

## STOKE ST MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2018

**PLEASE NOTE THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERED AT THE MEETING TO BE HELD ON 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2018**

**Present:** Keith Holder (Chair), Keith Hambly, Kirsty Hayes, John Johnston, Amanda Taylor, Sebastian Wolf, John McEntee, Philip Ham, Alan Townsend, Bridget Banwell (Clerk), 3 members of the public

**1. Election of Chair**

It was proposed that Keith Holder be re-elected as Chair.

**PROPOSED BY:** Amanda Taylor      **SECONDED BY:** John McEntree  
**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**

**2. Election of Vice Chair**

It was proposed that Anna Mearns be re-elected as Vice Chair.

**PROPOSED BY:** Sebastian Wolf      **SECONDED BY:** John McEntee  
**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**

**3. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Anna Mearns and Kim Gibson.

**4. Declarations of interest - None**

**5. Public Session**

Hannah Snow attended to discuss the football club and Geoff O'Sullivan to talk about the issues with the stream. Both these matters are on the agenda and they will therefore be invited to speak at the appropriate time.

**6. County & District Councillors' Reports**

Cllr Ham said that the highways scheme for the Old Wells Road/Coleford has gone through. SSM has already had a scheme and the present one cannot therefore be classed as a new scheme. However Highways are willing to do something to improve the scheme already in place, but he is unsure of exactly how much they are willing to do.

Cllr Ham said there has been no progress regarding a unitary authority and added that it would be 4-5 years before it could be implemented.

There has been a debate over car parking fees. It was considered unfair that Sunday parking is charged at Wells and Glastonbury, but not Frome. A low rate of Sunday parking will now be introduced at Frome, except on Sunday Market days.

Cllr Ham said there are a lot of drug related issues in Shepton Mallet, Coleford and Radstock, which are spreading to the surrounding villages.

With regard to the recent application at Warren Farm, Cllr Ham confirmed that it has never been used as a barn and cannot therefore be converted.

It was confirmed that Pennys would make good the damage to the road at Stoke Bottom.

With regard to Cookwood, Cllr Ham said that there are no time restrictions, but can only be used for holiday purposes. It cannot be a first home or primary home and cannot be used to register for schools or doctors or have mail delivered. There will also be a register to record occupancy at all times that can be spot checked at any time.

**7. Minutes of the previous meeting**

After an amendment to Item 8(2), the Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May were agreed to be a true record and signed by the Chair.

**PROPOSED BY:** Sebastian Wolf      **SECONDED BY:** John Johnston

**8. Matters arising not on the Agenda**

1. Red Lane: Cllr Hambly confirmed that Wainwrights has started work on Red Lane and it will need regular maintenance.

**9. Planning**

Notification received from MDC for approval of application 2017/2272/VRC – variation of condition for change of use of agricultural barns to 3 dwellings and erection of garages at Phippens Farm.

**10. Playing Field**

**1. Pavilion/Football Club**

Clerk will email the costs for the last year. PC also needs a statement of last season's fixtures. PC needs hard facts in order to make a reasoned decision and clear proposal. The football club will just be charged for the use of the pavilion; the PC would not mark out the pitches, etc.

Work on the roof has been postponed until the end of July.

Cllr Taylor confirmed she has secured a grant to hold an event at the playing field, which will include the hire of the pavilion. She also asked if there is any possibility of refurbishing the tennis court and agreed to look into grant funding. If the tennis court was useable the football club would be interested in using it for winter training if lit.

Safety issues arising from Annual Inspection Report

2. The play bark has been put down and the height of concrete bases on the 2 climbing figures has been reduced with rubber matting and play bark put on top. This now meets the requirements of the Report. The chain link fencing still needs addressing. PC thanked Cllrs Johnson and Wolf for their hard work.

*1 member of the public left at 8.30pm*

*PC agreed to bring forward Item 13*

**13. Silting of rivers – report from the Working Party**

Cllr Hambly explained what had happened since the last meeting. The 3 tips have been approved including comprehensive conditions, one of which is that the base line must be established for 12 months before Wainwrights can start construction of the tips. Geoff O'Sullivan produced a sample of water from the stream and said that Wainwrights had recently left the pumps running all night. Cllr Hambly said that Wayne McKeown had admitted this was down to human error and had acted quickly to resolve the incident, which has been reported to the Environment Agency. Geoff talked at length about the state of the stream and said that the Working Party needs to emphasise to Wainwrights how serious this problem is. Geoff also said that the stream has eroded to the edge of the highway at the top of Mendip Road. He was advised to contact the land owner.

Cllr Hambly will chase the structures team to carry out a second inspection of The Bridge. He has met with SCC Risk Management Team and it would appear that lack of maintenance is causing the problems with Geoff's wall. It is possible to do the main work on the Lychgate side and straighten out the stream, but no one knows who owns the land. Clerk will contact the PC's solicitors to see if she can find out. PC thanked Cllr Hambly for his hard work.

*Cllr Ham and 2 members of the public left at 8.50pm*

**11. Millennium Wood**

**1. Quotes for grass cutting**

Cllr Hayes said that her elderly neighbour is very concerned about the risk of fire due to the grass not being cut. Two quotes were discussed. It was agreed that the PC would need to come up with a long term strategy, but for now it was proposed that the PC should accept the quote from Simon Dyke who will charge £35 per hour. Clerk will ask Simon to cut the lower meadow and the walk ways as soon as possible.

**PROPOSED BY:** John Johnson      **SECONDED BY:** Sebastian Wolf

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**

Clerk will email Cllr Wolf the original planting map.

**2. Sycamore tree at Shelving Close**

Cllr McEntee has been approached by a resident saying that branches are overhanging her property and she wants the PC to pay for the tree to be cut down. Cllr McEntee will advise her that she is responsible for any overhanging branches and, if it has a TPO, she will need to obtain consent from MDC.

**12. Defibrillator**

The box is in place on the hall door, but there is no power. The machine now has to be moved from the pub. The PC will need to be invoiced for its contribution.

**14. 1. Pedestrian Road Safety Enhancement Scheme**

No update received.

2. Mill Lane – No report, but it does seem as if the unofficial signage is working.

**15. Traffic speeds at Church Street, Tower Hill and Coalpit Lane**

Cllr Holder has received complaints about speeding, particularly around school drop off and pick up times. He would like to seek some formal presence in the form of a police bike to monitor. Speedwatch is still active, but is only allowed in certain locations. PC discussed possible solutions including the green 20mph limit, which is only advisory, not enforceable, sleeping policemen (which can be noisy) and village gateways, eg. 'Please drive carefully through our village' or painting the speed limit on the road. The SID has not been in place for some time. Clerk will contact SCC. The road approaching Doultling School has a 20mph speed limit. Cllr Johnston will bring this up at the next Governors meeting. He will also arrange for it to be put in the school newsletter and the Lychgate.

*Cllr Townsend left at 9.30pm*

**16. Repairs to bus shelter**

Cllrs Wolf and Johnston have looked at the damage and feel that they can carry out the repairs themselves. Clerk will contact in the Insurers to confirm that the PC does not wish to pursue its claim.

**17. Finance**

1. Bank balances: Current A/C £39,166.36 Reserve A/C £50.43

2. Cheques for authorisation:

Fae Clements – Website maintenance – Inv. 021

Primrose Garden Maintenance – Grass cutting - Inv. 3742

Primrose Garden Maintenance – PF grass cutting – Inv. 3713

EDF Energy – Pavilion electricity

M. Butcher – Lychgate cleaning – Jun Qrt

A Brooks – BG Clerk's salary – Jun Qrt

B Banwell – Clerk's salary – Jun Qrt

B Banwell – Admin expenses – Jun Qrt

Ross Clements – work at playing field

BHIB Ltd – Insurance premium

**PROPOSED BY:** John Johnston

**SECONDED BY:** Amanda Taylor

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**

**18. Correspondence** – Circulated prior to the meeting

**19. Matters to report/Items for next Agenda**

1. Cllr Taylor has obtained a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund for an Armistice Day celebration to be held in the hall, church and around the village.
2. There will be a fund raising car wash in SMM on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> June.
3. The Senior Youth Club is not running. Volunteers and someone to do workshops are urgently needed. PC does not know who are the Trustees of the hall and whether the constitution needs updating and should the PC have a representative on the hall committee. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

*Meeting closed at 9.45pm*

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dated** \_\_\_\_\_