

Stogumber Parish Council Meeting

To be held at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday 8th March 2018

at Deane Close Common Room.

Minutes

Present

Cllrs C Bramall (Chair), M Symes (vice-chair), C Matravers, T Vesey, V Sellick, T Brick, G Rexworthy, A White, G Tuckfield
C Morrison-Jones (clerk)
WSDC Cllr A Trollope-Bellew

1) To receive any apologies of absence

SCC Cllr C Lawrence

2) Declarations of Interest/Dispensations

CB & AW – beacon field

3) Public comments, questions or suggestions

None

4) District and County Councillor reports

SCC Cllr C Lawrence had forwarded a report to the clerk which covered the following points:

- OFSTED report into SCC Children's Services. Following the recent OFSTED rating, the seven-point programme for children's services is now being updated to set out the milestones required to reach 'Good'
- Family Support Service. The decision to deliver SCC new Family Support Service has now been formally made, with the aim to develop integrated Family Support Services with the vital Health Visiting Service already commissioned by SCC. More information can be gained from publichealth@somerset.gov.uk
- Secondary School Admissions. 97.5% of children have been offered a place at one of their top three secondary school preferences, a slight increase on last year. In total 93.5% received their 1st preference
- Single Use Plastics. SCC councillors have unanimously agreed to work towards the withdrawal of single use plastics across all its sites
- Somerset Rivers Authority. Discussions have continued with DEFRA in respect of the SRA becoming a self-precepting body
- National College for Nuclear. The NCN, which opened on 7th February, is now providing a state of the art nuclear training facility. Bridgewater and Taunton Colleges are the principle delivery agency.
- Libraries Consultation. This consultation continues and it is important that people engage to provide comprehensive feedback

WSDC Cllr A Trollope-Bellew reported on the matters below:

- Budget has now been passed by council for 2018/19 without having to make any major cuts
- Still waiting for SOS decision in regard to the proposed new council. It is now getting tight for time to go through parliament before boundary commission can start on designating new wards – the boundary commission have to start by 1st May. A provisional map illustrating the proposed new wards will be sent out to PCs soon for comment

5) Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 11/1/18

The minutes for the meeting held on 11th of January 2018 were approved by councillors and signed by the Chairman as a true record

6) Matters arising from the minutes

a) Parking/speeding along Station Road

A meeting regarding the possibilities of Speed Indicating Devices (SIDS) in Somerset is being held at SALC headquarters on 14th March. CB to attend on behalf of SPC and will report back to councillors

The clerk has received an email from Highways confirming that wigwag signs (flashing signs located near schools) are expensive and beyond the budget of SCC. Councillors could investigate the possibility of investigating grant funding for the signs after CB reports back from SID event

ATB suggested that possibly the PC could conduct a vehicle count in village which could be used in the future to prove an increase in traffic. This may assist an application to the Hinkley mitigation fund

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

Otto Faithorne has taken some no dog fouling stickers and put at each end of the path to Daphne Lewis's field

7) Playground – main playground matters to be covered at the following playground meeting

See SPGA minutes

8) To Receive Reports from Members of Meetings attended as representatives of the Parish Council

None

9) The Beacon Field

a) Finance / Fundraising update

The clerk confirmed that grant applications for the car parking area construction have been submitted to the Big Lottery Fund, Greggs Foundation, Peoples Post Code Trust, Tesco bags for Life and Somerset Community Foundation

b) Dog fouling

No updates on this topic

c) Letter from Bathurst Partners regarding planning permission on Beacon Field

The PC had received a letter from property developers Bathurst Partners regarding gaining planning consent. Councillors agreed that this was not something that the PC currently wished to pursue

d) Consider 'Gardens Open' use of Beacon Field for parking on 9th & 10th June

Councillors agreed to this use of the Beacon Field

e) Grazing lease for 2018

The clerk reported that the rent and water payment for 2017 has yet to be received

Councillors resolved to offer the grazing lease to the current tenant again for 2018 once the outstanding rent and water charge has been paid

f) Any other matters concerning the Beacon Field

- i. Hedges have been trimmed
- ii. Trees are available from the Woodland Trust, via the school, to repair hedging damaged by the splay construction at the Beacon Field. The school children, led by Mr Wedderkopp, will be planting on 16th March

10) Finance

a) Payments to approve

C Morrison-Jones	Salary	£550.60
HMRC	PAYE contribution	£24.20
C Morrison-Jones	Expenses & reimbursements	£16.00

b) Amounts received

None

c) Bank reconciliation

Councillors approved the latest bank reconciliation, dated 28.2.18, of £18,888.74. This consists of £15,532.81 in the current account and £3,373.94 in the deposit account and uncleared cheques of £17.50. £3,568.25 of this balance is held in reserved funds

d) Review Asset Register

The clerk had previously circulated the asset register to councillors and it was resolved that it formed a true and accurate list of the PC's assets as of March 2018

e) Review Internal Controls Document

CM had reviewed the previously circulated document as acceptable and recommended that it be approved by the PC. Councillors approved the document

f) Review Risk Management Document

CB and CM have reviewed the previously circulated document as fit for purpose and recommended approval by the PC. Councillors approved the document

g) Consider appointment of Internal Auditor

Councillors resolved that the Internal Auditor used previously, K Smith, be approached and requested to carry out the internal audit for 2017/18

h) Any other financial matters

The clerk reported that NatWest still had not actioned the requested changes to the signatory list (add MS & GT, and remove J Spicer) The forms taken in to NatWest Minehead in January have been lost again. The complaints handler dealing with this issue has apologised again, but fresh forms need to be submitted – he has promised to follow them personally through the NatWest system this time. CB, CM, MS and GT to complete the requested forms again and they will be resubmitted to NatWest.

11) Planning: Any planning matters reported to the clerk before the meeting

a) Updates on previous applications

- i) 3/31/17/011 Replacement of garage with the erection of 1 No. detached dwelling at Sunnydene, 14 Hill Street, Stogumber, TA4 3TD -GRANTED
- ii) 3/31/17/015 Erection of rear and side extensions at Sunnydene, 14 Hill Street, Stogumber, TA4 3TD-GRANTED
- iii) 3/31/17/014 Change of use of agricultural land to domestic curtilage with erection of fencing at The Garden House, Wood Lane, Stogumber, Taunton, TA4 3TJ – GRANTED

b) Received applications

- i) 3/31/18/001 Various internal alterations with extension in height to chimney. 1 Old Way, Stogumber, TA4 3SX – Planning meeting scheduled for 10th March
- ii) 3/31/18/003 Demolition of existing 'infill' building and erection of a single storey infill extension and two storey extension to the north-east plus the erection of an outbuilding. Nevys Farm, Nevys Lane, Stogumber, Taunton, TA4 3TP – Planning meeting scheduled for 24th March
- iii) 3/31/18/002 Erection of two-storey extension to rear elevation and relocation of garage to improve off-road parking provision. Fairlands, 3 Hill Street, Stogumber, Taunton, TA4 3TD - Planning meeting scheduled for 24th March

12) Highways

a) Updates on previously reported issues

- The pot hole opposite Boars Head is getting bigger due to bad weather – clerk to re-report to Highways
- The edge of Vellow Road has deteriorated further

c) Temporary road closure - Rexton Lane, Stogumber, 15th & 16th March

Rexton Lane from the junction with Lower Vexford to Leigh Farm, south-westwards for a distance of 370 metres, to commence on 15 March 2018 and last for 2 days. While the closure is in operation an alternative route will be signed on site.

d) Any issues to report

i) Wood Lane. CB reported that there have been five landslips following the snow with mud on road as a result. Parishioners have cleared the bulk of the landslips but the road surface needs cleaning

ii) Salt bins-need topping up after the harsh weather. MS offered to compile a list of sites for clerk to report to SCC

13) SCC Library Services Consultation

As the mobile library & Williton library won't be affected by the proposals, councillors resolved to offer no response to the consultation

14) Draft Somerset Strategic Housing Framework Consultation

Councillors agreed to CB and MS responding on behalf of SPC. This consultation would give the PC the opportunity to reiterate the concern that, during the examination of the NP, the PC was prevented from including any policy that allowed building in the hamlets

15) Confirm dates for:

a) Parish Council meetings for next municipal year

Thursday May 10th 2018

Thursday July 12th 2018

Thursday September 13th 2018

Thursday November 8th 2018

Thursday January 10th 2019

Thursday March 14th 2019

b) Annual Parish meeting

Thursday May 10th May 2018

16) Any other business by permission of the Chairman

i) The clerk reported that General Data Protection Regulations are changing in May. It is unclear at present how this will impact parish councils but SALC will be offering training on the GDPR in the coming months and will email out to all Member Councils once they have some dates for that training.

ii) GT gave thanks to ATB for organising visit to Hinkley. It proved very informative. Huge numbers of people employed at present to construct the facility

17) Topics to consider at the next meeting

i. to consider fundraising for new equipment before SPGA is dissolved. Clerk to contact equipment companies to request brochures to bring to May meeting

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.47pm