

**Minutes of the meeting of Stawell Parish Council  
Held in the village hall on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 at 7 pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Penny Badcock, Rod Conaway, Hugh Gange-Harris, Brian Lishman (Chairman) and Simon Thomas.

**Also present:** Cllr David Huxtable (SCC)..

**In attendance:** Chris Fry (Clerk) and 3 members of the public,

**1283 Apologies for Absence:** None.

**1284 Declarations of Interest:** None.

**1285 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019** were taken as read, agreed and signed as a true record.

**1286 Matters Arising: -**

**a. Communal car parking area in Ford Lane.**

This is now in a satisfactory state.

**b. State of the highway outside the unfinished house in Stawell Road.**

The Chairman reported the house is still incomplete. The drainage problem is difficult to pinpoint, although the culvert appears to be at least partly clear.

He feels the subject can now be dropped from the agenda.

**c. SRA Community Engagement Team visit.**

The clerk reported that the two representatives, Dawn James and her colleague Emma Giffard will be attending the February 2020 meeting.

**1287 County/District Councillor's' reports.**

**County** – David Huxtable said an up to date missive detailing SCC's activities is due shortly.

Things are traditionally quiet in the run up to the general election.

In answer to a question he said the proposed route of the Ashcott bypass was under consideration by central government.

**District.** None.

The Chairman opened the meeting up to public discussion at 7.20 pm.

**a. Car parking outside the church.**

There was strong feelings about the poor parking around the church. In particular there is a black car with the tyres beginning to deflate there, partly blocking the road and creating poor visibility for vehicles emerging from Ford Lane. Simon Thomas said he would have a word with the householder concerned and offer parking in the village hall car park an alternative.

The Chairman pointed out there were more cars when a recent service of welcome for the new vicar was held, .A member of the public said she would advise the PCC of the concerns of the parish council and pass on the offer of parking in the hall car park for churchgoers (by the kind permission of the Hall Chairman Simon Thomas).

There being no other questions the Chairman closed the meeting to the public at 7.25 pm.

**1288 Financial Matters:**

Three cheques was signed as follows:

**No 444 £ 240.00 payee CN Fry (Dec/Jan net salary).**

**No 445 £ 27.45 “ “ (expenses).**

**No 446 £ 36.50 payee DM Payroll Services (6 months payroll).**

A request for grant aid from Mendip Community Transport has been received and will be considered at the February 2010 meeting.

**Precept Setting for 2010/2021.**

The clerk distributed copies of projected expenditure for 2020/2021 which amounts to £3650. He said that this year a precept of £3800 had been requested, down on the previous year of £4650. Recent grant aid for the village hall kitchen equipment of £1500 has depleted the contingency funds.

Following a detailed discussion the Chairman called for a vote and it was agreed to apply for a precept of £4000 for 2020/2021. The clerk was asked to complete the usual application.

**1289 Planning – No new applications.**

**1290 Correspondence.**

**a. Trees for Somerset – Trees for your Parish.**

The clerk read out details of an event being held at West Monkton village hall on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020 from 10.00 to 15.30 (GMT). "Reimagining the Levels" are holding an inspiring and practical tree planting conference.

Share this event on Facebook and Twitter.

**b. Council Tax Scam by Text.**

SDC are warning people to delete any texts they receive inviting them to give their bank details in order to receive a refund of Council Tax.

**c. New Charity Fund for Communities.**

A new fund which will focus on three areas is being launched by Old Mill financial experts, with the aim of:-

Building brighter futures,  
Reducing rural loneliness and  
Strengthening communities.

For more details contact Sue Wheeler, Communications and Events Executive SDC on 01749 344949.

[sue.wheeler@somerset.org.uk](mailto:sue.wheeler@somerset.org.uk)

**1291 Matters for report & items for next meeting:**

Mendip Transport grant request.

**1292 Any Other Business and Date of Next Meeting**

**Any other business – none.**

**Date of next meeting, Monday 3d February 2020 at 7.00pm in Stawell Village Hall.**

**There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.48 pm.**