

MINUTES OF NETHER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2016 AT 7.00pm
IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Parish Councillors

John Roberts (Chairman)
Kevin Ferriday
Malcolm Hogg
Margaret Hogg
Andrew Jeanes
Patricia Pardoe
Colin Penny
Malcolm Reid
Barbara Rich

In Attendance: Caro Slaymaker (Parish Clerk)
Cllr John Edney, SCC
3 members of the public

Public Session

Mr Greig asked if it was true that the Somerset Larder would be located elsewhere. The Chairman said that he understood that was probably the case. He agreed that it was disappointing as this meant there would be no real employment in the area and he sympathised, particularly, with those who had previously worked at Cricketer Farm and had hoped to be employed at the Somerset Larder.

With Council's agreement, he proposed to suspend standing orders to allow Mr and Mrs Greig to speak on the items concerning the Village Hall and Playing Field at that point in the meeting. All agreed. No other issues were raised.

4887 Apologies

All Councillors were present. Cllr Pay had sent apologies as she would be at a meeting elsewhere. Cllr Caswell was on holiday.

4888 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Penny and Cllr Rich declared personal interests in the Playing Field.

4889 Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

4890 County Council Liaison

Cllr Edney reported that the County Council was working through its budget-making process. The Council had decided to write to the Chancellor to request extra funding for local authorities. The popularity of Somerset as a place to retire to led to a greater demand on social care services. The County Council was now spending £130 million. "All the fat has gone, and we are getting in to the bone now", he said.

There was, however, still money available in the "pot-hole fund" should there be any need in the parish.

The Chairman raised the issue of the cancelled bus service. He was concerned that; at a recent meeting, it was clear that parishes in West Somerset had known well before Sedgemoor parishes and equally that the County Council had known but had not informed parishes. Sedgemoor parishes felt sadly let down. Moreover, he had received no reply from Cllr Osman as Leader of the Council and the reply from Cllr Fothergill had only come after he was copied a letter to the Secretary of State for Transport. People were angry that Cllr Fothergill had laughed about it in a TV interview.

Cllr Edney said he was sorry that the Parish Council was dissatisfied with the response. Obviously the decision to withdraw the service was a commercial one, and the current financial constraints made it impossible. He would report the Chairman's views back to Cllrs Osman and Fothergill.

Cllr Hogg asked if any other routes were subsidised. The Chairman said that he had received a long list in response to a FOI request. He had not asked the grounds for the subsidy. Cllr Edney would find out and it was agreed the Clerk would send the FOI response to him.

4891 Grant application NS Recreation Ground

It was **agreed** to pay a grant of £1,800, the provision in the current year's budget plus £976 which had not been applied for last year and was held in reserve (minute 4781 of March 2016). Proposed Cllr Jeanes, seconded Cllr Margaret Hogg.

It was confirmed that applications could be made any time in the Financial Year. The budget was being prepared now, and had to be approved at the meeting on 9 January 2017, and requests for increased funding could be made for consideration.

4892 Grant Application NS Village Hall

It was **agreed** to pay a grant of £1,800, the provision in the current year's budget plus £347 which had been approved but not spent from the two previous years. Proposed Cllr Malcolm Hogg, seconded Cllr Ferriday.

4893 Communication Mast Consultation

Mrs Greig explained the background. The Playing Field had been working with a local solicitor, Mr Freeman to negotiate an agreement to site a mobile phone mast on the playing field. In return the Playing Field would be paid a rent which was expected to be in the region of £4,000. It was noted that 80% of those who had completed the Neighbourhood Plan Survey had expressed dissatisfaction with their phone signal. Cllr Jeanes said that he had regular complaints from the businesses located at Inwood Farm. Cllr Ferriday pointed out that this would initially benefit only Vodaphone and O2 customers, though proposed changes should improve other services later on. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would write to Sinclair Dalby giving the Parish Council's support for the application as shown, with a caveat that the Parish Council reserved the right to reconsider this preliminary view if details changed.

4894 Stowey Centre

On behalf of the Recreation Ground Village Hall Committees it was requested that the Parish Council formally restate their support for the project as this was required in connection with funding applications. The Parish Council **unanimously confirmed their support** for the project and the Clerk would provide a letter confirming this.

4895 Planning

3/32/16/018 – Hinkley Point A station. It was **agreed** that there was no objection to this application. The Clerk would try to find out information requested by Cllr Pardoe.

4896 Budget Report

The Clerk presented the Budget Report to 11 November, a copy of which is appended to these minutes. The report was **noted**.

4897 Expenditure

Expenditure incurred since the Parish Council meeting of 10 October:

Date	Payee Name	Cheque	Amount	Transaction Details
10 Oct	NS Village Hall	103807	45.00	Hire of club Room 12 + 19 Sept
10 Oct	David Mayell	103808	210.00	Handrail to Car Park Steps
12 Oct	GWB Services	103809	1,538.00	September Village Maintenance

Date	Payee Name	Cheque	Amount	Transaction Details
12 Oct	Post Office Ltd	P-035	44.75	2 nd Class Stamps
19 Oct	ICO	103810	35.00	Renewal fee for data protection
20 Oct	Payroll	103811-814	2,261.46	October staff Payroll
21 Oct	K Sparks	103815	155.00	Village Maintenance
31 Oct	GWB Services	103816	200.00	Memorial Bench Installation
31 Oct	Suzy Marsh	103817	60.00	May Fair 17 Entertainment
01 Nov	K J Cripwell	103818	15.00	May Fair 17 Entertainment
03 Nov	BT Business	DDR	38.60	Office Telephone/Broadband
03 Nov	EDF Energy	DDR	1.00	Public Toilets Electricity
03 Nov	Edward Martin	DDR	28.34	Website maintenance contract
04 Nov	EDF Energy	DDR	8.00	Clock Tower Electricity metered
07 Nov	GWB Services	103819	425.00	October Village Maintenance
07 Nov	Clarity Copiers	103820	137.38	Office Photocopying charges
07 Nov	EDF Energy	103821	77.00	Clock Tower UMS electricity
07 Nov	NS Village Hall	103822	45.00	Hire of Club Room 10 + 19 Oct
07 Nov	ATG Planning	103823	100.30	Work for Neighbourhood plan
TOTAL			£5,424.83	

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

4898 Bank Reconciliation

Cllr Jeanes had carried out a bank reconciliation and accounts check earlier in the day and was satisfied that all was in order.

4899 Bus Service

The Chairman summarised the action taken during the month and responses so far received. The key points were:

- Somerset County Council (SCC) had no funds to subsidise the route;
- SCC were working with community transport providers as well as bus and coach companies to find a solution that would help those who needed transport but would be financially viable. It was suggested that Parish Councils could subsidise a service.
- Ideas such as a weekly shopping run were being costed, however initial quotes ranged from £100-£240 per day of service (to be divided by participating parishes). Passengers would still be required to pay a fare. Some of the operators would be unable to honour bus passes. Other ideas and more detailed proposals were still being looked at and there would be a future meeting.

4900 Highways

Cllr Hogg asked the Clerk to contact SHAL about the resurfacing work at Stogursey Lane which had still not been carried out.

4901 Reports

Village Hall – Cllr Pardoe asked to be replaced as Village Hall representative as family obligations meant she was no longer able to do it. Otherwise Hall bookings were up in the period to Christmas and generally all was going well.

FONSL – Cllr Pardoe reported that all was going well. £500 worth of new books had been donated to the Library.

Active Living – Cllr Margaret Hogg said they had a retired physiotherapist as speaker at the last meeting which was the best attend for some time.

Playing Field - Cllr Penny – there was an ongoing issue with the poor quality changing facilities. The argument about fencing off the play area continued.

Neighbourhood Plan (NP) (Cllr Malcolm Hogg) – questionnaires had now been collated and the next meeting would be on 21 November.

Hinkley Point –Cllr Hogg had attended the November SSG meeting – the focus of the meeting had been the planning application at A station (see above).

He had also attended the Transport Forum meeting on 20 October- the next work phase in Bridgwater would be the triangle of The Drove/Wylds Road and Riders junctions, which would probably begin in January. A proposal to reroute traffic was being considered.

Walkers are Welcome – Cllr Reid said that Stowey Walkers would have their official launch to mark their accreditation on Monday 21 November, with a walk and buffet lunch.

Chairman’s report – The Remembrance Service had been well attended. PCSO Long was leaving the service on 17 November.

4902 Correspondence

Sedgemoor DC	Leaflet giving new regulations on double glazing in Conservations areas
Post Office	Withdrawal of “Moneycard” service used by the Clerk for small purchases
Ian Liddel Grainger	Reply on Parish financial capping consultation
Dept for Transport	Reply to Parish Council’s letter about the bus service
Mrs Aplin	Warning about a BT scam (posted on noticeboard and website)
Somerset CC	Health Sustainability and Transformation Plans published (details at www.somerset.gov.uk/STP)

4903 Forthcoming meetings and events

Outside meetings and events

Mon 21 Nov	Walkers are Welcome	The Cross	10.45am	MR, JR
------------	---------------------	-----------	---------	--------

Neighbourhood Planning

Wed 19 Oct	Neighbourhood Planning Grp	NS Village Hall	7pm	MH, KF, MC
------------	----------------------------	-----------------	-----	------------

4904 Next Parish Council Meeting

Next Meeting

Mon 12 Dec	Parish Council Meeting	NS Village Hall	7 pm	All
------------	------------------------	-----------------	------	-----

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm

Income

Code	Account	Budget 2016/17	First quarter	Second quarter	Oct 2016	Nov 2016	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	Total spent to date	% of budget
Income										
1002	Allotment Rental	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00	**
1003	Council Tax Grant	4,228.00	2,114.00	2,114.00			0.00	0.00	4,228.00	100.00%
1006	Cemetery Income	1,400.00	30.00	606.00			0.00	0.00	636.00	45.43%
1012	Printing & Copying receipts	800.00	179.81	102.60	53.53		53.53	0.00	335.94	41.99%
1013	May Fair 2017 Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	234.00	54.00	288.00	0.00	288.00	**
1014	May Fair 2016 Income	0.00	812.27	313.50			0.00	0.00	1,125.77	**
1016	Village Trail Booklet Income	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00	see payments
115	VAT Refunds	0.00	0.00	844.02			0.00	0.00	844.02	**
1011	Precept	46,477.00	23,238.50	23,238.50			0.00	0.00	46,477.00	100.00%
Subtotal Income For Year		52,925.00	26,374.58	27,218.62	287.53	54.00	341.53	0.00	53,934.73	101.91%

Expenditure

Code	Account	Budget 2016/17	First quarter	Second quarter	Oct 2016	Nov 2016	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	Total spent to date	% of budget
Parish Office										
4101	Office Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00	**
4102	Parish Council Office Rent	2,100.00	750.00	853.50			0.00	0.00	1,603.50	76.36%
4103	Postage	130.00	0.00	0.00	23.10		23.10	0.00	23.10	17.77%
4104	Stationery	190.00	88.22	72.05			0.00	0.00	160.27	84.35%
4105	Telephone & Internet	350.00	98.70	70.65	32.24	32.17	64.41	0.00	233.76	46.75%
4106	Website + IT costs	705.00	130.85	282.86	23.62	23.62	47.24	0.00	460.95	65.38%
4107	Books and publications	40.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
4108	Printing costs	950.00	0.00	852.71		114.48	114.48	0.00	967.19	101.81%
4109	Office Move	0.00	0.00	77.94			0.00	0.00	77.94	**
TOTAL Parish Office		4,465.00	1,067.77	2,209.71	78.96	170.27	249.23	0.00	3,526.71	76.42%

Nether Stowey Parish Council

Code	Account	Budget 2016/17	First quarter	Second quarter	Oct 2016	Nov 2016	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	Total spent to date	% of budget
Staff Costs										
4201	Salaries	24,001.00	6,648.49	6,750.65	2,261.46		2,261.46	0.00	15,660.60	58.82%
4204	Staff travel costs	170.00	0.00	107.51			0.00	0.00	107.51	26.55%
4205	Staff Training	400.00	145.00	138.00			0.00	0.00	283.00	41.80%
	TOTAL Staff Costs	24,571.00	6,793.49	6,996.16	2,261.46	0.00	2,261.46	0.00	16,051.11	57.93%
Administration & Finance										
4301	Audit Fees	600.00	295.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	295.00	49.17%
4302	Bank charges	20.00	3.75	2.25	0.75		0.75	0.00	6.75	33.75%
4303	Chairman's Honorarium	250.00	0.00	250.00			0.00	0.00	250.00	100.00%
4304	Councillors' Expenses	250.00	75.00	17.15			0.00	0.00	92.15	28.81%
4305	Councillors' Training	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
4306	Elections	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00	**
4307	Insurance	1,200.00	1,093.65	0.00			0.00	0.00	1,093.65	91.14%
4308	Statutory Fees	35.00	0.00	0.00	35.00		35.00	0.00	35.00	100.00%
4309	Subscriptions	500.00	382.16	28.00			0.00	0.00	410.16	82.03%
4310	Village Hall Hire	400.00	90.00	67.50	22.50	22.50	45.00	0.00	202.50	50.63%
	TOTAL Administration & Finance	3,260.00	1,939.56	364.90	58.25	22.50	80.75	0.00	2,385.21	61.56%
Cemetery										
4402	Cemetery Rates	140.00	140.36	0.00			0.00	0.00	140.36	100.26%
4403	Maintenance	3,320.00	0.00	1,536.00	640.00	160.00	800.00	0.00	2,336.00	63.43%
	TOTAL Cemetery	3,460.00	140.36	1,536.00	640.00	160.00	800.00	0.00	2,476.36	64.78%
Community Services										
4502	Allotment	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00	see receipts
4504	Christmas Tree & Lights	200.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
4508	Neighbourhood Plan	2,000.00	308.35	133.10	160.30	122.80	283.10	0.00	724.55	see EMR 324
4510	Village Trail Booklet	0.00	0.00	40.49			0.00	0.00	40.49	see receipts
	TOTAL Community Services	2,200.00	308.35	173.59	160.30	122.80	283.10	0.00	765.04	34.77%

Nether Stowey Parish Council

Code	Account	Budget 2016/17	First quarter	Second quarter	Oct 2016	Nov 2016	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	Total spent to date	% of budget
CANS										
4503	CANS	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00	see reserve
4505	May Fair 2016 expenditure	0.00	1,853.65	90.00			0.00	0.00	1,943.65	see income
4513	May Fair 2017 expenditure	0.00	0.00	0.00	120.90		120.90	0.00	120.90	see reserve
	TOTAL CANS	0.00	1,853.65	90.00	120.90	0.00	120.90	0.00	2,064.55	**
Village Maintenance										
4601	A39 Verge	768.00	0.00	416.00	208.00		208.00	0.00	624.00	81.25%
4602	Clock Tower Maintenance	300.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
4603	Clock Tower Electricity	420.00	95.93	95.24	8.00	81.33	89.33	0.00	280.50	66.79%
4604	General Maintenance	500.00	3.42	4.56	1.20		1.20	0.00	9.18	1.20%
4605	Old Gaol + The Cross	575.00	240.50	79.08	45.50		45.50	0.00	365.08	63.49%
4606	Palmers Path	600.00	32.50	215.75	93.50		93.50	0.00	341.75	56.96%
4607	Public Seating	0.00	174.81	82.87	200.00		200.00	0.00	457.68	**
4609	Dog Bins	1,500.00	348.40	348.40			0.00	0.00	696.80	46.45%
4610	Coleridge Road	256.00	0.00	128.00	32.00		32.00	0.00	160.00	62.50%
4611	Millennium Wood	0.00	0.00	0.00	48.00		48.00	0.00	48.00	**
4612	Plot 173	200.00	0.00	424.00	32.00		32.00	0.00	456.00	228.00%
4613	Mill Lane/Lime Street corner	400.00	0.00	16.25			0.00	0.00	16.25	4.06%
	TOTAL Village Maintenance	5,519.00	895.56	1,810.15	668.20	81.33	749.53	0.00	3,455.24	59.76%
Castle Street Toilets										
4701	Castle St Toilets Cleaning	2,500.00	0.00	965.47	530.00	265.00	795.00	0.00	1,760.47	70.42%
4702	Castle St Toilets Electricity	400.00	48.00	18.00	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.00	68.00	17.00%
4703	Castle St Car Park/Toilets Rates	600.00	592.90	0.00			0.00	0.00	592.90	98.82%
4704	Castle St Toilets repairs/maintenance	200.00	0.00	16.00			0.00	0.00	16.00	8.00%
4705	Castle St Toilets Water/Sewerage	500.00	179.83	0.00			0.00	0.00	179.83	35.97%
4706	Castle St Car Park maintenance	450.00	42.25	171.75	237.80		237.80	0.00	451.80	100.40%
4709	Castle St toilets/car park misc	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00	**
	TOTAL Castle Street Toilets	4,650.00	862.98	1,171.22	768.80	266.00	1,034.80	0.00	3,069.00	66.00%

Code	Account	Budget 2016/17	First quarter	Second quarter	Oct 2016	Nov 2016	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	Total spent to date	% of budget
Grants										
4801	Miscellaneous Grants	1,200.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
4803	Playing Field Grant	1,800.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
4804	Transport	0.00	0.00	200.00			0.00	0.00	200.00	**
4805	Village Hall Grant	1,800.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
	TOTAL Grants	4,800.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	3.27%
Capital Expenditure										
4901	Public Seating	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00	**
4902	Notice board	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00	**
4903	Bus shelter	0.00	3,125.00	1,700.00			0.00	0.00	4,825.00	**
	TOTAL Capital Expenditure	0.00	3,125.00	1,700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,825.00	**
VAT Account										
515	VAT Paid	0.00	997.62	721.55	46.17	37.72	83.89	0.00	1,803.06	**
	Total Expenditure	52,925.00	17,984.34	16,973.28	4,803.04	860.62	5,663.66	0.00	40,621.28	69.11%
	Income	52,925.00	26,374.58	27,218.62	287.53	54.00	341.53	0.00	53,934.73	101.91%
	Balance expenditure-income	0.00	-8,390.24	-10,245.34	4,515.51	806.62	5,322.13	0.00	-13,313.45	