approved
d) Togford, external and internal works, approved
e) Oakdene, extension to kitchen, approved
f) 1 Hill Street – it was decided that a planning meeting would not be held and that the JL would respond stating that SPC would not be commenting on this application. JL
- 14 **Highways**
a) WSC have asked for Heads of Terms regarding the transfer of ownership of the car park to SPC. It was agreed to designate it as free parking in perpetuity.
b) Still waiting feedback from Summerfield regarding them raising the kerb on Station Road
c) JL reported a temporary road closure on B3188 at Yarde for 5 days from 11 June 2012
- 15 **West Somerset Strimmer Project**
JL explained that SCC were offering part funded training (SPC would need to fund some of the training) in how to use a strimmer, to volunteers who would then cut vegetation on rights of ways in the parish. SCC would provide insurance, strimmers and protective equipment. It was agreed to wait and see what reductions SCC were making in path clearing before taking this further.
- 16 **Any other business by permission of the Chairman.**
There was no other business raised.

The meeting closed at 20:35. The next meeting will be at 7:30pm on Thursday 12th July at Deane Close Common Room.