

STOGURSEY PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12th DECEMBER 2023 at 1900. Held at in the Lord St Audries Room, Victory Hall, Stogursey. **SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

PRESENT:

Cllr Sue Goss (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Chris Ford, Cllr Jenny Ody, Cllr Allan Searle B.E.M., and Cllr Julie Jones.
In attendance: R Wand (Clerk), Cllr H Davies and 3 members of the public.
In the absence of the Chairman the vice Chairman took the chair.

PUBLIC FORUM

- Concerns were raised over the poor state of the C182 Hinkley Point Road from Combwich and through the Parish.
- A Representative from Strongvox gave assurances to the Parish Council regarding the transfer of the two parcels of land under the S106 agreements at Paddons Farm. He added that they would cover reasonable legal costs and asked for a quote to be forwarded, land would be re-seeded, the identified issues with the trees (as per arborist's report) would be resolved and the car park area left as hard standing.

23/112 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Cllr Chris Morgan (Chairman), Cllr Scott Nurton, Cllr Gregor Millar and Cllr Sue Jones.

23/113 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS held on 14th November 2023:

The draft minutes of the last parish council meeting had been circulated. They were proposed as by Cllr C Ford seconded by Cllr A Searle and were unanimously **AGREED** for signature by the V/Chairman as a true and accurate record of the meetings.

23/114 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS:

No further declarations of Interest and / or dispensations in addition to those already declared and available for public inspection, were made.

23/115 PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

The meeting noted that no applicant had come forward.

23/116 UPDATE FROM SOMERSET COUNCILLORS

Cllr Woods and Cllr Davies had submitted written updates which had been previously circulated to the members were noted. Cllr Davies highlighted the reduction in the pre Christmas period of the Community Bus service, and suspension over Christmas/New Year. Also, over the Christmas/ New Year that there would be changes to the waste and recycling collection dates.

23/117 HINKLEY POINT POWER STATION

The Vice Chairman reported that she had highlighted the C182 issues and was told that a deflector scan had been done as was promised. Highways have commented that interventions may not be required as they will need to check against the applicable standards.

23/118 FINANCE

- a) The list of invoices for payment and monies received in November, (Appendix 1) and the Financial Statement (Appendix 2) had been forwarded to members before the meeting and are attached to these minutes. The Financial Statement was noted. It was **resolved** unanimously that the Invoices for payment were to be settled. All payments will all be made online, direct debit or by debit card. **ACTION: Clerk**
- b) The meeting considered at length the draft budget for the financial year 2024 to 2025 which had been prepared by the Clerk/RFO. The well publicised financial situation of Somerset Council had to be taken into consideration as it was leading to uncertainty over service delivery and charges that maybe passed down to Parish Councils. The transfers of the Burgage Road Play Area and the

two parcels of land at Paddons Farm may also bring additional pressures into the budget. High interest rates on the two new reserve accounts were helping to generate additional income, though this could not be depended on for the coming year.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to set the total budget as £38,525, which included the following changes to current arrangements:

- to move the earmarked reserve for the Oral History Project to the Contingency Reserve,
- to increase the budget head for Parish Grounds and Maintenance by £500
- to reduce the budget head for election costs ear marked reserve to £50 per year,
- to reduce the budget head for the laptop ear marked reserve to £50 per year,
- to increase the budget head for the contingency ear marked reserve to £1500 per year,
- to review allotment rental charges and consider the pro rata sharing of the water charges to the allotment renters, and
- that any surplus funds from the current year to be used to bolster the contingency reserve to help smooth any unforeseen expenditure in the coming year.

The Clerk added that he would bring an agenda item to resolve the parish council's precept demand to the next meeting.

23/119 MEETING REPORTS

a) Town and Parish Clerks bi-weekly meeting.

Somerset Council budget issues subject of a brief update at the start of the bi-weekly meeting Public Heath service was highlighting the need for warm spaces, which local venues could be used.

Bridgwater Town Council are hoping to pull together a package of service provision, which may be used in lieu of Somerset Council.

23/120 NOTIFICATION OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

HPC Community Forum	18.01.24
HPC Main Site	29.02.24
HPC Transport Forum	14.03.24
LCN meeting	31.01.24

23/121 CORRESPONDENCE

No issues arising from matters circulated.

23/122 ENHANCEMENTS

- a) The Clerk reported that thanks to several members and local residents the Christmas Tree and lights had been erected on the Gravel. Cllr Ford proposed, seconded by Cllr Searle that the electrical system be reviewed, and that quotes be obtained to replace the Christmas lights with LED versions. Which was **CARRIED** unanimously. **Action: Clerk**
- b) The grant application for the funding of a defibrillator for Burton to Somerset Community Fund has been submitted by the Clerk.

23/123 HIGHWAYS ISSUES

The meeting heard that flooding issues were still causing concerns for those trying to travel around the parish roads.

The meeting considered correspondence from a resident regarding a bollard for the pavement outside 19, High Street, Stogursey due the increasing numbers of vehicles mounting the pavement to pass other vehicles. The response from Somerset Highways that white lining be considered opposite to the pavement. The Clerk was asked to contact Somerset Highways and obtain a quote for the placing of a suitable bollard on the pavement. **Action: Clerk**

23/124 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

No issues raised.

23/125 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS:

Cllr Ody reported on current matters:

- a) Ongoing Matters
Appendix A to the agenda was noted
- b) New Applications;
 - a) [3/32/23/023](#) Erection of a general purpose agricultural building to cover manure store on Durborough = It was resolved that no objections were raised.

23/126 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Council unanimously **RESOLVED** that members of the press and the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of agenda item 16 by reason of the confidential nature of the items of business to be transacted, in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

23/127 LAND TRANSFERS, PADDONS FARM, STOGURSEY

Members considered correspondence in respect of the land transfer at Paddons Farm under S106 agreements and verbal updates given by the Clerk.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to accept the yellow edged area on Plan B to the S 106 agreements, currently being used as a compound and hard standing. It was **RESOLVED** by majority to accept the yellow edged area on Plan B to the S 106 agreements, currently left as open space grassland. It was further **RESOLVED** to seek a quote from Pardoes Solicitors for legal assistance and advice with the land transfer.

23/128 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 7.00pm meeting at the Victory Hall, Stogursey.

The meeting closed at 21.18

Signed: (Chairman)

Date:

Payments made since the last meeting on 14.11.2023

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount £</u>	<u>Payment Type</u>	<u>Details</u>
R Wand	961.67	BP	Clerk Salary Oct 23 (includes allowances, back pay to 1.4.23, less PAYE & Pension contributions)
HMRC	325.08	BP	Employee tax & NIC (PAYE) & Employers NIC Oct 23
NEST	165.51	DD	Employee & Employer Pension Contribution Oct 23
Pardoes Solicitors	500.00	BP	RE: BRPA/Allotments land Transfer
S. Foster	800.00	BP	Closed churchyard mow n strim 7.9, 25.9, 9.10 & 24.10.23
SALC	50.00	BP	Essential Councillor Training Pts 1 & 2, Cllr Jones
GWB Services	295.20	BP	BRPA Mow & Strim 8.9 & 27.9.23
GWB Services	93.60	BP	BRPA Mow & Strim 30.10.23
Greenslades	1999.58	BP	Lengthsman Service Sept 23
Microsoft	12.36	DC	Business 365 monthly fee
IONOS	17.99	DC	Website hosting monthly fee & Domain renewal
RBL Poppy Appeal	100.00	BP	Remembrance Wreath donation
Stogursey Arts Festival	200.00	BP	Christmas Tree Display grant.

Payments due 12.12.2023

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount £</u>	<u>Payment Type</u>	<u>Details</u>
R Wand	699.19	BP	Clerk Salary Nov 23 (includes allowances, less PAYE & Pension contributions)
HMRC	201.98	BP	Employee tax & NIC (PAYE) & Employers NIC Nov23
NEST	117.93	DD	Employee & Employer Pension Contribution Nov 23
Cockwood Fabrications	540.00	BP	BRPA shelter removal and replace with bench
Microsoft	12.36	DC	Business 365 monthly fee
IONOS	5.99	DC	Website hosting monthly fee & Domain renewal

Receipts since last meeting

Bank Interest - Lloyds accounts	-	November 2023	£ 56.99p
Bank Interest - Cambs & Counties	-	November 2023	£ 124.86p

STOGURSEY PARISH COUNCIL**FINANCIAL STATEMENT - AS AT 30th November 2023****Balances as per bank accounts****31.10.23**

Treasurers Account	£3,172.69	
Deposit Account	£18,620.47	
Redwood Bank	£35,000.00	
Cambs & Counties Bank	£35,161.92	
Reserves & Grants Account	£32,997.14	£124,952.22

Plus Receipts - November 2023

Treasurers Account	£8,166.32	
Deposit Account	£20.56	
Cambs & Counties Bank	£124.86	
Redwood Bank	£0.00	
Reserves & Grants Account	£5,036.43	£13,223.31

Less Payments - November 2023

Treasurers Account	£10,514.79	
Deposit Account	£1,500.00	
Cambs & Counties Bank	£0.00	
Redwood Bank	£0.00	
Reserves & Grants Account	£1,666.32	-£457.80

Balances as per bank accounts**30.11.23**

Treasurers Account	£824.22	
Deposit Account	£17,141.03	
Redwood Bank	£35,000.00	
Cambridge & Counties Bank	£35,286.78	
Reserves & Grants Account	£36,367.25	£124,619.28

Less unrepresented cheques £0.00

Plus uncleared credits £0.00

Available Funds at 30.11.2023**£124,619.28****Balance as per cash book**

Treasurers Account	£824.22
Deposit Account	£17,141.03
Redwood Bank	£35,000.00
Cambridge & Counties Bank	£35,286.78
Reserves & Grants Account	£36,367.25
	£124,619.28

**Summary of Reserve Bank Account @
30.11.2023**

1621.89	Ext Grant - Stogursey Oral History Project]	
3859.27	Ext Grant - Castle St Flood Scheme]	
226.84	Ext Grant - Castle St Flood Scheme Contingency]	
41585.90	Ext Grant - (from HPC) - Lenghtsman Scheme]	Not PC Funds
0.00	Ext Grant - (From HPC) - Rural Parking Fund]	
1305.37	Fingerposts project grants]	
5000.00	Road Safety -SIDs Project]	
1449.94	Ext Grant - Growing for Health and Wellbeing]	
90.00	Allotment Refundable Deposits]	
55139.21	Total External Grants]	
1109.81	Interest to 30.11.23		Lloyds/C&C/Redwood Reserves a/cs only
5000.00	Multi Sports Area		
	SWTC Election Costs		
2250.00	2022/2027		
700.01	Laptop		
4500.00	BRPA essential maintenance		
2000.00	Refurbish the Pound		
5000.00	Grounds and maintenance		
4500.00	Defibrillator (annual build-up of funds)		
25280.00	Contingency		
1175.00	Reopening Grant - Bench on The Gravel		
51353.53	Total PC funds		
	TOTAL IN RESERVES'		
106654.03	ACCOUNTS		