

**Minutes of the meeting of Stawell Parish Council
Held in the village hall on Monday 3d December 2018 at 7 pm**

Present: Cllrs Penny Badcock, Hugh Gange-Harris, Brian Lishman (Chairman) and Linda Osborne, also Cllrs David Huxtable (SCC) and Stuart Kingham (SDC).

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

1183 Apologies for Absence: Cllr Simon Thomas.

1184 Declarations of Interest: Cllrs Hugh Gange-Harris in respect of item 1186 (b) - £60 donation to Beacon insurance (Bearing in mind he is a member of the village hall committee).

1185 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 5th November 2018 were taken as read, agreed and signed as a true record.

1186 Matters Arising: -

a. Parish Council surgery at the Hub Café.

The Clerk reported that he was awaiting a response to emails which the duty officer at Bridgwater Police Station had sent to both of the PCSOs covering Stawell and Sutton Mallet, namely Kim Wrixon (Officer 7980) and Laura Bray (Officer 7528). He would ask for one of them to attend the February Hub Café on Saturday 9th February 2019.

b. Grant Aid to the Village Hall to cover the £60 cost of insuring the WW1 Beacon.

Lack of a quorum prevented this being discussed at the last meeting (the 2 parish councillors serving on the hall committee declared an interest in the matter). Following a discussion Penny Badcock proposed and Linda Osborne seconded a motion to agree to the proposal. All in agreement

County/District Councillor's Report: -

1187 County Council – David Huxtable reported as follows:-

a. Winter Road Treatment.

He said £10 million had been made available to cover the cost of replenishing the permanent grit/salt bins.

b. External Audit Fee.

David is still looking into this.

c. Village Agent.

The agent covering this Parish is Vanda Squire.

District Council – Stuart Kingham reported as follows:-

a. Hinkley Point.

This is progressing well.

b. The Old ROF site at Puriton.

This 655 acre site has been sold to a London based development company, Salamanco Group, who are aiming to complete the development by 2020 as a High Tec business park to be named "Gravity", creating an estimated 4000 new jobs.

c. Sedgemoor Planning Department "Top Again".

The SDC planners are celebrating after hearing that they have won the "Excellence during the Planning Decision Process" category in addition to being awarded the "Overall Winners" in the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) south-west awards for planning excellence.

The Chairman suspended the meeting and opened it up to the public at 7.15 pm and the following matters were raised:-

a. EDF Campus Pods.

A resident has kindly requested a tour for about 20 people to see the EDF Campus pods.

b. 30 mph Speed Limit through Stawell.

A resident wished to know how many speeding prosecutions had resulted in the erection of the signs. He doubted the need for them. The Clerk was asked to find out.

c. Damaged Footpath Finger Posts in Ford Lane.

Two footpath finger posts have been severely damaged by hedge-cutting machinery. (See AOB (a) below).

d. Overgrown Bank on the corner in Ford Lane.

In response to a query from the public the Chairman reported that this is the responsibility of SDC. Stuart Kingham was asked to kindly look into the matter.

e. Weston and Banwell Harriers.

A resident complained about the hunt on Wednesday 21st November, suggesting a degree of control seemed to have been lost resulting in the hounds causing stress to her pet dog at her house in Wood Lane. The matter had been witnessed by a dog walker. The hunt Secretary has written a letter pointing out that the Harriers had been visiting the area, with the permission of local landowners, for about 30 years, and went on to point out that highways and bridleways are for the use of the public at all times. We know that the hunt does not wish to attract protests at its meets. It was suggested that it would be helpful for local pet owners to have some notice of these activities and the Clerk was asked to request the hunt give say a week's notice when an appropriate local notice could be placed on the noticeboard.

f. Taunton Park and Ride.

David Huxtable replied to a question about the future of the Park and Ride, to say the cost to SCC was of the order of £300,000 and bearing in mind the dire need to find economies the cost was under review.

1188 Financial Matters:-

Four cheques was signed as follows:

No 380 £60.00 payee Stawell and Sutton Mallet village hall (WW1 Beacon insurance).

No 381 £240.00 payee CN Fry (December/January new salary).

No 382 £28.86 payee CN Fry (expenses).

No 383 £36.50 payee DM Payroll Services (6 months payroll services).

Precept Setting for 2019/2020.

The Clerk presented the actual/projected expenditure for 2019/2010 and a lengthy discussion took place. Bearing in mind the current reserves of about £3750 and the projected expenditure of £3652, the Chairman proposed that the Precept for 2019/2020 should be requested at £3800. This proposal was seconded by Penny Badcock and all agreed.

This represents a decrease of about 18% on the current year.

1189 Planning –

a. Reference 46/18/00012/CAN.

Type: Full Planning Permission.

Location: The Old Linhay Staell Road Stawell Bridgwater TA7 9EA.

Proposal: Alterations and erection of a single storey extension to annexe.

Applicant: Mr and Mrs Griffiths.

The Chairman outlined this proposal saying it represented a modest extension to the east of the annexe mainly to provide a larger kitchen. Following a discussion the Parish Council agreed to support it and the Clerk was asked to send the following comments to SDC Planning Department:-

“The Parish Council of Stawell supports this application. When complete it will not be visible at ground level, and the street scene will not be affected by it.”

1190 Correspondence.

a. Weston and Banwell Harriers hunt.

See details above.

b. Annual CIL return.

The Chairman confirmed this is a nil return for the year in question.

1191 Matters for report & items for next meeting:

None.

1192 Any Other Business and Date of Next Meeting

Any Other Business –

a. Damage to Footpath Fingerposts in Ford Lane.

Following a discussion it was decided to refer the matter to the landowner. As the damage has been caused by hedge trimmers the landowner may well refer it to his hedging contractor. The Chairman said he would kindly look into it.

Date of next meeting, Monday 4th February 2019 at 7.00pm in Stawell Village Hall.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.14 pm.