

Minutes of the meeting of Stawell Parish Council held on Monday 1st March 2021 at 7.00 pm.

(Conducted via telephone conference call)

Present: - Cllrs. Penny Badcock, Brian Lishman (Chairman) and Simon Thomas.

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

In attendance: - The Clerk (Chris Fry).

1414 Apologies: - Cllr. Rod Conaway and Linda Osborne.

1415 Declarations of Interest: - None.

1416 Minutes of the last regular meeting of 1st February 2021 were taken as read, agreed and signed.

1417 Matters arising from the minutes:-

a. New Grit Bins in Ford Lane.

Following the last meeting, the Clerk emailed Bawdrip PC Clerk, who has confirmed that they have no objections to the proposal (This part of Ford Lane is located in Bawdrip parish). He then approached the landowner, who also owns this section of Ford Lane (SCC maintain it), who confirmed that he is not a fan of grit bins. In his view the bins are ineffective, become neglected, tend to have litter deposited in them and drivers tend not to spread grit before attempting to drive along the lane in frosty weather. He added that there are several alternative routes.
The Clerk thanked him for his views.

The matter will not now proceed and the Clerk will advise Bawdrip PC appropriately.

b. Emergency use bollards.

At the last meeting Simon Thomas suggested it might be a good idea for the parish council to acquire a supply of traffic bollards for occasional use in matters of road safety in both Stawell and Sutton Mallet. The Clerk contacted Somerset Parking who advised him that they do not hold any cones, but suggested he contact the local police beat team who may hold some.

There have been changes in our PCSO beat team and the Clerk will contact PCSOs Ben Simpkin and Georgia Coles via: -

<https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/your-area/sedgemoor-south-east/>

c. Dog litter bins.

Following the last meeting, the Clerk emailed Cllr. Stuart Kingham (SDC) to ask if he could assist us in obtaining some dog litter bins in the same way that we have been told Moorlinch have ie. At no cost to the parish of installing or servicing them. Stuart has said he will look into the matter and come back in due course.

Cllr. David Huxtable suggested Moorlinch's status as having a "parish meeting" rather than a parish council might be a factor.

d. Mud in Billicombe Lane.

This matter was brought to the attention of the parish council by a concerned parishioner, and was discussed at the last meeting, as a result of which Brian Lishman offered to see the landowner and have a word. Brian said there were other contributory factors involved here, but felt a letter pointing out the legal duties of landowners to clear up mud from farm tractors and livestock alike, for road safety reasons, and the Clerk has hand delivered an appropriately worded letter to the landowner.

1418 County/District Councillors' Report.

County Councillors Report: - David Huxtable reported as follows: -

a. SCC briefing.

The latest of these has today been circulated to all councillors.

b. Road salt.

David said that SCC would deliver road salt for use on the highway during wintery conditions, if requested.

c. Traffic cones.

David confirmed SCC does not hold traffic cones, but used contractors who has their own supplies.

d. Dog litter bins.

See item 1417 (c) above.

e. Mud in Billicombe Lane.

He suggested the PCSO team should be involved, as necessary, as mud on the road is a police matter.

District Councillors report: - None.

1419 Financial Matters.

One cheque to issue: -

No 482 £120.00 payee CN Fry (March net salary).

The Clerk will advise the payroll lady of his increased salary wef 1st April 2021 (£2600 pa).

1420 Planning – No new applications.

a. Planning breach in Sutton Mallet.

Following the last meeting, the Clerk reported the suspected planning breach to SDC planning enforcement officers. They have confirmed that they will investigate as appropriate.

b. Reference: 46/21/00001

Type: Notice of Proposed Agricultural Development.

Location: Os field No 4254, Sedgemoor Hill Drove, Sutton Mallet, Bridgwater.

Proposal: Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed erection of a steel portal framed building with a shallow pitched roof.

Applicant: Mrs Hill.

Details of this were not sent to the Clerk, he simply picked it up from the weekly list of application approvals, where it appeared with the decision "withdrawn (after registration)"- decision date 12/02/2021. With a registration date of 19/02/2021, the decision was made before the details could be sent out.

Brian Lishman said there was a degree of concern about this application.

1421 Correspondence: -

a. Grit Consortium.

The Clerk has received confirmation from SCC highways that this ceased some time ago.

b. Census 2021.

With the Census date quickly approaching – 21st March 2021 – emails have been received from both Jill Loader – Census Engagement Manager (Office for National Statistics) and Clair Faun – Corporate Relations Manager SDC, advising of the need to maximise take up, and saying that this time people will be able to complete their details on-line or in paper form.

1422 Matters for report and items for the next meeting: - None.

1423 Any other business and Date of the next meeting: -

Any other business: -

a. Poor state of the road in Sutton Mallet.

Brian Lishman reported that a large pothole had appeared in Church Road which will get bigger and more hazardous if not attended to. The Clerk advised that such matter can be directly reported to SCC by any member of the public on:

<https://www.fixmystreet.com>

Brian said he would get postal code details to the Clerk so he can report it.

b. Blocked drains in Ford Lane.

Simon Thomas reported there were problems at a couple of drains, and these should similarly be reported at:

<https://eee.fixmystreet.com>

c. Temporary closure of Ford Lane by Wessex Water.

The Clerk has received notification that Wessex Water are to carry out essential work on

the sewerage network, and Ford Lane will be closed between No 7 and the Wessex Water pumping station, from 15th March to 19th March 2021. Simon Thomas said this was already on the village web site.

Date of the next meeting Monday 5th April 2021 at 7 pm.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.43 pm.