

STOKE ST. GREGORY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 10th September 2018 in the Meeting Room, Williams Hall

Present , Graham Glead (Vice Chairman), Glyn Banks, David House, Peter House, John Hembrow, Sara Sollis, Heather Venn, Phil Stone (District Councillor), David Fothergill (County Councillor)

In Attendance – Becky Goodchild and 7 members of the public.

Apologies for absence – Nick Sloan (Chairman), Ann Finn.

85. Declarations of Interest and dispensations – None declared.

86. Minutes of previous meeting - The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 13th August were agreed by all to be accurate, and were signed by the Chairman

Public Question Time - Members of the public were present to give their views on the Housing Development proposals put forward at the recent consultation at the Village Hall.
Main concerns:

The housing survey carried out by TDBC in 2016 demonstrated not sufficient need to provide additional affordable housing at that time.

There was not enough advertising of the recent consultation.

The increased traffic that could be generated from a new housing development and subsequent danger to people walking along Willey Road, particularly school children.

Houses are being built in other nearby villages so why is it necessary in Stoke St Gregory?

What is the best method of making views known?

Parish Councillors responded that it was not the responsibility of the PC to advertise the consultation but that of the developer (although it was placed on the village website, Next Door and a noticeboard). It was also noted that a proposed development is not a PC issue unless planning permission is sought. Members of the public were advised to complete and submit the questionnaires provided by the developer at the consultation, and include their own free text if it is felt necessary. It is unknown when the developer intends to submit a planning application.

(7 members of the public leave)

87. Planning

36/18/0019 Huntham Farm – TDBC: Conditional approval 23-07-2018

36/18/0020 Riverside Cottage, Curload (amended by plans received 24 July 2018) – TDBC: Conditional approval 17-08-2018

36/18/0021 & 36/18/0022/LB Jessamine House, Church Road – TDBC: Conditional approval 07-08-2018

36/18/0030/LB Crossway Farm, Slough Lane – Internal and external alterations to listed building (retention of part works already undertaken).

The following response was agreed: We fully support this application to make needed improvements to a listed property that is part of the village heritage.

36/18/0031 Crossway Farm, Slough Lane – Installation of above ground Calor LPG tank in rear garden.

The following response was agreed: We support this application as it will have no adverse impact on surrounding properties, particularly taken in conjunction with 36/18/0030.

36/18/0033 Corner Cottage, Meare Green – Erection of garage/log store. The following response was agreed: We support this application as it will have no adverse impact on surrounding properties.

Proliferation of mobile homes – Discussion around planning permission for a long standing mobile home resulted in agreement that no further action would be taken as the requirement has probably lapsed.

Clerk to respond to Planning Enforcement.

88. Farming practices – PS presented the new proposals which had been circulated to the PC for approval. PS advised that further discussions with farmers will take place. The new proposals include a Gold Standard Tractor Scheme and stickers which can be placed onto vehicles that have agreed to abide by the proposals. The scheme would be voluntary and not enforced (although some items are legal requirements), and would represent good will. The PC agreed support for the proposals.

89. Parish Council meeting dates for next year – It was agreed that next year's Parish Council meetings will take place as usual on the second Monday of each month. The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on 16th April.

Clerk to book Village Hall and Meeting Room.

90. Next Door as a communication tool for the Parish Council - Use of social media by the PC was discussed. For next agenda: SSG PC's position re social media and communication.

91. Feedback from the Housing Development Consultation – The PC discussed whether it should feed back to the developer and agreed that it would not at this point. The PC agreed not to publish the results of the developer's questionnaire on the village website. The PC agreed that it needed to be clear on the parish planning envelope.

Clerk to locate map relating to planning envelope.

92. Forward Strategy Group – No further meetings have taken place.

93. Footpaths

Footpath strimming – The strimmer has been repaired.

94. Highways

Potholes – It has been noted that potholes that have been marked out for filling in have not been done within the 28 days specified.

Road gritting – DF advised of the proposal for a reduction in gritting routes. This would result in no precautionary gritting taking place. Parish Councils will have the opportunity to make representations. No salt will be provided this winter but SSG has a stock.

95. Allotments – Nothing to report.

96. Playing Field – SS advised that SSG cricket team won the division, and that they now have a greater number of younger players.

97. Village website – GG advised that the calendar has been updated up until next year.

98. Broadband – Nothing to report

99. Flood – There is a flood on Huntham Lane which is coming from a water main.

100. Consultations and surveys

LGA green paper for adult social care and wellbeing – Consultation on draft recommendations for Somerset West and Taunton (Closes 12 Sep. Circulated 20 Aug). The PC agreed it does not have enough understanding of the subject to make an informed response and would therefore not respond.

IAG (Independent Advisory Group) Local Policing Teams survey (No closing date. Circulated to PC 28 Aug). The PC responded to this survey online at this meeting.

Sedgemoor Local Plan (2011 – 2032) – Proposed Main Modifications Consultation
(Closes 10 Oct. Circulated to PC 28 Aug). The PC agreed not to respond.

101. Police issues – None.

(DF & PS leave)

102. Financial Matters

Authorisation of cheques

1013 A McKenzie – Clerking fee for August meeting and minutes	£25.00
1014 Williams Hall Stoke St Gregory – Meeting Room hire for PC meeting (May – July 2018), Meeting Room hire for Project Steering Team meeting (July 2018), hall hire for Social Enterprise Steering Group Meeting (June 2018)	£72.00
1015 The Society of Local Council Clerks – Annual membership subscription	£84.00
1016 St Johns Ambulance Supplies – 2 x pair electrodes	£115.60
1017 Keal's Fencing, Garden and Property Services – Replacement and repainting of 'Huntham' fingerpost	£225.00

Standing order

1-10-2018 R. Goodchild – Clerk's salary for September 2018 £317.63

Received

TDBC – Parish grant (Burial grant £130.00, Footpath grant £100.00) £230.00

Dignity Funerals Ltd – Interment of ashes fee (£74.00) and additional inscription to existing headstone fee (£36.00) £110.00

It was agreed that the above cheques be signed and payments be made. The Clerk advised that cheque number 1016 was signed the previous week by 2 councillors so that the order for defibrillator electrodes would not be delayed.

Other financial items:

Bank reconciliation to end of July 2018 - Checked by JH.

103. Pending / Feedback from meetings – No meetings reported.

104. Other items for discussion –

Wooden carving - GG advised of the carved wooden picture on display in the village hall lobby. This has been donated by a local resident.

Online banking –

Clerk to invite TM to the next meeting to give a presentation on online banking.

Church lights – GG advised that the lights outside the church have not been coming on recently.

Tennis courts gate – The Tennis Club has received a grant for installation of a new gate locking system.

Interment of ashes in the burial ground – HV questioned if there is an area set aside in the burial ground for interment of ashes. The clerk advised that interment of ashes has only taken place in existing graves.

Clerk to locate original burial ground plan.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:05pm.

The next meeting will be held on October 8th 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 27th September if possible.