

MINUTES OF NETHER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 8 JULY 2019 AT 7.00pm
IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Parish Councillors John Roberts (Chairman)
 Kevin Ferriday
 Colin Falla
 Margaret Hogg
 Andrew Jeanes
 Pat Pardoe
 Chris Pearson (*from min no 5411*)
 Malcolm Reid
 Barbara Rich

In Attendance: Caro Slaymaker (Parish Clerk)
 Cllr Julie Pay (SDC)
 Three members of the public

Public Session

No issues raised.

5409 Apologies

Cllr Caswell was at a meeting elsewhere.

5410 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Jeanes declared an interest in agenda item 6(a) – Planning.

Cllr Rich declared an interest in NS Village Hall and Recreation Ground CIO.

5411 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10 June were **approved** as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Cllr Pearson joined the meeting

5412 District and County Liaison

Cllr Pay had been away and had nothing to report that Sedgemoor DC but would be having a meeting later in the week with the Assistant Highway Service Manager to discuss potholes.

5413 Grant application

The application had still to be completed, and would be submitted for consideration at a future meeting.

Cllr Jeanes withdrew from the meeting

5414 Planning applications

Planning Ref: 36/19/00014 – Inwood Farm, Nether Stowey

Proposal: Continued temporary change of use of caravan park for Hinkley Point C workers for a further 3 years. Site 30 No. static caravans in place of existing touring caravans

Response: ***No objection***

Cllr Jeanes re-joined the meeting

Planning Ref: 36/19/00015 – Land to the South West of Cricketer Farm, Nether Stowey

Proposal: Alterations to and provision of a new signalised (traffic lights) junction (A39)

Response: *Support, on condition that a pedestrian-controlled crossing point is included as an essential part of this scheme: without this it would be unacceptable. Consideration be given to extending the 40-mph speed limit to the existing 40-mph-limited stretch starting at Keenthorne.*

Cllr Pay left the meeting

Planning Ref: **SCC/3627 and 3628/2019 – Hinkley Point A Station**

Proposals: 3627 – Variation of condition 3 (waste storage) of planning permission 3/32/16/018 to allow the importation ILW skips for interim storage at the on-site Interim Storage Facility (ISF)
3628 – Variation of condition 3 (waste encapsulation) of planning permission 3/32/17/005 to allow the importation of ILW skips for encapsulation at the on-site Waste Encapsulation Plant

Response: *Object: to the importation and storage of ILW from facilities elsewhere. The Parish Council is further concerned that the transportation by road of such waste is an unnecessary risk to the area.*

5415 Financial Management

The Budget Report for the period to 5 July was **noted**. A copy of the report is appended to these minutes.

5416 Expenditure

Expenditure incurred since the Parish Council meeting on 10 June:

Date	Payee Name	Cheque	Amount	Transaction Details
10 June	Sedgemoor D C	DDR	62.00	Cemetery Rates June 19
15 June	Santander	DDR	1.30	Bank charges on A/C 3
17 June	Office Payroll	122139-142	2505.09	Office Payroll June 19
25 June	GWB Services	122143	808.00	Village Maintenance May 19
25 June	EDF Energy	122144	88.55	Unmetered clock tower electricity
25 June	Landlife Flowers	CARD	48.93	Wildflowers for Lime St Bank
25 June	Cotswold Seeds	CARD	53.46	Wildflowers for Lime St Bank
26 June	Santander a/c 3	122145	100.00	Transfer from current account
28 June	Mr P J Addicott	122146	350.00	Parish Office Rent June 2019
1 Jul	EDF Energy	DDR	15.00	Public Toilets electricity
2 Jul	NS Village Hall	122147	25.00	Hire of Club Room 10 June 2019
3 Jul	K Sparkes	122148	148.25	Village Maintenance April – July 19
3 Jul	E Martin Computer Services	DDR	28.34	Website maintenance Contract
4 Jul	EDF Energy	DDR	8.00	Metered Clock Tower Electricity
5 Jul	Rialtas Business Solutions	122149	145.20	Rialtas Accounts Software Contract
7 Jul	BT Business	DDR	52.24	Telephone and Broadband charges
TOTAL			£4,439.36	

The expenditure was **approved** and (any) two of the authorised signatories were instructed to sign the relevant cheques (proposed Cllr Hogg, seconded Cllr Reid).

5417 Bank Reconciliation

The statements had not all arrived and Cllr Jeanes would carry out the check at a later date.

5418 Car Park

Cllr Pearson said that the diocese was not prepared to provide land. He said the situation was dire and HPC was making it worse – he felt the Council needed sponsorship and assistance with this project but did not offer any suggestion as to where this might come from.

The Chairman and Cllr Jeanes had attended a meeting with the Principal Planning Officer at Sedgemoor DC. They had asked for some advice on the possible site suggested that the location adjacent to the A39 would make more stringent requirements, including an upgraded footpath, street lighting, drainage, fencing, suitable surfacing and a fully-compliant separate entrance/exit to/from the main road. This would be very expensive. Much less would be required for a site away from the A39.

5419 Clock Tower Repairs and Lighting

Three applications for grants for funding had been rejected, but there was another avenue to try. It was agreed that the Chairman would discuss the urgency of the work with the preferred contractor. If the work could be left until next Spring, and funding could not be obtained, the CANS funds would be used. The architectural lighting element of the project could be postponed, since Cllr Caswell had donated a generous amount of Christmas lights which could be used.

5420 Highways

The speed monitoring and safety works at Mill Lane were back on track after a slight breakdown in communication.

Cllr Pearson proposed imposing a 20-mph limit in the whole village. Cllr Ferriday would produce some briefing explaining this.

Road closure: at Castle Hill from Fir Tree Close up the hill for 50m for utilities works. The road was expected to be closed between 9:30 and 15:30 only on 25, 26 and 29 July.

5421 Chairman's Report

As mentioned above, the Chairman and Cllr Jeanes had met with the Principal Planning Officer (PPO) and other officers. They had discussed the possibility of a new school and various sites looked at. The PPO suggested contacting the SCC education department to find out the forecast for children's numbers for the school and taking into account the proposed Cricketer development.

The PPO also gave advice on the on the approach to the village and the view of the church, Stowey Court etc. They consider this view sacrosanct and would most likely oppose any development that interrupted this view.

He had also had a meeting with Justin Sargent, Chief Executive, Somerset Community Foundation to discuss the problem of multiple grant applications from various groups in the village. With regard the HPC Community Fund grants the decision on these is made by a group of twelve trustees and not by the Somerset Community Foundation. Key points were:

- Would a grant benefit the wider community?
- Does the application have the support of the community and or the Parish?
- What is the community involvement?

When multiple applications are received from an area sometimes for the same thing it tends to show a lack of the above criteria and can influence a decision. It was suggested that the Parish Council could offer to coordinate with groups who wish to apply and perhaps bring together those with similar wish lists.

5422 Clerk's Report

D&S Fire Service – consultation. There was an event at Bridgwater Library on 27 August. The closing date was 22 Sept so a collated response could be agreed at the meeting in September.

The Sedgemoor Planning website has been updated. Links from older e-mails would not work.

Website accessibility legislation was coming into force. Cllrs Ferriday and Falla were advising. HPC would hold a work fair at the Parish office on 18 July (11am-1pm)

The Cricketer Planning application for the houses was now out for consultation. It was agreed to hold a Working Group meeting on 24 July to work through the considerable amount of detail and then a public Planning Committee meeting on 29 July (7pm at the Village Hall)

Correspondence:

- Thank you letter from Stowey Walking for support for the Walking Festival
- Complaint about broken flowerpot in the cemetery. Standard reply sent reminding that breakable pots were not allowed for safety and asked that a stone or similar pot be used instead.

5423 Reports from Members

Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Ferriday had now received confirmation that a Habitat Regulations Assessment was not required but waited for confirmation about the Strategic Environmental Assessment. In the meantime work continued on the draft plan.

Village Hall/Recreation Ground: Cllr Rich reported that the Village Hall was losing about £300 per month. The Flower Show and pantomime rehearsals from September would help. The Electrical safety inspection was due and would cost £700. They would apply for a Parish Council grant to fund this. The Committee was looking to improve the heating situation with minimal outlay.

Party in the Park made about £1,000. They had bought a new shipping container from RLT3 funds for secure storage of equipment.

Active Living: school children had come to sing.

QH AONB JAC: Cllr Falla had attended the JAC meeting. The reports were available from the Parish Office or the AONB website. Key points for the Nether Stowey area were:

- Changes in personnel
- Improvement to drainage at Dead Woman's Ditch
- Cleared scrub/undergrowth at Stowey Wood.
- Swayling carried out in February, one needed the assistance of the fire service
- Incident at Bicknoller Post requiring ambulance service has led to an improved access plan to assist emergency services in reaching off-track locations
- A deer count was carried out – numbers down a bit, but weather conditions may have been a factor
- Two new tree diseases, one affecting spruce and beech trees, the other broadleaf species. Nothing much they can do.
- Concern about future budget which comes from DEFRA, the EU and Natural England.
- The Walking Festival went okay
- Bill Jenman has now firmed up projects for the lottery funds
- New signposts for The Castles and Coast Way

Cllr Falla also reported that Glenn Martin, local Rights of Way Officer, was retiring and proposed a formal letter of thanks for all his help on Public Rights of Way over many years. This was **agreed**.

Thomas Poole Library: Cllr Pearson said that the HPC Grant had been approved, and the CIO would be employing someone to assist in the library.

Cllr Pearson said he had made no progress on his review of local organisations

5424 Forthcoming Events

The Clerk was on leave from 22 July to 9 August.

Meetings and events

Thurs 18 July) Tues 30 July)	Planning training	Bridgwater House	5.45pm	JR, KF, PP, BR, MR AJ, CP
Wed 24 July	Cricketer WG	Parish Office	10.30 am	WG members
Mon 29 July	Planning Committee	NS Village Hall	7pm	all
1 Aug	Transport Forum	tbc		MR
13 Aug	QH AONB JAC	Enmore VH		CF
15 Aug	Community Forum	tbc		MR
27 Aug	Fire Service Consultation	Bridgwater Library	12-4pm	public event

5425 Next Parish Council Meetings

A Meeting of the Planning Committee will be held on **Monday 29 July** at 7pm at Nether Stowey Village Hall at 7pm (note the meeting will be held in the main hall).

The next Parish Council meeting will be on **Monday 9 September** at 7 pm at Nether Stowey Village Hall. There is no meeting scheduled for August unless urgent business requires it. In this case the meeting will be convened on 12 August and agendas sent out on 7 August

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Budget Report as at 5 July 2019

Income

Code	Account	Outturn at 31 Mar 2019	Budget 2019/20	April 2019	May 2019	June 2019	First quarter	July 2019	Second quarter	Total spent to date	% Revised budget
1002	Allotment Rental	100.00	100.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
1003	Council Tax Grant	1,214.00	0.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	**
1004	Bank Interest	160.08	85.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03		0.00	0.03	0.04%
1006	Cemetery Income	2,420.00	1,500.00			360.00	360.00		0.00	360.00	24.00%
1009	Miscellaneous Grants	0.00	-				0.00		0.00	0.00	**
1012	Printing & Copying receipts	320.36	225.00	5.95	136.36	19.12	161.43	7.36	7.36	168.79	75.02%
115	VAT Refunds	2,687.53	-				0.00		0.00	0.00	**
1011	Precept	47,720.00	53,059.00	26,529.50			26,529.50		0.00	26,529.50	50.00%
Subtotal Income For Year		54,621.97	54,969.00	26,535.46	136.37	379.13	27,050.96	7.36	7.36	27,058.32	49.22%

Expenditure

Code	Account	Outturn at 31 Mar 2019	Budget 2019/20	April 2019	May 2019	June 2019	First quarter	July 2019	Second quarter	Total spent to date	% Revised budget
Parish Office											
4101	Office Rent, rates, supplies	3,437.73	4,115.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	1,050.00		0.00	1,050.00	25.52%
4102	Office utilities	0.00	3,280.00			15.84	15.84		0.00	15.84	0.48%
4103	Postage	65.70	55.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
4104	Stationery + equipment	98.67	250.00	4.99	66.66		71.65		0.00	71.65	28.66%
4105	Telephone & Internet	512.60	552.00	43.53	43.40	43.81	130.74	43.53	43.53	174.27	31.57%
4106	Website + IT costs	565.76	628.00	23.62	23.62	23.62	70.86	144.62	144.62	215.48	15.04%
4108	Printing costs	422.13	650.00		136.73		136.73		0.00	136.73	21.04%
4109	Office Misc	27.40	-		40.00		40.00		0.00	40.00	**
TOTAL Parish Office		5,129.99	9,530.00	422.14	660.41	433.27	1,515.82	188.15	188.15	1,703.97	16.61%
Staff Costs											
4201	Salaries	29,182.60	30,086.00	2,504.69	2,503.69	2,505.69	7,514.07		0.00	7,514.07	24.98%
4202	Staff travel and expenses	73.06	60.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
4203	Staff Training	105.00	50.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
TOTAL Staff Costs		29,360.66	30,196.00	2,504.69	2,503.69	2,505.69	7,514.07	0.00	0.00	7,514.07	24.88%

Code	Account	Outturn at 31 Mar 2019	Budget 2019/20	April 2019	May 2019	June 2019	First quarter	July 2019	Second quarter	Total spent to date	% Revised budget
Administration & Finance											
4301	Audit Fees	625.00	625.00			285.00	285.00		0.00	285.00	45.60%
4302	Bank charges	9.70	5.00	1.20	1.30	1.30	3.80		0.00	3.80	76.00%
4303	Chairman's Honorarium	250.00	250.00		250.00		250.00		0.00	250.00	100.00%
4304	Cllors' Expenses/ Training	53.20	-	81.60			81.60		0.00	81.60	**
4306	Elections	0.00	-		100.00		100.00		0.00	100.00	**
4307	Insurance	1,167.92	1,200.00		1,182.34		1,182.34		0.00	1,182.34	98.53%
4308	Statutory Fees	35.00	35.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
4309	Subscriptions	563.99	615.00		5.00		5.00		0.00	5.00	0.81%
4310	Village Hall Hire	280.50	320.00		25.00	56.00	81.00	25.00	25.00	106.00	33.13%
4311	Wayleaves	0.00	-				0.00		0.00	0.00	**
4313	Legal Fees	5.00	-	650.00			650.00		0.00	650.00	**
TOTAL Administration & Finance		2,990.31	3,050.00	732.80	1,563.64	342.30	2,638.74	25.00	25.00	2,663.74	87.34%
Cemetery											
4402	Cemetery Rates	166.45	170.00	63.30	62.00	62.00	187.30		0.00	187.30	110.18%
4403	Maintenance + bins	3,488.76	3,236.00		542.50	350.00	892.50		0.00	892.50	27.58%
TOTAL Cemetery		3,655.21	3,406.00	63.30	604.50	412.00	1,079.80	0.00	0.00	1,079.80	31.70%
Community Services											
4501	Christmas Tree & Lights	50.00	50.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
4502	Allotment	100.00	100.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
TOTAL Community Services		150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Village Maintenance											
4601	A39 Verge	952.00	720.00		122.50	105.00	227.50		0.00	227.50	31.60%
4602	Clock Tower Maintenance	306.24	285.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
4603	Clock Tower Electricity	442.28	350.00	8.00	8.00	92.33	108.33	8.00	8.00	116.33	33.24%
4604	General Maintenance	387.06	250.00				0.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	0.80%
4605	The Cross, Gaol and WM	139.25	150.00		116.83		116.83	33.75	33.75	150.58	100.39%
4606	Palmers Path	485.50	450.00		35.00	35.00	70.00	46.25	46.25	116.25	25.83%
4607	Public Seating	771.00	250.00	39.59			39.59		0.00	39.59	15.84%
4608	Public Footpaths	63.20	30.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
4609	Dog Bins	1,435.20	1,470.00	348.40			348.40		0.00	348.40	23.70%

Code	Account	Outturn at 31 Mar 2019	Budget 2019/20	April 2019	May 2019	June 2019	First quarter	July 2019	Second quarter	Total spent to date	% Revised budget
Village Maintenance (continued)											
4610	Coleridge Road	195.50	160.00		35.00	35.00	70.00		0.00	70.00	43.75%
4612	Plot 173	340.00	175.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
4613	Mill Ln/Lime St maint	654.50	200.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
4615	Lime Street Proj +AONB	0.00	-			94.24	94.24		0.00	94.24	**
TOTAL Village Maintenance		6,171.73	4,490.00	395.99	317.33	361.57	1,074.89	90.00	90.00	1,164.89	25.94%
Castle St Toilets + Car Park											
4701	Castle St Toilets Cleaning	3,303.00	3,420.00		283.00	283.00	566.00		0.00	566.00	16.55%
4702	Castle St Toilets Electricity	178.76	265.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	45.00	15.00	15.00	60.00	22.64%
4703	Castle St Car Park Rates	703.10	705.00	785.60			785.60		0.00	785.60	111.43%
4704	Castle St Toilets Repairs	17.00	100.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
4705	Castle St Toilets Water	420.65	420.00		188.24		188.24		0.00	188.24	44.82%
4706	Castle St Car Park maint	395.75	400.00				0.00	66.25	66.25	66.25	16.56%
TOTAL Castle St Toilets + Car Park		5,250.44	5,310.00	800.60	486.24	298.00	1,584.84	81.25	81.25	1,666.09	31.38%
Grants											
4801	Grants Pool	3,967.20	4,100.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
4802	NS RG + VH	3,600.00					0.00		0.00	0.00	**
4803	Library	0.00		1,200.00			1,200.00		0.00	1,200.00	**
TOTAL Grants		3,967.20	4,100.00	1,200.00	0.00	0.00	1,200.00	0.00	0.00	1,200.00	29.27%
VAT Account											
515	VAT Paid	983.61	0.00	222.02	54.08	82.85	358.95	37.63	37.63	396.58	**
Total Expenditure		58,626.56	60,232.00	6,341.54	6,189.89	4,435.68	16,967.11	422.03	422.03	17,389.14	28.87%
Total Income		54,621.97	54,969.00	26,535.46	136.37	379.13	27,050.96	7.36	7.36	27,058.32	49.22%
Balance expenditure-income		- 4,004.59	5,263.00	- 20,193.92	6,053.52	4,056.55	- 10,083.85	414.67	414.67	9,669.18	

Bank: Current a/c 16,865.11
 Deposit a/c 25,244.58
 A/c no 3 196.89 = **42,306.58**

Balance: as at 1 Apr 32,637.40
 Plus: income 27,058.32
 Less: payments 17,389.14 = **42,306.58**