

Minutes, Stogumber Parish Council Meeting

Held on Thursday 9th November 2023, at the Village Hall

Commencing at 7.30pm

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

Cllrs M Symes (Chairman), J Foley, V Sellick, T Vesey, C Bramall, T Brick, A White and C Matravers

C Morrison-Jones (clerk)

Public speaking:

No members of the public present

County Councillor reports:

SC Cllr M Kravis arrived and gave his report after agenda item 7

1) Apologies for absence

Apologies of absence received from SC Cllr C Lawrence

2) Declarations of Interests and Requests for Dispensation

Cllrs resolved to award a partial dispensation (permission to contribute to but not vote on) on matters concerning the Beacon Field to Cllrs Bramall and White. These dispensations to be effective until the next PC elections (May 2027).

3) Receive and approve the minutes of Parish Council meetings held on 14th September 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

The surveyor who was previously approached by the Parish Council to carry out a survey appears not to be keen to do the work.

Councillors agreed that MS should approach an alternative surveyor for a quote to carry out the required work. In order to expedite the work, if the new quote obtained matches or is less than the previously obtained and accepted quote, MS has the delegated authority to engage the surveyor and request the survey is carried out.

c) Hedge cutting

Cllrs Symes & Bramall to meet with a new contractor. It was agreed that around the copse needs clearing by hand before the hedge cutter comes in to cut the perimeter hedges.

d) Renewal of the waste bin emptying contract

Councillors resolved to renew the annual Beacon Field waste bin emptying contract (emptied twice weekly) with IDVerde at a cost of £617.76 (inc VAT)

e) Any other matters concerning the Beacon field or car park

The hay bales still haven't been moved by the tenant.

6) Highways / Footpaths

a) Previously reported matters concerning Highways or Footpaths

Good job was done by Highways of repainting the 'slow' signs in Station Road but the ones on Ashbeer Hill were not done. Clerk to chase up with Traffic Management

b) Tourism / Village facilities sign

This has been passed back to the parishioner group to liaise directly with Traffic Management and bring back to the Parish Council for consideration when the details of the sign are agreed, a total purchase and installation cost confirmed and the group's contribution towards the cost is known.

c) Footpath ramp exiting onto Station Road

The clerk has spoken with Highways. They are still have the work scheduled but before it can be done they are working on clarify the ownership of the footpath surface coming down the ramp

d) Any other matters concerning Highways or Footpaths

- i) There is significant mud build up on two areas of road – the entire loop of Wood Lane, and from Lane End Cottage to Higher Kingswood. It is dangerous and is blocking drains. Clerk to report to Highways.
- ii) The birch tree in the grass in Dene Close infested with fungus. Clerk to report to Magna.

7) Planning:

a) Any current planning concerns

None

b) Previously reported planning concerns

None

c) Any other matters concerning planning

None

SC Cllr Kravis arrived at this point gave his report and then left the meeting.

8) Finance

a) To approve bank reconciliation, 31.10.23

Councillors resolved to approve the bank reconciliation, dated 31.10.23, of £39,336.35.

£7,600 of this balance is held in reserved funds.

b) Consider grant to Stogumber Playground Association

Councillors resolved to grant the Stogumber Play Ground Association £400

c) Consider grant to West Somerset CAB

Councillors resolved to grant the West Somerset CAB Association £100

e) Consider request for support from Williton Allotment Association

Clerk was requested to write a letter of support from SPC.

f) Payments to approve

Clerk	£672.35	Salary & expenses
HMRC	£77.20	PAYE
Stogumber Village Hal	£20.00	Room hire, Sept 2023
SALC	£199.10	Annual membership
Water2business	£39.14	Water, Beacon Field (C/C 19.10.23
Lloyds bank	£6.00	Card fees 2.10.23 & 30.10.23 (D/D)
PWLB	£3223.02	Loan repayment (D/D) 10.11.23
ID Verde	£617.76	Bin emptying, Beacon Field
Play Ground Association	£400.00	Grant
West Somerset CAB	£100.00	Grant
Clerk	£208.00	Back pay (April-Nov 2023) 9.12.23

g) Amounts received

Interest, Unity Trust deposit account	£169.81	30.9.23
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h) Budget priorities for 2024/25

Normal budget lines

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

The NALC pay award for 2023/24 has now been agreed and the increase is to be backdated to 1st April 2023

9) Parish Council email addresses and web site

The PC email addresses are now set up and active for all councillors and the clerk. The clerk can be contacted on clerk@stogumberpc.org.uk. Councillor addresses are in the format of Cllrsurname@stogumberpc.org.uk

The new website will have the address www.stogumberpc.org.uk

The Parish Council has very kindly been given permission by Tim King to use his photographs of Stogumber on the new site. Councillors wish to thank him for him allowing the use of his stunning pictures.

The clerk had previously circulated draft wording and layout proposals for the site and councillors asked the clerk to proceed with the design and construction process with JPC Designs.

10) Watchet and Minehead LCN meeting

Cllr Brick attended the meeting on 19th October on behalf of Stogumber PC. The common theme of 'no funds, no budget' pervaded so it is unclear how any wishes expressed by the LCN members can actually be actioned by Somerset Council. Cllrs Symes and Brick will alternate in attending future meetings on behalf of SPC.

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

Request that the PC consider organising the 2024 Wassail (further information to be provided to the clerk by Cllr Bramall)

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.26

Minutes, Stogumber Playground Association Meeting

Commencing at 21.26 on 9th November 2023,
at the Village Hall

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

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

- 1) **To receive any apologies for absence**
None
- 2) **To approve the minutes of the Playground Association meeting held on 14th September 2023**
The minutes were approved by Members and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of the previous meeting.
- 2) **Any matters arising from the minutes not covered below**
 - Too wet for woodchips to be delivered at present
 - Zip ties on swing crossbeam to anti pigeons – ongoing
- 3) **Consider the annual safety inspection report**
Slide and train issues were highlighted in the report. MS to discuss these issues with the play area maintenance volunteer
- 4) **Playground upkeep: Any other matters concerning playground upkeep**
As above
- 6) **Finance:**
 - a) **Payments to approve**
R Hayes Silt / mud removal £360.00
 - b) **Amounts received**
£400 SPC grant 18.9.23
 - c) **Approve bank reconciliation**
Councillors resolved to approve the bank reconciliation, dated 29.9.23, of £92.66
 - d) **Charity Commission annual return for 2022/23**
The clerk reported that the annual return for 2022/23 had been submitted on the Charity Commission website on 2nd November
- 7) **Any other business by permission of the Chairman**
None

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.34