

**Minutes of the meeting of Stawell Parish Council
Held in the village hall on Monday 1st October 2018 at 7 pm**

Present: Cllrs. Rod Conaway, Hugh Gange-Harris, Brian Lishman (Chairman) and Linda Osborne, also Cllr David Huxtable (SCC).

In attendance: Chris Fry (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

1163 Apologies for Absence: Cllrs. Penny Badcock and Simon Thomas.

1164 Declarations of Interest: None.

1165 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 3d September 2018 were taken as read, agreed and signed as a true record.

1166 Matters arising.

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

a. Drainage problems at Slocombe Hill Stawell.

The Clerk read an email from SCC Highways acknowledging the one he had sent, stating that the cleansing of the gullies at Slocombe Hill was carried out in April 2018 and, with the exception of one gully all appeared to be clear. However, it appears that the outfall pipe is blocked. The Chairman said he has received a phone call from the concerned resident who raised the issue, advising the work has been done, although there may still be problems. The Chairman kindly said he would keep an eye on this.

1167 County/District Councillors' Councillors' Reports: -

County – Cllr David Huxtable reported as follows:-

a. Adult and Children's' Social Care.

The costs involved here are by far the largest financial burden the SCC has, with more and more clients, sometimes with complex special needs being added to both categories. Approx. 70% of the SCC total budget of around £300 million is being taken up on these services.

b. Highways.

The resurfacing programme has been completed.

With SCC personnel having been reduced there seems to be an increasing workload being done by a shrinking workforce.

District – None

1168 Financial Matters:-

3 cheques was signed as follows:

No 374 payee CN Fry £ 120.00 (October net salary).

No 375 payee DM Payroll £ 36.50 (half year's payroll services).

No 376 payee PKF Littlejohn LLP (External Audit fee).

(The cheque book thought to be lost in the Clerk's house fire has been found- hence the number change).

The Clerk reported the external audit has been completed without any query being raised. The fee represents the minimum applicable on the fee list for the coming 5 yearly cycle.

The mandatory Conclusion of Audit notices are being advertised in paper form as well as on the website.

1169. Planning

No new applications.

a. Pound Studio reference 46/18/00008.

The SDC planning committee met on 25th September and Granted Permission.

b. Wood Lane Farm reference 46/18/00010/DT.

Prior Approval refused.

c. Wood Lane Farm (House) reference 46/18/00011/LR.

Certificate of Lawfulness applied for. (No comments sought).

1170. Correspondence.

a. Stawell history – Letter.

The Clerk read an email from a relative of the former owners of Elm Tree Farm (for 40 years from 1968). This email has been passed to the Vice-Chairman for passing on as appropriate. The Clerk will acknowledge it.

b. Somerset Village Agents – Service extended.

The Somerset Village Agent Scheme has been awarded Big Lottery funding which will ensure its continuance for a further 3 years.

See <https://www.somersetccc.org.uk>

c. Improving Health and Wellbeing – event 16th October.

This inspiring event is being held to showcase how people in Somerset communities are working together to improve local health and wellbeing.

Tuesday 16th October 2018 at the Edgar Hall Somerton at 7.15 pm. Book your place now at:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/improving-health-wellbeing-in-your-community-tickets-49290344748>

(£10 charge to cover costs includes refreshments and healthy nibbles).

d. Joint Parish Cluster Group Meeting.

SDC Sedgemoor Room King Square Bridgwater TA6 3AR 6.30 for 7 pm start.
Clerk to attend on Tuesday 9th October 2018.

e. NALC Star Council Awards.

These awards are the only ones in England to recognise the achievements of the local council sector. Watchet Town Council has made it to the final and the winner will be decided by public vote.

To vote go to:

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/news/entry/1084-nalc-announces-star-council-awards-finalist-vote-for-your-council-of-the-year>

1171 Matters for Report and Items for next Meeting.

None.

1172 Any Other Business and Date of Next Meeting.

a. Grenfell farm entrance.

As asked at the last meeting the Clerk has requested a meeting with SCC Highways to cover this and various road signage and dangerous junction issues. Although not yet arranged he has received a telephone acknowledgement from Laurence Hackling advising that any safety issues at property entrances onto the highway are the responsibility of the landowner rather than the County Council.

b. CPRE Somerset.

An invitation to Clerks and councillors to attend an event at:
Glastonbury Town Hall on Thursday 25th October 2018 from 2 till 5 pm, entitled:

“Affordable Housing to keep our Countryside Alive”. Go to:

<http://www.cpresomerset.org.uk>

Date of next meeting: - Monday 5th November 2018 in the Village Hall at 7 pm.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.40 pm.