

STOKE ST. GREGORY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9th April 2018 in the Meeting Room, Williams Hall

Present Nick Sloan (Chairman), Graham Glead (Vice Chairman), Ann Finn, David House, Peter House, Sara Sollis, Heather Venn, David Fothergill (County Councillor- arrives later).

In Attendance - Becky Goodchild.

Public Question Time - No public were present.

Apologies for absence - Glynn Banks, John Hembrow, Phil Stone (District Councillor).

1524. Declarations of Interest and dispensations - None received.

1525. Minutes of previous meeting - The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 12th March were agreed by all to be accurate, and were signed by the Chairman.

1526. Planning

36/18/0001 The Well House – TDBC: Conditional approval 15-03-2018

1527. Community shop/pub survey – Minutes of the recent FSG Group, results of the survey and a draft page for the village website had been circulated prior to this meeting. The survey results were discussed and some amendments to how they are presented were suggested in order to ensure accuracy and clarity.

All agreed that the results will be published on the village website once some amendments have been made to the text.

The PC discussed which would be the most appropriate location for a community shop. It was noted that the PC does not want to be perceived to be supporting one pub over another and that the PC would ideally like both pubs to remain open. Whilst it is hoped this will be the case the Plunkett Foundation recommends continuing with plans for a community shop/pub to ensure that the ground work is done should it be required. Discussion took place about creating a steering group. The PC will no longer be directly responsible once this group has been established.

GG, HV and NS to amend survey results text before the results are made available on the village website.

1528. Assessment of farming practices – The 4th version of the farming practices report by PS had previously been circulated.

(DF arrives)

A majority agreed to the report being published on the village website.

1529. Maintenance of finger posts – NS advised of a company that could produce the fractions patterns.

All agreed to the size of the font and layout of the wording on the signs.

All agreed to Croft Castings producing the patterns.

1530. Annual Parish Meeting – It was agreed that the clerk will purchase 6 bottles of wine for the meeting which will be held on Tuesday 24th April at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

1531. Litter picking day – GG had been advised by the police that they could provide equipment for the litter picking day but has since been informed by a PCSO that the police no longer provide this service. Everyone taking part should meet at the Village Hall at 11:00. There will be a free drink from GG afterwards in the Royal Oak for all who take part.

GG to clarify whether the police will provide equipment.

1532. Village gateway – GG advised he will be meeting with the Coates this week to discuss placement of the structure.

1533. Somerset Strategic Housing Framework (Closes 30-04-18) – NS had circulated draft responses which were discussed and agreed.

Clerk to submit the response.

1534. Consultation: Review of Local Government Ethical Standards (Closes 27-04-2018)

Responses to the consultation and a separate response to the related NALC questions were agreed. It became apparent that the Parish Council should have a whistle blowing policy (separate from the Code of Conduct).

Clerk to find a model whistle blowing policy.

1535. General Data Protection Regulations compliance – The GDPR tool kit of local councils had been circulated. Some changes in the processes of handling data will need to be made and it was agreed that it would be sensible to determine exactly what is necessary after the clerk has attended the SALC training on this subject in May. SS agreed to attend the training too. SALC has advised there will be a grace period of a year or so before PCs will be expected to be compliant.

Clerk to book 2 places on the SALC GDPR training session.

1536. Footpaths – No issues raised.

1537. Highways

Flooding - There has been deep flooding in Huntham Lane, and also flooding in Willey Road (thought to be caused by a blocked gully).

Revised Speed Indicator Device programme It was agreed that a request would be made for a SID to be placed once (at a cost of £100 per placement) on Meare Green next to the Willows and Wetlands Centre in the 40 mph zone. One more location is still to be determined.

Clerk to submit the request to Highways for a SID on Meare Green and ask for Griggs Hill to be considered as a possible second site.

1538. Allotments – The planting of 16 trees for the community orchard has taken place.

1539. Playing Field – Neil Sollis was elected as the new Chairman at the recent AGM, and some new independent members have joined the committee.

1540. Village website - No issues raised.

1541. Flood issues – The flood group is to meet in May. A Water Forum will take place in Langport on 11th April (most relevant to the Langport flood warden scheme).

1542. Police issues – 3 houses have been broken into recently in Stoke St Gregory, Curload and North Curry. It was agreed that this should be publicised on the village website and via the village emailing list. A telephone scam was also reported recently.

GG to draft a message for the clerk to circulate via village emailing list.

NS to write a piece for the police page on the village website.

1543. Financial Matters

Authorisation of cheques

986 Williams Hall Stoke St Gregory – Hire charges for PC meetings (Jan – Mar 2018) and FSG meeting (Feb 2018)	£52.00
987 The Cumbria Clock Company Ltd – Service of parish clock (Mar 2018)	£198.00

Standing order

1-05-2018 R. Goodchild – Clerk's salary for April 2018	£311.43
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It was agreed that the above cheques be signed and payments be made.

Received

Fine Memorials – Memorial fee

£158.00

Other financial items

Bank reconciliation to end of February 2018 – Checked by AF.

1544. Pending / Feedback from meetings:

Apologies - SS and AF gave their apologies for the next PC meeting. DF gave apologies for the APM.

Slurry into ditches - GG advised that 3 separate complaints of slurry run off into ditches have been received. The Environment Agency have been informed and will determine the cause.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:15pm.

The next meeting will be held on May 14th at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room at the Williams Hall. Please email any items for the agenda to the clerk and the Chairman by 1st May if possible.