

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

Present: Cllrs Rod Conaway, Hugh Gange-Harris and Brian Lishman (Chairman), also David Huxtable (SCC) and Stuart Kingham (SDC).

In attendance: Chris Fry (Clerk) and one member of the public,

1243 Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Penny Badcock, Linda Osborne and Simon Thomas.

1244 Declarations of Interest: None.

1245 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 3d June 2019 were taken as read, agreed and signed as a true record.

1246 Matters Arising: -

a. Overgrown bank and hedge in Ford Lane

Cllr Simon Thomas sent an email to the Clerk saying that he had discovered that SCC compulsorily purchased the land where the hedge is overgrown for £5 a few years ago, and therefore they (SCC) are responsible for keeping it tidy. Simon volunteered to tidy it up, phoned SCC highways who warned him not to start till 1st September as legislation protects nesting birds before then. He also spoke to Laurence Hackling who confirmed SCC's responsibility for the hedge. A site meeting is planned when both Simon and Laurence are back from holiday, which should take place before the next PC meeting on 2nd September.

b. Sutton Mallet broadband speeds.

The Clerk reported that Cllr David Hall (SCC) has confirmed that a representative of Stawell PC will be invited to the meeting he is arranging with Paul Coles of BT.

1247 Somerset County Council report:

David Huxtable reported that he is introducing a monthly "Parish Council Briefing", starting this June.

Sedgemoor District Council.

Stuart Kingham reported that Kier were not continuing with the waste partnership and that Seuz would be taking over next year.

The Bridgwater town centre upgrade was progressing well.

The Chairman opened the meeting to the public at 7.16 pm.

The following matters were raised:

- a. It was suggested a letter of thanks be sent to the two ladies who planted a lot of Spring bulbs all over the Parish earlier this year as well as one to the young man who cleared the "coffin" path opposite the old phone kiosk.
- b. Cllr Rod Conaway brought up the matter of the messy state that the highway outside the "derelict" house in Stawell Road, especially when it rains. Cllr Brian Lishman said he would take this up with Laurence Hackling.

The Chairman closed the meeting to public discussion at 7.25 pm.

1248 Financial Matters:

Four cheques was signed as follows:

No 430 £240.00 payee CN Fry (July/August net salary).
No 431 £ 63.46 " " (expenses).

No 432 £ 55.50 payee CN Fry (50% of cost of CA Baker reference book).
No 433 £50.00 payee Bridgwater CAB (Donation).

1249 Planning – One new application received since the agenda was posted will be the subject of a special planning meeting on Monday 8th July at 7 pm in the village hall.

A couple of applications relating to Chilton Priory (situated in Chilton Polden) for the conversion of cloisters to form a single office and study, and the installation of double glazing, and the erection of a conservatory to the north west elevation, were simply noted.

2150 Correspondence.

a. Sedgemoor CAB grant request – see cheque issued above.

It was proposed by Brian Lishman and seconded by Rod Conaway that a grant of £50 towards the work of the CAB.

b. Jazz Evenings at Cossington.

Posters advertising forthcoming jazz evenings at Cossington village hall in October, November and December 2019 are to be placed on the village notice boards.

c. PCSO Laura Bray.

As requested at a previous meeting, the Clerk sent an email of appreciation for the very good services of Laura in the village, particularly in attending the Hub Café. In reply, the Local Area Policing Commander, Lisa Simpson, sent a reply in which she expressed her satisfaction with the whole of her team and particularly Laura.

d. Code of Conduct explained – SALC seminar.

This is to be held at the Edgar Hall Somerton on Wednesday 10th July from 7 till 9 pm. The Code of Conduct and Members Interests together make up one of SALC's highest enquiry lines. The Clerk said he may attend.

e. SCC Chairman's Annual Civic Service.

An invitation to attend this has been received, and it is being held at Holy Trinity Church Frome BA11 3DE on Saturday 5th October 2019 at 3 pm, followed by light refreshments. RSVP by 30th August.

f. Rural Housing Week Briefing.

These have been cancelled due to lack of interest.

g. Planning application Chilton Priory.

See item 1249 above.

1241 Matters for report & items for next meeting:

None.

1242 Any Other Business and Date of Next Meeting

Any Other Business.

a. Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations.

The Acting Returning Officer will be carrying out a review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations. Noted.

b. Sedgemoor Planning Online and Comments.

Planning Online was updated on 24th June 2019.

c. Parish Council minutes of 3d June 2019.

An email has been received from a parishioner expressing dissatisfaction with the terminology used in item 1237 (b) "Climate Emergency" entry.

d. Council garages and communal car parking area in Ford Lane.

Hugh Gange-Harris raised the problem of scrap being piled high in this area and its encroachment on the communal car parking area. Cllr Stuart Kingham (SDC) said he would take this matter up with "Homes in Sedgemoor".

e. Roadway outside Flichtetts Farm.

Simon Thomas's email mentioned this old problem and suggested a definitive opinion should be obtained in writing from SCC highways, so the matter could be "put to bed". Cllr David Huxtable said the householder's desire to protect the verges has been achieved, and that the householder has been advised of his liability for any damage caused to passing vehicles from any obstructions placed in the carriageway.

No further action at this stage.

f. Village Hall Electricity Upgrade.

Simon Thomas advises that the electricity supply to the hall is indeed already phase 3, but for some unknown reason it wasn't connected to the fuse distribution box. Therefore the work to connect it up to the fuse box will cost just £215 and not the estimated £3000 as was anticipated.

Date of next meeting, Monday 2nd September 2019 at 7.00pm in Stawell Village Hall.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.57 pm.