

Minutes, Stogumber Parish Council Meeting

Held on Thursday 6th July 2023, at the Village Hall

Commencing at 7.30pm

(in the format to be presented to the next meeting for approval)

Present:

Cllrs M Symes (Chairman), J Foley, A White, V Sellick, T Vesey, C Matravers
C Morrison-Jones (clerk)
SC Cllr C Lawrence

Ray Blezard, Community Engagement Officer from the West Somerset Railway Association, gave a short presentation before the start of the meeting.

Mr Blezard left the meeting after his presentation

County Councillor reports:

SC Cllr C Lawrence

- 3 year finances are worse than expected. Gap (could be a £100million shortfall over 3 years) is widening faster than expected
- Waste collection services anticipated to be on strike Wednesday- Friday from 12th July. Collections will be re-arranged
- Road surface dressing programme going well.
- 1st LCN meeting for Minehead and Watchet LCN is to be held next week on 13th July

1) Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllrs C Bramall and T Brick

2) Declarations of Interest/Dispensations

AW – as neighbour of the Beacon Field

VS - planning application at Wood Farm

3) Receive and approve the minutes of Parish Council meetings held on 4th May and 10th June 2023 and the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 11th May 2023

The minutes were approved by Members and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of the previous meetings.

4) Any matters arising from the minutes not covered by the agenda items below

None

5) The Beacon Field and car park

a) Beacon repainting and securing

Ongoing

b) Footpath from the car park

Councillors resolved to accept the quote from N Staddon of £860 to survey the area and draw up plans for 2 possible path routes, to be paid for with funds taken from allocated reserves for path

c) Grass Let 2023

P Cullins has agreed to take on the grass let for 2023.

d) Any other matters concerning the Beacon Field or car park

MS has had another set of keys cut for the Beacon Field (and also another set for the noticeboards) and is holding them.

6) Highways / Footpaths

a) Previously reported matters concerning Highways or Footpaths

None

b) Tourism / Village facilities sign

The clerk has sent the preferred wording to Traffic Management and is still awaiting a response and formal quote

c) Footpath ramp exiting onto Station Road

A basic repair of the pot hole was carried out by Highways but this did not address the adverse camber and the difficulties encountered by wheelchair users that had been highlighted. Highways will return to site and carry out further repairs (within budget constraints) to hopefully rectify the problem.

d) Any other matters concerning Highways or Footpaths

- Footpaths are generally in poor repair. Specific issues can be reported to Rights of Way via the online portal
<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/report-a-problem-with-a-public-right-of-way/>
- Highways only taking 1 pass at hedge cutting is causing problems with overhanging branches drooping down into the path of vehicles.

7) Planning:

a) Consider application 3/31/23/011 on Higher Wood Farm, Wood Lane to Preston Cross, Stogumber

Erection of 2 No. agricultural buildings for calf rearing

VS – did not participate in the vote for this agenda item

Councillors resolved to support the application but to request that the impact of the development is softened with a decent tree planting scheme.

b) Consider proposed woodland creation scheme at James Wood, Stogumber

Councillors were supportive of the plans as they represent a good use of the ground

c) Any other current planning concerns

None

e) Previously reported planning concerns

None

f) Any other matters concerning planning

None

8) Finance

a) To approve bank reconciliation, 31.5.23

Councillors resolved to approve the bank reconciliation, dated 31.5.23, of £41,799.98. £7600 of this balance is held in reserved funds.

b) Unitary Trust bank deposit account application

The account has now been opened and £25,000 transferred into it from the current account on 30.6.23.

c) Credit card application

Ongoing

e) Consider annual contribution to Flood Group

Councillors agreed to the requested £5 contribution.

f) Payments to approve

C Morrison-Jones	£672.35	Salary & expenses (June & July)
HMRC	£77.20	PAYE
Somerset flood group	£5.00	contribution to website hosting
Stogumber Village Hall	£20.00	Room hire, May 2023
Unity Trust bank	£10.48	Bank charges (d/d on 30.6.23)

g) Amounts received

None

h) Any other financial matters reported to the clerk prior to the meeting

None

9) Appoint Parish Council representative for LCN meetings

Councillors resolved to appoint M Symes as the Parish Council's representative at LCN meetings.

10) Items of report and suggestions of items for the next meeting

The clerk reminded councillors that there had been significant legislative changes over the past few years and recommended that all councillors take advantage of SALC training sessions on the Code of Conduct to ensure that they are up to date with current guidance

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.02

Minutes, Stogumber Playground Association Meeting

Held on 6th July 2023, at the Village Hall, commencing at 21.02

(in the format to be presented to the next meeting for approval)

Present:

Cllrs M Symes (Chairman), J Foley, A White, V Sellick, T Vesey, C Matravars
C Morrison-Jones (clerk)

1) To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllrs C Bramall and T Brick

- 2) **To approve the minutes of the Annual Playground Association meeting held on 11th May 2023**
The minutes were approved by Members and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of the previous meeting.
- 3) **Any matters arising from the minutes not covered below**
None
- 4) **Playground upkeep: Any other matters concerning playground upkeep**
- MS reported that the mower broke so grass cutting hasn't been done for a while.it has now been mended.
 - AW reported that the picnic tables are wobbly. MS to speak to Chris Moss about repairs
 - CM to investigate anti pigeon gel for top of swing as pigeons are perching on top bar and messing on the swing seats
 - More wood chippings needed
 - Magna have fixed the lifted drain cover reported last meeting
 - Soil washed off carpark needs moving. MS to investigate the cost to move
- 5) **Finance:**
- a) **Payments to approve**
None
 - b) **Amounts received**
None
 - c) **Approve bank reconciliation**
No financial movement since the bank reconciliation of 31.3.23 approved at the May meeting
- 5) **Any other business by permission of the Chairman**
None

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.14