STOGURSEY PARISH COUNCIL

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2019**

**IN THE VICTORY HALL, STOGURSEY**

**SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr A Searle (Chair), Cllr Ian Elenor, Cllr Chris Ford, Cllr Sue Goss, Cllr Susan Jones, Cllr Jenny Ody, Cllr R Calvert, Cllr J Dillamore, CCllr H Davies, Gillian Orchard (Clerk), and 7 members of the public

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

1. A resident asked about the increase in property house prices in the area. Greenslades estate agents report an 8% increase in property prices although our minutes reported they had fallen. Cllr Goss reported that information from the Housing needs survey highlighted that in 2012 it was discovered that property prices in the ‘Hinkley hotspot areas’ (between Stogursey and Williton) were 25% lower than rest of West Somerset. More recently, house prices in the rest of West Somerset have risen by 18% and in hotspot areas, risen by 25%, but as the hotspot area started from a lower base level, they are therefore still lower than rest of West Somerset. Unsure of how this compares with Bridgwater. The paper was presented to Lidia Bose at the MSF who will discuss it with estate agents in the area and report back at the next MSF.
2. The agent for the planning applicants of Shurton Lodge spoke to parish council and provided information to address the issue of car parking raised by the parish council. The agent reiterated that his clients wish to raise funds and generate income to restore and refurbish the property and outbuildings and provide much need work and improvements to bring them back to a state of use. It is not geared around income from HPC and the applicants would be happy for a condition to be attached to any approval.
3. A resident of Paddons Farm asked the parish council to endorse the West Somerset Council planning department refusal of the planning application submitted by Strongvox. Strongvox have appealed and representations can be forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate. He also asked the parish council to revise their comments that they are supportive of the changed positon for re-siting the play area in light of the recent wet weather whereby the stream was ‘a torrent’ and there is now an obvious danger with the playground being situated less than 6feet away. There is also a 5m drop to the stream bank from the playground and is therefore dangerous and hazardous to children playing nearby.

**165/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Cllr Morgan

**166/18 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8 JANUARY 2019:**

1. The minutes were proposed by Cllr Elenor, seconded by Cllr Jones and AGREED for signature by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of the previous meeting.

**167/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS:**

Cllr R Calvert – Agenda item 9b – Planning (Strongvox site).

Cllr S Jones – Agenda item 13c – Correspondence (Stolford Flood Defence)

**168/18 COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:**

1. Get Set – the public consultation to end the service’s contribution to Level 2 services received 700 responses, raising concern about the impact of it ending. The decision was made for the service to continue for another 12 months.
2. Dementia support in care homes and support to help vulnerable young people to work is continuing – savings have been delayed for a year.
3. There has been a full review of the winter gritting service – up to £200k will be allocated for next winter. There is also a rethink in reductions for gulley clearing and jetting.
4. A new financial director will be appointed and is due to start at the end of the month.

**169/18 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT:**

Cllr Goss

1. The new district council begins operation on 1.4.19; new staff roles have been allocated, with staff redundancies and early retirement completed. Vacant positions will be advertised externally. The new councillors will be elected on 2.5.19 – existing councillors will continue in their roles in the meantime until the May elections. There are still gaps in Planning and enforcement.
2. HPC matters – HPC vehicles are now not permitted to park in the layby near Shurton on C182 which has been continually damaged – it is hoped that the other laybys will also have signs. At the transport forum, Cllr Goss proposed that all laybys are widened or all sign posted. SCC receives funds from HPC; they plan to use their current allocation to repair overruns.
3. The Knighton Lane noise monitor is in place at the Glebe House; however, although it can receive data, it is not transmitting information to WSC. EDF have been in breach of the DCO for last 432 days as it is has not been transmitting data to WSC.
4. Stogursey School (along with Cannington & Williton schools) attended the Tunnel Boring naming presentation. The children enjoyed an afternoon of activities, games as well as a tour of the campus.

**170/18 HINKLEY POINT POWER STATIONS (GENERAL):**

1. EDF Energy was found guilty and fined £200k after a worker fell at HP B last year.
2. A public consultation for a material change not to install an acoustic fish deterrent will be held in the Village Hall on 3.4.19 between 5 – 7pm.

**171/18 COUNCILLOR VACANCY:**

1. There were no applications for the parish council vacancy, therefore it was agreed not to re-advertise before the local elections on 2 May 19. The notice of elections and nomination packs will be sent on 18.3.19 to the parish clerk. Current councillors will be required to stand down and stand for re-election if they wish.

**172/18 HINKLEY C COMMUNITY IMPACT MITIGATION (CIM) UPDATE:**

1. Victory Hall.
   1. Cllr Ford reported that invitations to tender have been sent to six builders. One has declined due to cost, but the others are interested. Some have already been in touch with Cllr Ford and have made arrangements for site visits.

**173/18 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS:**

1. 3/32/18/037 - Change of use of land with installation of 12 No. additional hook up points (8 with hardstanding) for touring caravans, motorhomes and tents (retention of works already undertaken). Lawson Farm, Shurton Lane – Granted (with conditions)
2. 3/32/18/042 – Variation of Condition No. 22 (approved plans) of application 3/32/07/008 to increase the total number of permitted dwellings from 59 to 66 with changes to layout and design (resubmission of 3/32/17/012), Paddons Farm – ongoing. Members discussed the requests raised at the open forum to revise the comment about the siting of the play area due to the health and safety of the proposed location. Cllr Jones proposed, seconded by Cllr Elenor that the clerk writes to the district council planning department as a matter of urgency. All agreed**. Action: Clerk**

Post meeting note: councillors also agreed to write to support the refusal of the planning application by West Somerset Council – **Action: Clerk**

1. 3/32/18/039 – Change of use and conversion of barn from stables to 8 No. letting rooms (resubmission of 3/32/18/020). Building to North of Head Weir House, Wick, Stolford, Stogursey – Refused
2. 3/32/18/035 – Conversion of storehouse into 2 No. holiday lets, former gardener’s cottage and outbuilding to be converted to ancillary accommodation, erection of detached garage and 3 No. bird of prey shelters and erection of a two storey extension to the rear of the house to Shurton Lodge, Shurton Lane, Stogursey. The information provided by the agent during the public forum was considered and discussed, however, councillors were unable to revisit or discuss the application further without the papers or plans, and not all councillors present were involved in the original decision. Councillors agreed that the original parish council comments are to stand – however councillors are able to make their own individual comments as residents if they wished.
3. 3/32/18/043 – retention of two caravans for a combination of different occupants, (seasonal farm workers, tourist accommodation, Hinkley Point C construction workers) re-submission of application No. 3/32/18/019) Upper Cock Farm, Cock Lane, Stogursey, Shurton Lane – ongoing
4. Request for EIA screening OPINION (ILW Skips importation for packaging and interim storage. Cllr Goss considers there is very little impact on the parish. Permission was already granted for the encapsulation plant and ISF and the imported skips will only be 5% of the total stored and will act as a buffer to the higher level existing HPA waste. Cllr Ford expressed concern that the parish will be persuaded to take more. Cllr Goss proposed seconded by Cllr Ody, that the Parish Council agree in principle and respond that there are no objections. A vote was taken – 4 in favour, 4 against, no abstentions. As the vote was tied, the chair used his second casting vote and voted in favour. The clerk will respond, but will also include councillors concerns that this does not set a precedent. **Action: Clerk**

**174/18 MEETING REPORTS:**

1. 9.1.19 – MSF. Cllr Goss reported that the Main Site Forums will now be held six monthly – attendance at the forum, and issues for discussion, have reduced significantly. Residents are invited to attend the community forum instead. An interim forum is being considered. If any issues arise in between forums, EDF representatives will be invited to attend parish council meetings.
2. 11.1.19 – SSG. This was a special meeting to decide whether co-opted members are allowed to vote.
3. 16.1.19 – Community Support (Emergency) Planning. There was a good attendance as more residents expressed an interest. The clerk has completed the draft which will be discussed and finalised at the next meeting on 20.3.19 at 6pm (before the Defibrillator Awareness training). Hannah Cockcroft from Flood Wessex has been invited to attend.
4. 22.1.19 – WSFG. Cllr Elenor reported that the group continues to be active and a presentation was given on Riparian rights. Newham Farm has been surveyed
5. 31.1.19 – Transport Forum. Cllr Goss reported that a resident is actively checking on vehicles (taking registration numbers) of Hinkley workers parking in the layby near the campus. The transport manger, who is also in charge of the fly parking team, has been consulted and he has issued parking tickets and at least one driver has had their site pass removed.
6. 7.2.19 – Community Forum.
   1. Combwich Wharf and Jetty. During the moulting season Shelduck are unable to fly, and therefore raft offshore within the Bridgwater Bay RAMSAR protected site. Container ships and barges bound for the jetty or wharf will be in conflict with them when they come into the jetty; there are ongoing discussions on how to avoid a collision.
   2. D.Eccles gave a project update; the Common raft for reactor one is nearing completion it is now 4m thick, the dome head will be lifted into place by Nov 2021; the internal dome has already been built; 5 – 6m tonnes of spoil have been excavated; the sea wall is 85% complete and expected to be complete in the next few months. The workforce is approx. 3800 now and anticipated to be 5600 in 2 years.
7. 7.2.19 – PCC meeting. Architect plans for Stolford Church have arrived and the PCC are now able to progress to the next stage. It is proposed to extend the porch externally to house the toilet and double an internal cupboard to provide space for a sink and shelving. They have received £9k from the lottery and 2 donations of £500.

**175/18 FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:**

1. 8.3.19 - SSG
2. 20.3.19 – Community Support meeting
3. 20.3.19 – Defibrillator Awareness
4. 2.5.19 – Transport forum (date change tbc)
5. 15.5.19 – Community Forum
6. 17.7.19 – MSF

**176/18 BURGAGE RD PLAY AREA:**

1. Maintenance Contract. The clerk reported that Mr Parsons is still ill so he unable to provide a quote at the moment. **Action: Ongoing**
2. S106 Funding. An option for the outstanding S106 funding (approx. £13.7k) was discussed. The Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) /Tennis courts actively used by the tennis club and youth club and available to the whole parish, was built in 2001 and requires a new surface; an estimated cost is £25k. The council has £2k set aside in the reserves fund for the MUGA; the Victory Hall committee has approx. £5-6k money set aside. Other organisations (e.g. Magnox or SCF) can be contacted to ask for financial support. Cllr Ford proposed, seconded by Cllr Elenor that an application be made to spend the funds on the MUGA which would be beneficial for all residents that use it. All agreed. **Action: Clerk**

**177/18**  **CORRESPONDENCE (The Clerk):**

1. Correspondence is addressed on receipt and filed; it is available to all councillors on request. A list has been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted. There were no comments or questions. The clerk highlighted the following:
2. Development Potential – The Glebe Land. Representatives from Greenslade Taylor Hunt and Greatworth have confirmed their attendance at the next parish council meeting. They will forward a copy of the plans before the meeting. **Action: Clerk**
3. Stolford Flood Defence. A Stolford resident asked the parish council to contact the EA about the unfinished work, the gaps between the blocks, the construction equipment left behind, the lack of fencing around the flood defence and the poor state of the roads following the flood defence work. A response from Team van Ord to the resident indicated that the road repairs are a Highways issue. Cllr Jones has also received complaints from dog walkers, the chair of the commoners regarding the hazards and danger to cattle and sheep, and from residents about the state of the roads. Highways have already been informed however the clerk will write a formal letter of complaint to the EA and highways to ask them to attend to the roads which have been a health and safety issue.  **Action: Clerk**

The EA have contacted Cllr Jones to arrange a ‘sign off’ meeting, date to be confirmed. Cllr Jones will contact Matt Phillips to ascertain a date, the format of the meeting and who is expected to attend and ‘sign off’ the scheme. **Action: Cllr Jones**

1. Allotments – prohibition of hens. An allotment tenant has asked the parish council to reconsider the decision to prohibit hens on the allotment. After discussion it was agreed that the parish council decision will stand. **Action: Clerk**

**178/18 STOGURSEY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS:**

1. Cllr Ody suggested the Parish Council acknowledge the work of the volunteers in the parish. As not all volunteers may be known, the clerk will put a note in Stogursey News asking residents to provide names and details of all volunteers in the parish.

**179/18 HIGHWAYS (Cllr Searle):**

1. Dawlea Farm. Highways have measured the flooded ditch and the work is going out to contractor. **Action: Ongoing**
2. Winter gritting. The salt bin has been moved to the top of the hill and is filled with salt. Thank you to Cllrs Searle, Ford and Elenor.

**180/18**  **DOG CONTROL ORDER – DOG FOULING:**

1. The clerk is still waiting to hear from West Somerset Council (WSC) about dog control orders and for permission to provide additional dog bins. Meanwhile the WSC website has a provision for residents to report incidents of dog fouling and a note will be added to Stogursey News. **Action: Clerk**

**181/18 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY – PRoW (Cllr Jones):**

1. Cllr Jones reported that a resident of Farrington Hill has complained about the state of the road (uneven with overgrown and overhanging vegetation). It is not a footpath; however S.Littler is investigating diverting the current footpath that runs alongside the road which could make a footpath/bridle way. **Action: Ongoing**
2. WL – confirmation of diverted footpath - no further comments
3. WL – proposed diversion. Councillors studied the plans and had no further comment.

**182/18 FINANCE (The Clerk):**

1. Balances at 31.1.19 - Current A/C £1757; Deposit A/C £13496; Reserves A/C £56,844.
2. Invoices for payment. Detail of payments for authorisation at the meeting had been circulated to all members and the following invoices were APPROVED for payment, proposed by Cllr Elenor, seconded by Cllr Jones and two authorised signatories instructed to sign the cheques; 2 payments will be made online. 
   1. Payments made since the last meeting on 8.1.19

16.1.19 Stogursey & District Victory Hall £10,000.00 Parish Council Donation to VH project

* 1. Payments due

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Payee | Amount | Chq no | Details |
| G Orchard | £577.78 | 439 | Clerk Salary & expenses for January 2019 |
| HMRC | £136.80 | BP | Employee tax (Jan 2019) |
| P Cross | £170.00 | BP | Refurbish Parish noticeboard |

1. A resident in Castle Street asked for reimbursement of funds for a willow tree to be cut up and disposed of, as the parish council had paid for removal last year. Last year the parish council paid for removal of Himalayan balsam which had grown in the brook; however the tree removed from the brook is the responsibility of the landowner of the land it has fallen from, therefore the parish council decided not to reimburse the resident. The clerk will write to inform the resident of the parish council decision. **Action: Clerk**
2. Cllr Ford asked about the defibrillator for the hamlets. Cllr Ody will complete and submit an application for grant funding to “Somerset Prepared”. **Action: Cllr Ody**

**183/18 GROUPS AND PANELS:**

1. The Hub remained opened during the snow and received 3 attendees
2. Twinning. The film nights are a success and are going from strength to strength. The Burns night was also a success.

**184/18**  **DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETNG:**

1. The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 12 March 2019** at 6.30 Presentation by Charlie Woodhead / Russel regarding development opportunity on land behind Stogursey Rectory (the Glebe Field) 7.15 pm – Public forum and 7.30pm - Main meeting.

The meeting ended at 9.30 pm.

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