

MINUTES OF NETHER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 14 DECEMBER 2009 AT 7.00pm
IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Parish Councillors Tony Rich (Chairman)
 Rita Corbett
 Peter Greig
 Malcolm Hogg
 Margaret Hogg
 Pat Pardoe
 Carol Parsons

In attendance:

District / County Cllr	David Joslin
Chairman of CANS	Mary Roberts
EDF Energy	Simon Dunford
PPS Group (for EDF)	Charles St George
Somerset County Council	Neil Pack
National Trust	Stephen Hayes
National Trust	Sophie Radnor
Parish Clerk	Ainslie Ensor
Assistant Parish Clerk	Jean Falla
18 Parishioners	

3766 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Roberts (business) The absence was **approved**.
Apologies were also received from District Cllr Dyer (unwell) and District /County Cllr Edney (at another meeting).

Note: Apologies from Cllr Youe (family commitment) were received by the Clerk after the meeting.

3767 Hinkley Point New Build

Simon Dunford of EDF Energy gave a presentation on the Stage 1 Consultation regarding the proposed nuclear development at Hinkley Point. He stated that the Stage 1 consultation would finish on 11 January 2010, in between March and May 2010 EDF would publish their preferred options and in July 2010 they expected to make an application to the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC). They were planning to undertake (at their own risk) certain preliminary works before they received the IPC consent; these would include a temporary jetty at Hinkley Point and some site preparation works. He explained that Nether Stowey was not included in the initial proposals as EDF had been guided by existing District & County policies. Stogursey Lane had been identified as an alternative (emergency) access to the site for use should the road from the site to Cannington become blocked. He invited suggestions for legacy developments for the village. A member of the public suggested that a retirement /care home for Nether Stowey would benefit the community. In response to questions Mr Dunford stated that the proposed reactors at Hinkley would be the 60th and 61st of this type built by EDF. The temporary workers accommodation at the site would be needed between 2013 and 2017; the units would have a 10 year life and would be moved to Sizewell in Suffolk. The Chairman thanked Mr Dunford for the presentation.

3768 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes for the meeting held on 9 November 2009 were **approved** and signed by the Chairman.

3769 Coleridge Cottage

Stephen Hayes, Property Administrator, National Trust explained that 2009, as the centenary of the National Trust acquiring the Cottage had been a busy year and was acting as a springboard to look at the future of the property. Working with the Friends of Coleridge they were looking to improve the interior of the Cottage and make it warm and welcoming and more interactive for visitors. In a questionnaire 70% of people asked to see the garden. The National Trust is bringing in a policy of "Going Local" trying to work more with local communities. The idea for the garden, including a school allotment and an orchard should help to improve visitor numbers and benefit the village. Traditionally the Cottage had received circa 2000 visitors per year, in 2009 the figure was 3750 and they were looking to grow from this. In response to a question Mr Hayes said that the Trust would look at changing opening hours. It was **agreed** to defer a decision on the proposed agreement between the Parish Council and the National Trust until the January meeting. The Chairman thanked Mr Hayes for the presentation.

3770 Nether Stowey United Charity

The Clerk reported that Nether Stowey United Charity had seven Trustees, three of whom were nominated by the Parish Council. Parish Council nominees serve for 4 years. The term of office of two of the Parish Council nominated Trustees (Mr Mervyn Ham and Mr Martin Trout) ended in November 2009. Both persons had indicated they were willing to continue to serve as Trustees and their reappointment had been recommended by a meeting of the Trustees.

It was **agreed** that Mr Mervyn Ham and Mr Martin Trout be **appointed** as Trustees of Nether Stowey United Charity for a period of four years from 1st December 2009

Cllr Joslin left the meeting

3771 Planning

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|-----|------------------|---|
| (i) | Application Ref: | 36/09/00022 |
| | Address: | 29 Lime Street |
| | Proposal: | Erection of single storey rear extension, partly on site of existing (to be demolished) |
| | Applicant: | Mr C Chaffey |
| | Response: | No Objections |

The above response was **agreed**.

3772 Finance

(i) Monthly Financial Report

The report was noted

(ii) Help For Heroes

It was noted that local people had recently raised a significant sum for this national charity. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would not give a grant to the Charity but individuals were encouraged to make personal donations.

(i) Expenditure incurred since the Parish Council meeting of 9 November 2009

Payee	Amount	Details
Nether Stowey Village Hall	19.00	Hire of hall - CANS
Wibble Farm Nurseries	50.00	Christmas Tree
Opal	42.04	Telephone
Society of Local Council Clerks	118.00	2010 subscription
Sophie Courtiour	90.00	Active Living November
Somerset Playing Field Association	10.00	2010 Subscription
Bristol Wessex Billing Services Ltd	201.00	Toilets Water & Electricity
Npower Ltd	1,099.90	Toilets Electricity
A Ensor	74.99	Internet £29.99 Postage £45
Payroll Expenses	1488.77	November Salaries/ PAYE/NI
Total	£3,192.80	

The above expenditure was **approved**.

3773 Highways

The following items were noted:

- The Clerk reported that the speed readings for South Lane had been received. These indicated that average speeds were below 30 mph and no SID was warranted at that location.
- The Clerk reported that County Highways were to install additional warning signs in Mill Lane; this should be done before the end of March 2010
- The Clerk reported that County Highways had now agreed to install two (possibly three) additional wooden bollards on the Cross to stop vehicles parking on the recently repaved area.

3774 Reports

Hinkley Point Community Forum – Cllr Malcolm Hogg reported that he had the impression that many communities were against the proposed developments associated with the proposed new power stations but were still saying “what can we have from EDF”.

Western Somerset LARC – Cllr Greig reported that up to October 2009 some £180,000 had been allocated but only one project was located on “our” side of the Quantocks. There was a £2 million budget still available but to benefit it needed people in the Quantock Cluster to bring forward projects.

3775 Correspondence

Correspondence received included:

- Sedgemoor DC - revised scheme of delegation to Group Manager Development for planning applications
- SALC - Advice on “cost shunting” (moving services from principal authorities to town/parish councils), a request to copy responses on Hinkley C to SALC. Details of a conference on 8 February 2010 in Tiverton “Rising to the Challenge”
- Somerset RYP Newsletter
- Somerset County Youth Service - in 2010 Somerset RYP will be taking over provision

of youth service in Nether Stowey (youth club closed). The Clerk will be meeting with RYP officers to learn more early in the new year

- Cllr Parsons had received a request from West Somerset Vale Fox Hounds to meet on Boxing Day on The Cross. This was **agreed**.

Cllr Parsons requested information on the Sudden Oak Death meeting held by AONB Service recently. She also requested that the Clerk deal with the matter of a letter to Mr Willis as a matter of urgency.

3776 Forthcoming Meetings and Events

- Friday 18 December 2.30pm Affordable Housing Working Group - Parish Office
- Tuesday 22 December 2.30pm Cemetery Committee - Parish Office
- Date To Be Confirmed Village Maintenance Committee – Parish Office
- Wednesday 6 January 2010 2.00pm Sedgemoor District Council – Bridgwater House ref Hinkley C
- Monday 11 January 2010 7.00pm Precept Meeting – Parish Office

3778 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be in the Village Hall on Monday 18th January 2010 at 7pm.

3779 Exclusion of Press & Public

In accordance with Standing Order 67 it was **resolved** "that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw".

3780 Clock Tower

The Clerk gave a confidential report on work need to the electrical system in the clock tower and details of the quotations received.

It was **agreed** that the contract be awarded to AC Electrics at a maximum price of £717 plus VAT with a 12 month maintenance period for all works

3781 Parish Officer Printer

The Clerk gave a confidential report on the parish officer printer and details of quotations obtained for a replacement printer.

It was **agreed** that the Parish Council purchase an ex Rental Sharp Mx-2300n from Clarity Copiers (Avon) Ltd of Taunton for £2200 plus VAT, subject to the Clerk negotiating a 10% discount on print costs for the first year.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm