

## Stogumber Parish Council.

Draft Minutes of meeting held in Deane Close Common Room on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2014

The meeting started at 19:30

### Present

J. Spicer, Chairman                      M Symes              K Rew  
J Danson                                      G Tuckfield        J Hull

### Advisors

J Leeming, Clerk  
J Shorten, Planning Consultant                      A Trollope-Bellew (District Councillor)

| Item     | Topic.   | Action |
|----------|--|--------|
| That the | <b>Apologies.</b><br>There were apologies from Councillors G Tuckfield, C Matravers, C Bramall and V Sellick, Advisors T Vesey, R Sharpe and M Griffiths<br>County Councillor C Lawrence<br>PCSO P Bolton.   |        |
| 2.       | <b>Declaration of Interest and request for dispensations.</b><br>There were no declarations of interest.   |        |
| 3.       | <b>Public comments, questions or suggestions.</b><br>There were no comments, questions or suggestions from the public present.   |        |
| 4.       | <b>Co-option of councillor.</b><br>There was a unanimous vote to co-opt Joe Hull as councillor to fill the recent vacancy.   |        |
| 5.       | <b>Acceptance of minutes of meetings held 23/10/14 and 15/11/14.</b><br>It was proposed and passed that the draft minutes from the meetings held on 23/10/14 and 15/11/14 were reasonable records of the meetings. These were signed by the chairman.  |        |
| 6.       | <b>PCSO Report.</b><br>JL read out a report sent by PCSO P Bolton. For the month ending 4/12/14 there were 26 call to the police for the area which includes Stogumber. There were 5 recorded crimes during that period but none relating to the Stogumber Parish. A suspicious blue transit van is touring the area offering power tools for sale, the police would like any information regarding this. There has been a number of non-dwelling premises incursions in the Sampford Brett area, this could spread to Stogumber so residents should check that their sheds and outbuildings are secure.   |        |
| 7.       | <b>District and County Councillors Report.</b><br>There was no County Councillor present to report.<br><b>District Report.</b><br>ATB reported that WSC receives funding from central government under the Council Tax Rebate Scheme. For 2014/15 this amounted to £87,000. In previous years this has been shared among parish councils but WSC have voted to retain the money in the next financial year. WSC has to find £600,000 savings, it has achieved £300,000 through the amalgamation of officer teams with TDBC. This decision means if the precept is to remain the same, there will be a small increase to cover this shortfall. A Somerset Rivers Authority has been set up which will monitor the work of the Environment Agency in Somerset. ATB advised it was too early to apply for funds from the Hinkley Point CIM fund. He would advise when to consider applying. It has to be demonstrated that Hinkley Point has some effect on the community to be eligible for funds. |        |
| 8.       | <b>Neighbourhood Plan.</b><br>As there were several councillors unable to attend the meeting it was agreed to postpone discussion on the feedback from the Open Meeting until the meeting on 8/1/15.   |        |
| 9.       | <b>The Beacon Field</b><br>The community orchard has been planted in the Beacon Field. The planting day was well attended.<br>There has been a question regarding insurance for the orchard. J Hull is a member of the Orchard committee and now a councillor, it was resolved that if activities  |        |

were under his overall control, these would be covered by SPC's insurance. It was agreed that the Wassail could be held on the Beacon Field on 24/1/15. CB and JH have agreed to be the councillors responsible for organising it. It was agreed that the beacon should be lit for the event. JL to enquire about barriers to erect around the beacon.

A representative from SCC Highways has inspected the entrance to the Beacon Field and will submit a report to the clerk about what works would be required to create a visibility splay. If a permanent car park with a hard surface was created, SPC's public liability insurance would cover its use.

**10. Finance.**

The Current Account balance as at 1.12.14 is £8,095.82. This includes the balance of the Locality Grant and play area funds of £700.51. The RPA grant of £457.25 for the Beacon Field has been received. The Reserve account balance is £3,370.22  
Expenditure agreed:

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Clerk's payment for November                                 | £293.69   |
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| Office expenses  | £27.29    |
| Hire of Village Hall   | £10.00    |
| Printing costs for printing drafts of the Neighbourhood Plan | £61.78    |
| Geo & Co (for work to NP, to be taken from Locality Grant)   | £3,060.00 |

It was agreed to implement the nationally agreed salary increase for the Clerk of 2.2%, effective from the 1<sup>st</sup> January. The clerk stated that this would cost an additional £19.42 for the remainder of the year.

The Clerk to present a budget for 2015/16 at the next meeting when the level of precept will be agreed.

**11. Planning.**

- a) 3/31/143/31/14/011 Listed Building consent, Catford Cottage - granted
- b) 3/31/14/012 Solar voltaic panels on garage / log store, Zinch Cottage - granted
- c) 3/31/14/014 Extension and alterations, The Cottage, Preston Lane  
SPC have supported this application.

- d) 3/31/14/015 Retrospective application for retention of link doorway, Willow Cottage, Lower Vellow. It was agreed that SPC would support this application, JL to write to WSC. JL

- e) CA/31/14/002 Works to trees, Major Linneys, 7 High Street.

- f) 6/31/14/101 & 6/31/14/102LB Proposed alterations and use of part of a traditional building as an estate office, Coombe Sydenham Country Park.  
SPC have supported this application.

**12. Highways.**

G Tuckfield has agreed to be SPC's representative on the West Somerset Flood Group. GT

It has been reported that there has been a flooding problem at Zinch House. JS attended a site meeting with representatives from Magna, SCC Highways and the residents of Zinch House. Magna are to organise a camera survey and water die test of the drains in the area and report back to SCC. There was a discussion about whether SPC could do anything to relieve the problem in the short term but it was agreed without professional advice, the problem could be made worse.

JL to write to SCC Highways to thank them for their assistance JL

There is a pothole in Station Road, close to Manor Farm, and one outside Mill House. There is still a dip in Station Road opposite Archers Grove. JL to report to Highways. JL

GL asked if anything could be done about the deep hole in the stream which is undermining the adjoining wall. JL reported that she had been in touch with SCC Highways who have no responsibility for the wall as it does not border the road and responsibility would rest with the owner of the wall.

**13. Agree Meeting Dates for 2015.**

JL to circulate a list of meeting dates in 2015 for approval at the next meeting.

**14. Any other business by permission of the Chairman.**

The Library Service is holding a consultation on cuts to the library service. It will

mean that the mobile library will no longer call at Sawpitts Close but will continue to call at the school. It was agreed that JL would respond to the consultation to say SPC has no objections but is disappointed in the loss of one stop. SPC agreed that they would not send a representative to Sampford Brett's meeting regarding the parking on Tower Hill, Williton. JD reported that the cricket club have been in touch with WSC regarding change of use of the stables to B8 Light Industrial under permitted development. If they decide to go ahead it would create small industrial / storage units to let out.

The meeting closed at 9:10 p.m.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 7:30pm at Deane Close Common Room.