

**Minutes of the meeting of Stawell Parish Council
Held in the village hall on Monday 2nd July 2018 at 7 pm**

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

In attendance: Chris Fry (Clerk) and 4 members of the public.

1141 Apologies for Absence: Cllrs. Rod Conaway and Simon Thomas. Cllr David Huxtable (SCC)

1142 Declarations of Interest: Cllr Stuart Kingham (SDC) in respect of item 1147 – Planning.

1143 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 4th June 2018 and the special planning meeting of 18th June were taken as read, agreed and signed as a true record.

1144 Matters Arising:

a. Blocked drains in Stawell.

(i) Culvert in Ford Lane Stawell.

The clerk read an email from SCC highways which stated a report was received a few years ago which was investigated and the problem was caused by debris accumulation up stream which was cleared by the landowner. A couple of blocked highway gullies near the culvert have recently been cleared and as far as they are concerned the culvert is clear of obstruction.

The Chairman felt we should wait and observe the culvert following some heavy rain. It is felt, however, that the culvert is blocked at present as the water level has not receded very much during the current very dry spell.

(ii) Problems at Slocombe Hill Stawell.

The Clerk said he had reported the problems to SCC highways, involving sending them a scanned copy of the letter from the parishioner which outlined the problem very succinctly. A full response is awaited. The parishioner is willing to meet on site if necessary.

b. Parish Council Vacancy.

The Clerk introduced a new Parish Councillor, Hugh Gange-Harris, and said there remains one vacancy.

c. Unfinished house in Stawell Road Stawell

The Clerk read an email received from SDC Planners following a site visit, saying the landowner was present and informed them he had now cleared the site and the situation was not worthy of the serving of a section 215 Notice now. The Chairman said he had spoken to the landowner who indicated the property could soon be occupied.

d. Yurt in Ford Lane Stawell.

The Clerk read an email from SDC Planning saying a site visit had taken place and the Yurt represented "Permitted Development", and the file had been closed.

1145 County/District Councillors' Councillors' Reports: -

County – none.

District – Cllr Kingham outlined the development in the Sainsburys area, saying an exit road was planned out into The Clink and this would help reduce traffic congestion.

In answer to a question from the public he said the trees removed from outside the old Cellophane site would not be re-incorporated as there is insufficient space available.

1146 Financial Matters:-

4 cheques was signed as follows:

No 421 payee CN Fry £ 54.07 (expenses).
No 422 payee CN Fry £ 240.00 (net June/July salary).
No 423 payee Zurich Municipal Insce. £ 257.60 (insurance 2018/2019).
No 424 payee Grant Thornton £ 30.00 (Additional work on 2016/2017 audit).

The Chairman opened the meeting up to the public at 7.20 pm.

1147 Planning –

Planning reference: 46/18/00007/DT.

Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015.

Proposal: Application for the Prior Approval of the proposed change of use of Agricultural Building to 3 no. Dwellings and associated operational development.

Location: Wood Lane Farm, Wood Lane, Stawell, Bridgwater TA7 9AB.

Applicant: Miss Easter.

The Chairman explained this is an Application for Prior Approval – Permitted Development Notification. Neither the Parish Council nor the Planning Officer has the right of comment on the actual proposal at this stage.

A general discussion took place on the proposal. Wood Lane, having been adopted, is entirely a matter for the owners (residents). The Chairman advised that comments from any interested parties are invited via the website.

The Chairman said it would be in order for concern to be voiced about the increased vehicular use of the junction of Wood Lane and Stawell Road, by the proposal, where the poor visibility issues are of great concern to residents in the vicinity.

The Clerk was asked to convey the following comments to be sent in to SDC Planners on the proposal:

“The Application for Prior Approval of the proposal was discussed at a recent Parish Council meeting and I have been asked to convey the following observations to you:

“The Parish Council of Stawell is concerned at the inevitable increase in traffic flow using the junction of Wood Lane and Stawell Road to access the proposed development. This junction is already notorious for its poor visibility and the resultant usage can only increase the danger to the general public.”

1148 Correspondence.

a. Fritchett’s Farm passing traffic.

The Residents of this property have approached the Parish Council looking for support in their endeavours to introduce traffic calming measures to alleviate what they feel is a severe problem of vehicles speeding along the road fronting their property.

He Chairman said there will be little hope of imposing a different speed limit in this area. He felt that passing traffic can give the impression of excessive speed along country lanes when in fact this may not be the case. He said he would visit the householders concerned and invite them to contact Cllr David Huxtable (SCC), if they felt so inclined.

b. SDC Legal Department advertising its competitive legal rates for Local Council work.

Noted.

1137 Matters for Report and Items for next Meeting.

a. Poor visibility at entrance to Grenfell Farm.

A detailed letter and petition from the residents of this locality has been received. A kitten has recently been killed here and the speed of passing traffic and poor visibility at the entrance of Grenfell Farm is considered to be a considerable risk to public safety.

A discussion took place and the possibility of renewed and refreshed road signage and /or the erection of a mirror to assist visibility were raised.

The letter was received too late for inclusion in the formal agenda for this meeting and the Chairman said it would be included in the agenda for the next meeting.

- b. **Grant Aid Requests from the Mixfit Group and the Arts and Crafts Group** - of £25 each to support their needs will be included in the next meeting's agenda.

Any Other Business and Date of Next Meeting

Date of next meeting: - Monday 3d September 2018 in the Village Hall at 7 pm.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.15 pm.