

**Stawell minutes of the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Parish Council Meeting  
Held in Stawell Village Hall on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018  
Following the Annual Parish Meeting.**

**Present:** Cllrs. Penny Badcock, Brian Lishman (Chairman), Linda Osborne and Simon Thomas.

**In attendance:** Chris Fry (Clerk) and 7 members of the public,

**1118 Apologies for Absence:** Cllr. Terry Matthews.

**1119 Declarations of Interest:** Cllrs. Simon Thomas and Brian Lishman in respect of item 1124.

**1120 Chairman's report:**

The past year has been marked by a much higher level of planning applications. The application to extend the caravan and camping site at Flitchetts Farm was granted. The matter of congestion has not been raised during the year. The activity on Stawell Moor (Moto-cross circuit) and the lack of planning permission has led to Sedgemoor DC planners issuing an enforcement notice which directed that the land should be restored to its previous condition within a two month time period. The adverse weather conditions will have delayed matters. In due course we will enquire the position with the Sedgemoor planners.

Caravan sales activity on the Sutton Mallet/ Moorlynch road has caused concern. There a large number of caravans on the site.

The matter of noise nuisance from the Chedzoy moto-cross circuit is of concern. I would like to thank the Parish Councillors for their work during the year. The Vice Chairman, Terry Matthews is stepping down from the council after many years of loyal service to the community.

**1121 Minutes of the last meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018:**

These were taken as read, agreed and signed.

**1122 District/ County Councillors' reports:**

None.

**1123 Matters Arising:**

**a. Cones obstructing the road at Flitchetts Farm:**

The Clerk read a letter from Mr and Mrs Lewis stating that the cones were needed to protect the verges from damage by passing speeding traffic. There will be a flower trough replacing three cones in the near future.

**b. Eroded road markings on the Stawell moor junction.**

The Clerk confirmed he has reported this problem to County roads. He added that with pedestrian crossings in Bridgwater fading away he thought it could be some time before things go forward.

The Chairman opened the meeting up to the public at 7.35 pm and the following points were raised by members of the public:

**a. Annual Meeting.**

It was felt there is some confusion surrounding the Annual meeting being "merged" with an ordinary Parish Council meeting.

**b. Website:**

Current agendas do not appear on the website, with the next meeting being shown as that of 3d July 2017. Also, applicants for Council vacancies are being invited to apply to the previous Clerk.

**c. Overgrown bank in Ford Lane.**

The sorry state of this was raised at the March meeting. The Chairman said he would attend to this.

**d.** Thanks were expressed to **the Parish Council** for the good work it does.

**e. Unfinished house in Stawell road ( next to the Old School):**

This site is felt to be derelict. The building is in very poor condition. When it rains a large "pond" appears in the road. It is considered to be an "eye sore" and the Clerk was asked to request Sedgemoor planners to make a site visit and assess matters.

**f. Blocked culvert in Ford Lane.**

This site is technically in the Parish of Bawdrip. Concern is ongoing and the Clerk was asked to make specific enquiries to establish that SCC highways have actually inspected the site and what remedial action was planned.

**g. Yert in Ford Lane:**

It was reported that a chimney has been installed and the unit being advertised for rent on the Web. The Clerk was asked to clarify the position with Sedgemoor planners. With regard to the possible need for planning permission.

**1124 Financial Matters:**

The Clerk reported receipt of the 2018/2019 Precept amounting to £4650.

He presented the 2017/2018 unaudited accounts, the adoption of which was proposed by Cllr. Simon Thomas and seconded by Cllr. Penny Badcock. All in favour. He said the Internal Audit would now go ahead and at the next meeting the Parish Council will be asked to consider the Internal Audit work ahead of accepting the Governance Statement followed by the Accounting Statement. The necessary Public Inspection period being advertised as with the accounting documents on the Web. Then the External Audit could go ahead.

The following cheques were signed:

No 412 £500.00 to Stawell Village Hall (grant/rent).

No 413 £150.00 to Stawell Church.

No 414 £100.00 to Sutton Mallet Church.

No 415 £120.00 to Mr CN Fry ( May net salary).

No 416 £112.33 to SALC (affiliation fee).

No 417 £ 63.60 to Mr CN Fry (expenses).

After due consideration the following contribution towards Royal Wedding mugs was agreed proposed by Cllr. Simon Thomas and seconded by Cllr. Linda Osborne, all in favour

No 418 £150.00 to D Rogers (Royal Wedding mugs).

Regarding possible grant aid to Mixfits/Yoga group the Chairman suggested it appropriate that a letter of request should be received for consideration.

**1125 Planning.**

No new applications and no progress on current applications.

**1126 Correspondence:**

**a. Polden Project.**

The Clerk reported Sedgemoor DC has agreed to lease the former Co-op store in Woolavington to Magna Healthcare for use as a pharmacy.

**b. Somerset Village of the Year Competition:**

Entries close Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2018. The Chairman suggested this be held over until the June meeting when public interest could be gauged. Further information on [www.somersetlive.co.uk/villageoftheyear](http://www.somersetlive.co.uk/villageoftheyear) .

**c. G.D.P.R.**

The Clerk advised that the Information Commissioner was significantly softening her stance towards Parish Councils on this matter and there even a move to exempt Parishes from the new regulations. The Clerk is to attend a training seminar at SALC on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018.

**d. Blocked Drains:**

The Chairman said he had received a letter on this subject which he had forgotten to bring along to the meeting. He said he thought it was suitable for onward transmission to SCC Highways. This will be considered at the next meeting.

**1127 Matters of report and items for next meeting:**

- a. Somerset Village of the Year Competition.
- b. Blocked drains.

**1128 Any other business and Date of next meeting:**

**Date of next meeting Monday 4th June 2018 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall.**

**There being no other business the meeting was declared closed at 8.19 pm**

