

STOKE ST. GREGORY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 10th October 2016 in the Meeting Room, Williams Hall

Present Heather Venn (Vice Chairman), Glynn Banks, Graham Glead, David House, Peter House, David Fothergill (County Councillor).

In Attendance Becky Goodchild

Public Question Time - No members of the public present.

Apologies for Absence - Nick Sloan (Chairman), Ann Finn, John Hembrow, Bill Carpenter.

1137. Declarations of Interest and dispensations – None declared.

1138. Minutes of previous meeting - The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 12th September were agreed by all to be accurate, and signed by the Vice Chairman.

1139. Planning

36/16/0012 Burton View, Dark Lane - Erection of two storey extension to the side of Burton View. The following response was agreed: We support the application because there will be no visual impact on the character of the building, the street scene or surrounding area.

TDBC decisions:

36/16/0010 Frog Lane Barn, Meare Green - TDBC advise conditional approval.

1140. Planning enforcement issues:

Proliferation of mobile homes - No response has been received yet from Planning Enforcement.

Planning group - 'Rural deprivation, Planning and Development' - DH agreed to continue being part of this group on behalf of the Parish Council.

DH to inform TDBC.

1141. Bridgwater barrier consultation - Councillors agreed that they would not comment (feeling unqualified to do so) but would observe with interest.

1142. Capping consultation - It was agreed that an email response would give a more relevant response than answering of the online survey questions.

HV to draft a response and circulate to councillors before submitting.

1143. Share-Celebrate-Grow 'State of Somerset's Voluntary and Community Sector' consultation - Councillors answered the questions for the clerk to submit. Clerk to submit answers online.

1144. Telephone boxes - Dismantle or a new use? - The two public telephone boxes in the village (Willey Road and Woodhill Terrace) are due to be dismantled shortly unless 'adopted'. The 42 day notice period ends on 18th October. If they were to be adopted and used for another purpose someone would have to be responsible for their maintenance. Previously discussed ideas included a library, information point, and a free produce repository.

GG to place a notice in the village shop inviting suggestions for their use. Clerk to ask Beavers/Cubs/Scouts.

1145. Village plan – Transport - Councillors discussed the survey results. It was agreed that the possibility of voluntary transport provision to Langport will be explored. DF advised that a new bus service will be going through Burrowbridge, Street, Glastonbury and Wells, and a voluntary scheme could link into this. To be discussed at the next meeting.

GG to draft a plan for a pilot voluntary transport scheme.

1146. Updating village website - Ongoing.

1147. Broadband – A transmitter pole has been erected and residents are reminded that anyone interested in obtaining the CDS vouchers (which will pay for individual installations) should do so by the end of November.

1148. Burial Ground –

Hedge encroaching on gravestones - A quote of £70 has been obtained for cutting of the side of the hedge once the top has been cut. It was agreed that this quote be accepted. JH is in the process of obtaining a quote for the top of the hedge.

Broken bench - It was agreed that the bench is not repairable.

DH to remove broken bench.

1149. Parish Council meeting dates for next year - It was agreed that next year's Parish Council meetings will take place on the 2nd Monday of each month as usual.

1150. Footpaths - GG advised that the footpath across the field from Polkesfield to Woodhill has been harrowed and sown so that there is nowhere to walk.

GG to report the lack of access of this footpath to the Footpaths Officer.

1151. Highways:

Community speed watch - Deferred to next meeting as AF not present.

Tractor driving - Discussion took place about the high volume of tractors at this time of the year (a survey showed 140 tractors through Queen's Square in North Curry in one day). The bottle neck at the top of Griggs Hill and how it could be improved was discussed. GG advised of skid marks here. DF suggested 'priority of movement' as being the only possibility here due to the bank on one side and building on the other. Widening if it was possible could make the flow of traffic even faster. Other than this police enforcement (re speed and phone use) appears to be the only way forward.

Request for Parish Councils to support lobbying for a change in law regarding training and licenses - It was agreed that the Parish Council will not lobby.

PC to send a reminder letter to local farmers? - It was agreed that a letter will not be sent.

Damaged salt/grit bin on Curload Hill - NS to attempt to fix the bin.

Route 60+ - DH advised that 12 people from Stoke St Gregory will be attending the session at North Curry Village Hall, 17th October at 2pm.

1152. Allotments - In progress.

1153. Flood issues - HV advised that she will be chairing the FLAG group again, and the aim is to follow the 20 year plan.

1154. Police issues - No further issues.

1155. Financial Matters

Authorisation of cheques:

918 St John Ambulance Supplies - Purchase of defibrillator electrodes (2 pairs @ £23 plus VAT per pair) and battery (£190 plus VAT) £283.20

919 John Musgrove - Strimming in Dark Lane and around signs £186.00

Standing order

1 November 2016 R. Goodchild - Clerk's salary for October 2016 £241.17

Received

Fine Memorials - Memorial fee	£158.00
TDBC - Footpaths grant (£100) and burial ground grant (£130)	£230.00

It was agreed that the above cheques be signed and payments made.

As BC was not present with the chequebook the clerk will obtain signatures as soon as possible.

Other financial items:

Bank reconciliation to end of August 2016 - checked by BC.

Poppy Appeal – Amount for donation to be agreed - It was agreed that £50 will be donated.

Precept planning and plans for future projects - The Clerk will supply a draft budget for the November meeting and members were asked to consider their spending plans.

Updating the Financial Regulations - PH, BC and the Clerk had previously met and redrafted the regulations. All agreed to adopt the new draft.

1156. Pending / Feedback from meetings - GB advised that the Playing Field Committee are in the process of obtaining quotes for installation of an under 5's climbing frame.

1157. Other items for discussion - PH to withdraw from being PC representative on the Playing Field Committee. For next agenda.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.53 pm.

The next meeting will be held on November 14th at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room at the Williams Hall.

NS and the clerk will be putting the next agenda together on Tuesday 1st November. Please email any items for the agenda to the clerk and the Chairman by this date

