Stoke St Mary Parish Council

Date of Meeting:	Written by:
Thursday 15th November 2018 7:30 pm At SSM Village Hall	Gemma Coombes (Parish Clerk)

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Councillor's Present
Nigel Wright,
Patricia Fallance
William Coombes
Mike Farrell
Rob Hossell
Mike Baddeley

In attendance
Gemma Coombes – Parish Clerk
Parishioners x 1
John Williams – District Councillor
John Thorne – County Councillor

2018/74. Welcome by Chairman
The chairman opens the meeting and thanks people for attending.

2018/75. Apologies
Vic Freir sends his apologies

2018/76. Declarations of Interest
William Coombes declares an interest in the A358 and J25 due to land owned at Haydon.

2018/77. Minutes
The minutes from the 20th of September 2018 were taken and read. Proposed by William Coombes Seconded by Pat Fallance all in favour. Signed by Chairman

2018/78. Matters Arising

1. ***Play park fencing***
   Parsons have been spoken to and we are still waiting them to carry out the work. It was agreed that we should try an complete this work before the end of the Financial year 2018-9 (end March) and obtain quotes from other companies, if Parsons do not start soon. Proposed by Nigel Wright and seconded by Mike Baddeley. All in favour that we go out to tender for the work to be done.
2. **Defibrillator installation**
   The cable has been installed in the churchyard and the power to the post has been connected. The British Heart Foundation will do the final commission. Thanks are due to the councillors, as well as Sarah Baddeley, Mike Coomber and ????, who prepared the cable trench.
3. **Allotments**
   One half plot is currently rented out. A notice should be posted on the website to try and attract new tenants. If this fails, we should review whether we wish to retain the allotments as they are becoming overgrown and unsightly.
   Action: Vic to put on website.
4. **Ultrafast broadband**
   Please read the comments in both the County councillors and the District councillors report below. (Item 2018/88)
5. **Storage and disposal of Parish Council Documents**
   Remove as all now done and new storage in place. All appropriate out of date documents have been disposed of and a new lockable filing cabinet purchased and located in the Village Hall storage shed for key documents.
6. **Ward boundaries for Somerset West & Taunton Deane**
   Remove from the agenda as this is not something, we can do anything about
7. **Disturbance caused by fireworks**
   A letter was received by the Parish Council regarding concerns over fireworks being let off in the village.
   The council asked John Williams if there is any legislation surrounding this but there is not and there is nothing that can be done by the Parish Council.

The Mount Somerset Hotel have been having late displays and some local residents have asked them to make locals aware, so they can keep animals in etc. These are large displays for weddings etc and often late at night.

8. **Feedback from Somerset Prepared Community Resilience Day 2018**
   The day included presentations and workshops about emergency response and flooding response. Under the new council next year, we may look to put together a resilience package for Stoke St Mary to cover everything from flooding, fire, snow and animal disease outbreak. There needs to be a group put together and we should look to deliver something by end of 2019
9. **Feedback from Ruishton and Thornfalcon Neighbourhood plan Consultation**
   A lot of work and money has to go into a Neighbourhood plan. In our view, the outlay has always outweighed the benefit but there is now a business that will complete this for you and there is considerable grant money available. The CIL money will go from 15% to 25% with a plan.
   The plan gives you the chance to influence development around you.
   It was agreed that we should reconsider this, but that any work on it, should take second priority to the Community Resilience Plan (see item 8 above).

2018/79. Finance

1. ***Account balances***
   I. Current account - £7,155.70
   II. Deposit account - £10,729.02. The deposit account interest has risen this month to 2%
2. ***2019/2020 Parish Precept***
   The Parish Precept of £3236 has not been increased for the past 2 years. It is proposed to raise the CIL by 2.2%, in line with the latest Retail Price Inflation index, making it £3307for 2019-20. This increase is proposed due to increasing costs and things proposed to carry out in the future (e.g. Community Resilience Plan/ Neighbourhood Plan).
   Proposed by Nigel Wright Seconded by Rob Hossell, all in favour.
3. ***Remittances***
   - None
4. ***Invoices for payment***
   Parish clerk read out the invoices and asked if we can seek approval at the end for all. All in favour of doing this. All invoices were Proposed by William Coombes and Seconded by Mike Baddeley. Vote and all in favour
   i. Parish Clerk wages £194.10 plus expenses of £222.87 Total £416.97
   ii. Parsons Landscapes field cut x1 £44.33 Oct
   iii. Stoke St Mary Village Hall hire for July- September 6 hours £42.00
   iv. Vic Freir expenses for paint £20
   v. Rob Bowerman steelwork for defibrillator £88.80
   vi. Stoke St Mary Village Hall hire for meeting with Highways in February £62.50

Stoke St Mary had a meeting regarding the A358 and Highways England hired the hall, in which to have the public consultation. This invoice has never been paid by Highways England (HE). It is proposed that the Parish Council pays the Village Hall and if HE ask to use the hall again, they will be reminded that they still need to reimburse us.
Proposed by William Coombes, seconded by Mike Baddeley all in favour.

2018/80. Planning

1. ***Current planning applications***
   Mr and Mrs Clarke would like to join the house to the barn. The plans are quite substantial. We feel it is necessary to go and have a look as group to see what is proposed and needed.
2. ***Enforcement Proceedings***
   None
3. ***Other planning matters***
   None

2018/81. Highways

1. **Road maintenance (Potholes etc.)**
   No real news. Large pot holes on Stoke Hill. There is a man hole that needs looking at in Haydon.
2. **Use of Stoke Hill by LGVs**

There was due to be a meeting with Jo Sharpe, but this was cancelled and not re-organised yet. Stoke Hill sign has not materialised yet.

2018/82. Redistribution of Mike Farrell's portfolios

Mike Farrells last meeting is today as he is moving on to pastures new. The council would like to thank Mike for his services over the 12 years.
Mike deals with Planning and Highways.
Rob Hossell is happy to pick up planning area going forward.
Highways is Mike Farrell's secondary responsibility, so Mike Baddeley will be taking that on as the main Highways representative.
Footpaths and bridal ways. William will take Footpaths and Pat will take Bridal ways.

2018/83. A358 Proposal

Nothing at the moment. They plan on telling us the preferred route the end of Autumn. There are some suspected issues around funding. Whoever represents the Parish in the community forum must be up to speed.

2018/84. J25 / Employment site

Most of the building is going to be off site but there will be a huge queue of traffic while this happens. There has already been an improvement scheme to improve safety on the motorway, following recent fatal accidents.

2018/85. School

Nothing to report

2018/86. Policing

No sight of the police but there have been several break ins. Police are not responding to these break ins.

2018/87. Village Hall

Nothing to report

2018/88. County and District Councillors reports

1. **County councillors report**. – John Thorne
    - Finances, an extraordinary meeting was held on the 17th October. All that was agreed was that everybody would work together and do their best to make the savings happen and think of any other way's services could be delivered cost-effectively.
    - The Budget, Early thoughts are that Somerset could benefit by about £6.5 million from extra funding being put toward adult social care and children's and learning difficulties, £4 million for potholes, and an opportunity to apply for an £85 million fund to transform the children's services operational model over the next few years.
    - Grit bins, Somerset can now afford to fill the grit bins for free this year. It may be a one-off for this year only, it is not sure yet whether parishes will again also be able to collect free bags of rock salt as in previous years. Fewer roads are being gritted and a map of which ones will be covered is at www.travelsomerset.co.uk/gritting
    - Superfast broadband, there is recognition that responsibility lies squarely with the board of CDS. Councillor Thorne put a proposal that the committee should call for the board to be replaced as a matter of urgency, but the committee chairman refused the proposal. The CDS/Gigaclear stakeholder briefing says Gigaclear want an extension to June 2022 and they will still deliver to everybody who has been promised it and that it will still be a full fibre network. The new proposals from Gigaclear to CDS are still being examined and it will be 'several weeks' before a decision is taken. It might all be for nothing as the main public funding streams have to be spent by March 2020 and it is not known if that deadline can be extended.
    - Rights of Way, there are currently more than 3,100 live issues being dealt with. Twice as many applications are being received as are being determined. An application submitted today could take 30 years to be determined
    - Potholes, the number of potholes being reported on the highways fell to a record weekly low, down to 164 against 1,034 at the beginning of May,

- Libraries, Proposals for the future look of the library service were approved on 5th November by the cabinet. There is no change to the main libraries in Taunton and Ilminster which will continue to be run by SCC, while 15 other communities will be asked to create community library partnerships or???

2. **District Councillors report** – John Williams
   - North Taunton demolition of houses. There are 200 to be demolished and 100 to be refurbished. They are hoping to replace with 260 new homes that meet current regulations. The old properties are willowy houses that have been condemned. Displaced residents can return if they wish to do so.
   - Highways England have been chased by Taunton Deane regarding updated A358 plans, but no response to date.
   - J25 has got machinery on site at Junction 25 to relocate a major sewer to allow for the further development work of J25. It is planned to start work Feb 2019.
   - Nexus 25 will follow on the back of the start of J25
   - The Railway Station refurbishment will, hopefully, be underway soon, as this has been planned for years. The money comes from various places including an undisclosed loan from TDBC. There will be a larger car park (350-400 cars) and new ticket office including upgraded the platforms
   - Part opening of the Great Western Hotel, which is being refurbished, should be in January
   - Taunton police station officially moves into Deane House next Monday and should be fully operational by end of November.
   - Gigaclear. There have been ongoing issues since January, as they were reliant on Carillion, who went bust, for the heavy lifting. CDS have been pressing them hard to restore order to this. They were working with another company who then got taken over and this stopped work again as they needed to review the contract. All the funders have to be approached to extend the funding. 40 gangs are needed to run the main spine by 2020 then go back and spur off that spine to join the local boxes, with completion likely to be 2022.
   - TDBC have received the tenders for the recycling lorries in order to recycle more from 2020

2018/89. Correspondence

2018/90. Other Village Matters/ Topics for next agenda

We need to organise Mike Baddeley to replace Mike Farrell as a bank signatory.

2018/91. New Councillors for 2019

1. 2019 Election

In addition to Mike Farrell's departure, at least 2 (2) or possibly three (3) other long serving councillors are looking to step down at the next election in May 2019. It was agreed that we need to seek potential new candidates, but that, if this is done too early, the impact may not be as hoped. The agreed way forward was to begin approaching and engaging the community in Q1 2019 though SSM Parish Magazine, leaflet drops and personal approaches.

2. New Councillor

During the discussion on item 1 above, the attending Parishioner, Mr Dan Fallance, volunteered to join the Parish Council with immediate effect, as a numeric replacement for Mike Farrell. This was gratefully received by all and the necessary arrangements to install Mr Fallance as a Councillor for the January meeting would be pursued.

2018/92. NEXT MEETING:

Thursday 17th January 2019, 7.30pm, STOKE ST MARY VILLAGE **HALL**

Meeting closes at ??? (9.10pm?)

Minutes from Stoke St Mary Parish Council November 15th, 2018

Signed: ..... [Chairman]