

**Minutes of the meeting of Stawell Parish Council
Held in the village hall on Monday 1st April 2019 at 7 pm**

Present: Cllrs Penny Badcock, Rod Conaway, Hugh Gange-Harris, Brian Lishman (Chairman) and Linda Osborne, also Stuart Kingham (SDC).

In attendance: Chris Fry (Clerk) and 5 members of the public,

1213 Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Simon Thomas, also Cllr David Huxtable (SCC)..

1214 Declarations of Interest: None.

1215 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 4th March 2019 were taken as read, agreed and signed as a true record.

1216 Matters Arising: -

a. Damaged Footpath fingerposts in Ford Lane.

The Clerk still awaits a reply from Laurence Hackling of SCC Highways – who has been off work on extended sick leave. It is thought that SCC trimmed the road side of the hedge thereby possibly causing the damage.

b. Overgrown bank in Ford Lane

We have been advised by a parishioner that SCC bought the bank for £5 and vested it in their Bridgwater office which is now closed. It has been noted that the bank wall is falling into a poor state of repair. A meeting is being sought.

c. Sutton Mallet phone kiosk adoption.

The Community Heartbeat Trust has advised of the benefits of proceeding to obtain a defibrillator through them. BT has offered several benefits which are exclusive to Parishes proceeding via CHT who they recommend as suppliers of defibrillators due to their compliance to B57671 electrical safety standards, with the cabinet being compliant to B57671 – 416/417 in its construction by a 150 9001/2 manufacturer. BT work closely with CHT who are BTs preferred route for defibrillator installation.

d. Hazardous steps near Phone box “library”.

Following a recent site meeting attended by the Chairman and an interested parishioner, a plan is being drawn up which will be referred to the neighbouring landowner for approval in respect of the siting of the handrail supports.

e. “Somerset Wood”.

The cost has been established for maintenance of each tree over the initial five year period as being £25, or £5 per year. It is thought that Stawell suffered 9 fatalities and Sutton Mallet 2. The eleven (exact numbers to be checked) would involve a total cost of £55 per year or £275 for the five years.

The Chairman proposed a motion to support this and Rod Conaway seconded it, all in favour.

The Clerk is to find out the required timing of payments after checking exact numbers.

f. Sutton Mallet broadband speeds.

David Hall is in the process of arranging a meeting with Paul Coles of BT and The Chedzoy Parish Council Chairman. Our Chairman will be invited along.

g. Hub Café.

Simon Thomas advises by email that CPSO Kim turned up while he was preparing the Village Hall for a film night (she seemed to have muddled up the dates), but she has agreed to attend the Easter Hub Café on 20th April. He asks for a Parish Councillor to attend as he will be busy cooking and Rod Conaway kindly said he would go along.

1217 Somerset County Council report:

Although unable to attend the meeting, David Huxtable sent an email with two items of interest to Stawell:

a. **Walton/Ashcott bypass.**

The Government has accepted the Walton/Ashcott bypass as an approved scheme. He says this is good news but he doesn't know how far that moves us "up the list".

b. **Hinkley Point.**

Hinkley Point are starting to commission their new jetty during April and this will result in a considerable decrease in HGV traffic using the A39. There will still be some aggregate moved by road from a specialist aggregate quarry not connected to the rail network. He imagines that over 90% of existing aggregate movements will cease by mid-May.

Sedgemoor District Council – Stuart Kingham reported as follows:

a. **Waste Partnership.**

The SDCs existing contract with Kier runs out in 2020 and new tenders are currently under consideration with the new contract to run from March 2020.

The Chairman opened the meeting up to the public at 7.28 pm.

The following matters were raised by the public:

a. **Traffic speeds near Fritchetts Farm.**

This matter was raised and discussed at length. There is a strong contention that the road is obstructed by various objects. Cllr Rod Conaway said a friendly solution should be sought to overcome the disagreement here. The Clerk was asked to request a meeting on site with SCC Highways to take matters forward.

b. **Overgrown hedge obstructing the visibility adjoining the overgrown bank in Ford Lane.**

This hedge is causing an increasing traffic hazard when approaching a blind bend. Following a discussion the Chairman agreed to have a word with the householder concerned.

c. **Poor pavement condition from Stawell House running to the east.**

It was reported that the pavement surface was severely breaking up. The Clerk was asked to report the problem to SCC Highways.

d. **Wood Lane Farm Planning Appeal reference APP/V3310/W/19/3221047.**

A concerned parishioner brought this up, with the appeal against Application reference 46/18/00010/DT (For the Prior Approval of the proposed change of use of an agricultural building to 4no. dwellings and associated operational development) having been publicised today, 1st April. A discussion ensued and it was noted that the appointed inspector as a rule examines all the objections to the original application. With feelings running strongly against this proposal the Clerk was asked to submit the Parish Council's comments (dated 4th September and attached to these minutes) to the original application to the Inspector appropriately.

The Chairman closed the meeting to public discussion at 8.10 pm.

1218 Financial Matters:-

Three cheques was signed as follows:

No 388 £ 45.40 payee CN Fry (expenses).

No 389 £120.00 payee CN Fry (April net salary).

No 390 £257.60 payee Zurich Municipal (insurance premium).

The Annual Governance Statement for the financial year 2018/2019 was presented, accepted and duly signed off by the Chairman and Clerk (Responsible Financial Officer).

1219 Planning –

The following application was received after the original agenda was published and added on 26th March.

Reference: 46/19/00001/DT.

Type: Full Planning Permission.

Proposal: Erection of a single storey garden room extension to rear (south) and side (west) elevations.

Location: Fry's Cottage Stawell Road Stawell Bridgwater Somerset TA7 9AD.

Applicants: Mr and Mrs Holder.

Reference: 46/19/00002/DT.

Type: Listed Building Consent – alterations.

(Other details as above).

The Clerk read an email from the absent Cllr. Simon Thomas, the immediate neighbour to Fry's Cottage, which states:

“ I have seen plans of the proposed extension and have had a guided tour of the property and where the “conservatory” is due to go. My wife and I have absolutely no objections to the proposed planning application and think it will look very nice. It will not overlook or otherwise cause us concern”.

Following a discussion it was agreed to send the following comments to SDC Planners:

“The Parish Council supports to above application and has no objection to it”.

1220 Correspondence.

a. Sedgemoor Local Plan (2011-2032) – Notification of Adoption.

The Clerk read an email from Sedgemoor District Council confirming that the council formally adopted the Local Plan at a meeting on 20th February 2019.

b. SCC Chairman's Awards 2019.

Nigel Taylor, Chairman of SCC is holding his annual “Chair's award ceremony for service to the community” On Thursday (evening) 4th July 2019. Nominations are invited from individuals by means of a nomination form at: www.somerset.gov.uk/chairaward

c. Somerset Good Neighbours.

Popping round to borrow a cup of sugar can often be the extent of our relationship with our closest neighbours and it is this disconnect that SSC (Community Council for Somerset) is hoping to tackle as it launches the “Somerset Good Neighbours Scheme”, aided by funding from the National Lottery Community Fund

For more details go to: www.somersetcc.gov.uk

1221 Matters for report & items for next meeting:

- a. Overgrown bank in Ford Lane.
- b. Condition of the road at Flichetts Farm.
- c. Overgrown hedge in Ford Lane.

1222 Any Other Business and Date of Next Meeting

Any Other Business – None.

Date of next meeting, Monday 6th May 2019 at 7.00pm in Stawell Village Hall.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.35 pm.