STOGURSEY PARISH COUNCIL

***DRAFT -* MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 9 MAY 2017**

**IN THE VICTORY HALL STOGURSEY**

***TO BE APPROVED AND SIGNED AT THE FOLLOWING MEETING***

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

No items were raised.

**PRESENT:**

Cllr Allan Searle (Chairman), Cllr Chris Morgan (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Geoff Coles, Cllr Ian Elenor, Cllr Chris Ford, Cllr Sue Goss, Cllr Susan Jones, Gillian Orchard (Clerk), 1 member of the public.

**1/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr James Brereton, Cllr Pat Coll, Cllr Jill Dillamore,

**2/17 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11.4.17:**

The minutes were AGREED and signed by the Chairman.

**3/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4/17 COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:**

In the absence of the County Councillor, there was nothing to report.

**5/17 POLICE REPORT / CRIME STATISTICS:**

The clerk obtained information from the police crime statistics website for March 2017. In Stogursey, 10 crimes were reported to the police and are all currently being investigated.

**6/17 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT:**

Cllr Goss

1. West Somerset Council had anticipated an early indication of a result for the transformation of West Somerset and Taunton Deane councils into one, however the decision will be delayed because of the General Election – it is not known whether Sajid Javid will still be in post.
2. Andrew Kingston-James has been elected as a new district councillor for Minehead (Conservative).
3. Magnox decommissioning news. The Secretary of State has ordered an inquiry into irregularities in the selection process run by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority which resulted in the decommissioning contract award for its Magnox power stations, including Hinkley A, to Cavendish Fluor. The subsequent court cases against this flawed process, by one of the other applicants, Energy Solutions (the previous contract holder) resulted in them being awarded approx £200m pounds in damages from the public purse.
4. Transport Forum
   1. The workshop focussed on the jetty/Combwich Wharf. There has been modifications to the original design; the size of the jetty head has been increased to allow container ships to dock and unload. This could impact on residents of Knighton and Burton due to increased noise during this process which will occur at any high tides in a 24hr cycle.
   2. The issue of the C182 was raised by cyclist Gary Perrett – Andy Coupe reported that he will ask Highways to look into it.
   3. Work due to start at Combwich Wharf next year.
   4. Cllr Brereton forwarded an email with a detailed report which will be forwarded to councillors.
5. Cllr Goss reported that it was pleasing to see HPC speedwatch team in Burton. Cllr Searle reported that he has met with Dave Masters and Jamie Munro who said that if residents are unhappy with speeding issues they are invited to their next speedwatch session.

Cllr Morgan

1. Work on the southern boundary continues with the building of campus and office complex. There are 1600 workers on site. The construction of the jetty continues; the plans have changed six monthly since 2012. It is often altered to suit the best interests of the project and to enable them to bring in as much material as possible.
2. West Somerset council business rates from HPC. WSC were hoping to make savings by sharing services with Taunton Deane, however this was wiped out when their business rates were revalued from £28m to £8m. This has now been revisited, and rates have been altered for next year. WSC are now looking at a saving of £160k instead of £850k.
3. The transformation project continues with enthusiasm by district councillors – but not the public so much. Cllr Morgan stated that he can arrange for district councillors from both councils to attend a meeting in the parish to explain the background behind the proposal.
4. The makeup of WSC will remain this coming year.

**7/17 REVIEW OF ACTION LIST (By exception):**

1. **Car parking area – Strongvox**. The Clerk has received a letter in from R Alford, Director of Stongvox in response to the council request for change of use of the site. He replied that he will include our request in their new planning application. **Action ongoing.**

2. **Lengths-man Scheme Play Area**. Further to meetings with M.Lewis, EDF have agreed to provide financial support towards the provision of a parish Lengthsman; funding will be available throughout the construction of the build to spend as required on the services of a Lengthsman. Cllr Ford proposed that as time is short the parish council go ahead and arrange a six month contract with Greenslades for the coming year, but to ensure value for money to ask for a detailed breakdown of works carried out, to be presented to the parish council every month. Seconded by Cllr Morgan - All AGREED. A new contract / agreement will be drawn up for 2017, and will be reviewed at the end of the year when the council will invite competitive tenders. **Action: Clerk**

3. **WSFG**.

a. A meeting has been arranged with Dan Martin, Service Manager – Flood Risk Management and David Jones – Highways Commissioning Manager at SCC, on Thursday 8 Jun 17. Cllrs Searle, Elenor and Morgan will meet them at Victory Hall at 2pm. **Action ongoing**

b. Cllr Elenor has invited the WSFG to have their next meeting at Victory Hall on 26 Jul 17 at 2.30pm. The Chairman and Clerk are also invited to attend.

4. **St Andrews Well**. Following the dangerous state of the well, Steve Logan has made the area safe and removed the loose stones. Cllr Searle has obtained two quotes for the work - £2,100 plus VAT from S.Stoneham and £1,768 plus VAT from S.Logan. Cllr Morgan proposed that the council appoint Steve Logan to complete the work as soon as possible, seconded by Cllr Elenor. ALL AGREED. **Action: Cllr Searle** .

**8/17 EDF HINKLEY POINT C:**

A visit for councillors has been arranged for Thu 11 May – 8 councillors and the clerk will attend.

**9/17 HINKLEY C COMMUNITY IMPACT MITIGATION (CIM) UPDATE:**

1. **Village Hall**

Cllr Ford reported that architects have provided a quote to replace Victory Hall which will cost approx. £1.5m including fees and demolition. Further funding in addition to the £1m CIM grant will need to be sought. Cllr Ford met with Jan Ross (Engage) to discuss funding, including revisiting the grant funding application to National Lottery. The Victory Hall Committee’s next meeting on 16 May will try to agree outline plans to allow a more detailed costing and fund raising to start. **Action: Ongoing**

**10/17 PLANNING:**

1. 3/32/16/020 – Land 7338 Ridgeway Lane, Stolford. Prior notification for erection of 2 no agricultural buildings for storage of hay and machinery. DECIDED – Prior approval not required. Cllr Jones reported that she is still in correspondence with the enforcement officer **Action: Ongoing**

2. 3/32/17/002 – Erection of agricultural building for the housing of livestock, Steyning Manor – No Comments from Stogursey Parish Council

**11/17 BURGAGE RD PLAY AREA:**

1. **Proposal for new or improved recreational facility in or around Burgage Road Play Area - £ 22,000 available.**

a. Footpath and Picnic table/bench. The council have received approval to go ahead with the provision of the footpath and purchase of the picnic table/benches. Cllr Goss stated that we need to ensure the equipment is permanently fixed in the play area. It was agreed to take action quickly to enable completion as soon as possible. **Action: Clerk**

b. Toddlers Play Equipment. It was proposed to provide equipment for toddlers in BRPA. Cllr Searle has discussed options with parents and 3 pieces of equipment were selected from the Kompan catalogue. The clerk will investigate prices and make an application. Cllr Morgan proposed that any financial decisions can be made via email so that the order is not delayed until the next parish council meeting. Seconded by Cllr Ford – All AGREED **Action: Clerk.**

**c.** Adult exercise equipment. There has been poor response to the proposal, therefore councillors decided to put the suggestion on hold. Cllr Morgan suggested that a note be placed in Stogursey News, outlining the restrictions and limitations of the funds, whilst encouraging residents to provide suggestions for ways to spend the funds. **Action: Clerk**

**12/17 MEETING REPORTS:**

1. **13.4.16 Main Site Forum.** 
   1. The Knighton noise monitoring station relocation. EDF are waiting for a decision from the Fairfield Estates manager on his return from holiday.
   2. HPC out of hours helpline. Calls to this are now handled from their Bridgwater office, as opposed to their facility in the North of England. There have still been problems in accessing this number in addition to receiving the appropriate response when calls are connected. EDF hope to rectify this.
   3. New staff at EDF (S.Keogh & Z.Yorkman) gave an update on the southern boundary
   4. 54% of the local workforce live in their own homes – many of the other 46% are of Welsh origin.
   5. D.Eccles reported that L.Bose will carry out a review of the Property Price Support Scheme as the situation regarding property values and house sales are not as acute as previously.
2. **28.4.16 Transport Forum**

Reported at 6/17.4 above.

3. **9.5.17 WSFG**

Reported at 6/17.3 above

Cllr Morgan left the meeting at 2040

**13/17 FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:**

11.5.17 – Community Forum

13.6.17 – Steart Forum

20.6.17 – WWQ panel (Williton)

21.6.17 – MSF

23.6.17 – SSG (Canalside, Bridgwater)

06.7.17 – Transport Forum

20.7.17 – Community Forum

26.7.17 – WSFG (VH, Stogursey)

**14/17 CLERK REPORT**

Training – New councillor training will be held on 21.6.17 and Clerk Essential Training on 7.6.17, at Somerton.

**15/17 CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Received/Sent:**

1. Mrs A Maw Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset - The Great Get Together will take place around the weekend of 17th and 18th June 2017 to remember the death of Jo Cox MP. The event is hoped to encourage communities to get together and have fun. Cllr Searle has approached residents about holding a community BBQ in BRPA. Further details will be promulgated on noticeboards. **Action: Cllr Searle**
2. Somerset Wildlife asked parish council to support an application to the CIM fund to assist with a project to rediscover Somerset’s Brilliant Coast. Cllr Elenor proposed that we support their application as any noise, lighting etc. caused by work carried out by HPC will affect the wildlife and coastline, footpaths and orchards in the area. This was seconded by Cllr Coles. A vote was taken – 5 in favour, 1 against – motion CARRIED. The clerk will write to inform them of the decision. **Action: Clerk.**
3. RTRA – Notification of temporary closure of Stogursey Lane from 5.6.17 for 5 days – the notice has been promulgated on NBs and on the parish website
4. A resident asked if the obsolete Bus timetable / Bus stop can be removed from the High Street. The clerk will contact First Bus. **Action: Clerk**
5. CCS acknowledgement of annual renewal of membership. **Action: Clerk.**
6. The nominations for Volunteers of the year have been forwarded to Engage.
7. EDF energy – EDF Supplier portal approved; account activated
8. Email from Sir John – the application for a grant towards a lawnmower at the Cemetery has been withdrawn.
9. Somerset Wildlife trusts – letter to PC, request support for CIM fund bid.
10. Lord Lt letter – Somerset remembers Event - note for diary November 2018.
11. WSFG minutes
12. Somerset County Council - Highways Environmental Maintenance Information Sheet 2017.

**16/17 ENHANCEMENTS (Cllr Searle):**

1. **Flower Boxes.** Cllr Searle reported that it will soon be time to replant the flower boxes. Cllr Ford proposed that we spend £60 on new bulbs and flowers; seconded by Cllr Elenor. All AGREED. **Action: Cllr Ford.** Cllr Jones said that she will arrange for the boxes in Stolford to be replanted – the flowers will be donated by the residents.
2. **Twinning donation of Roses.** Cllr Elenor reported that the French visitors donated 3 pink roses and asked for permission on behalf of the Twinners to put them on the Gravel. He will provide details of the proposed planter to the Parish Enhancement Group for approval. **Action: Cllr Elenor**

**17/17 HIGHWAYS (Cllr Searle):**

1. The issue of a badger on Churchyard Hill that needs to be moved on was discussed. Various options were considered, whilst bearing in mind their protected status. **Action: Cllr Coles**.
2. The foot path at Behnole Lane has been cleared – Cllr Jones reported that S.Littler has contractors who will provide hardcore to get rid of the red area.
3. Cllr Goss reported that road surfaces are eroding in Knighton Lane (outside the Spinney and The Chapter) and there are potholes near the Logans in Shurton. This should be addressed before there is an accident. The roads are made worse by tractors and buses and the road edges are badly damaged for a long stretch at Shurton on the South side of the carriageway between Bridge Cottage and Amani.
4. Cllr Jones reported that the verge where boulders were placed to deter vehicles from driving on the grass is becoming smaller. The road was tarmacked over where originally there was grass and has almost covered the drainage pipe – the pipe needs to be cleared. **Action: Cllr Searle**

**18/17 FINANCE (The Clerk):**

1. **The following invoices were AGREED for payment** as proposed by Cllr Elenor, seconded by Cllr Coles:
2. G.Orchard - £665.55 Clerk salary for April 2017 including miscellaneous expenses.
3. S.Foster - £370.00 (grass cutting on 13.4.17 and 3.5.17).
4. Zurich - £670.52 Annual Insurance renewal. £30 more than last year, calculated by a 3% uplift and an increase in Insurance Premium Tax. This is year 3 of a 3 year deal; as the parish council will be making new purchases this year, it will be a good opportunity to revalue our assets.
5. Income Received - £11,250 (50% Precept).
6. **Section 1 – Annual Audit Return Annual Governance Statement 2016/2017.** Section 1 of the Return was APPROVED and signed by the Chairman as proposed by Cllr Elenor and seconded by Cllr Coles
7. **Section 2 – Annual Audit Return Accounting Statements 2016/2017.** Section 2 of the Return was APPROVED and signed by the Chairman as proposed by Cllr Goss and seconded by Cllr Jones. The full return will now be completed and forward to Grant Thornton. **Action: Clerk**.
8. **Workplace Pension Scheme**. As SPC employs at least one person, paid through PAYE, the parish council has legal obligations. SPC staging date was 1 May 17 – the clerk informed councillors of the council responsibilities.

**19/17 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY – PRoW (Cllr Jones):**

1. S.Littler has arrange for further hard-core to be place at White Wick as there is very poor drainage. She has also been attending to the electric fences on the common.
2. Cllr Jones reported that the burst water main in Stolford has been repaired and it is no longer flooded.
3. Jamie Munro has approached the offender responsible for the damages to the hedges at Horsham Lane.
4. Cllr Elenor reported that the footpath behind Shurton Mill has been repaired.
5. Cllr Goss reported that the area to the west of Knighton Lane and Honeybere Wood has overgrown stiles. Cllr Jones will approach S.Littler and Glen Martin. **Action: Cllr Jones**
6. Cllr Elenor asked if Durborough Farm is within our parish as the footpath nearby needs attention. Cllr Jones will report it to S Littler. **Action: Cllr Jones**

**20/17**  **GROUPS AND PANELS:**

1. Cllr Elenor reported a successful twinning weekend, enjoyed by all.
2. Cllr Elenor reported a very successful St George’s Day Event which raised a reasonable amount of money.
3. The Arts Festival will be hosting ‘Breakfast at Tiffany’s’ on Sat 17 Jun 17.
4. Cllr Goss reported that an article in Stogursey News regarding the Pound may be misleading and asked that the council make it clear that the Pound is available all year around, for events and get togethers for all who wish to use it. Storage of the salt bags and flag poles were also discussed and will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

**21/17**  **DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 13 June 2017 at 7.15pm (Public Forum) followed by the main meeting at 7.30pm in The Victory Hall, Stogursey.

The meeting ended at 9.20pm

Signed: …..……………………………… (Chairman) Date: …………………………………………………