

MINUTES OF NETHER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 13 MARCH 2017 AT 7.00pm
IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Parish Councillors John Roberts (Chairman)
 Kevin Ferriday
 Margaret Hogg
 Pat Pardoe
 Colin Penny
 Malcolm Reid
 Barbara Rich

In Attendance: Caro Slaymaker (Parish Clerk)
 Cllr John Edney (Somerset CC)
 Cllr Michael Caswell (Sedgemoor DC)
 10 members of the public

Public Session

No issues were raised.

4958 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Jeanes (on holiday). The absence was approved. Cllr Pay was attending a meeting elsewhere.

4959 Declarations of Interest

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

4960 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13 February were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4961 County and District Council Liaison

Cllr Edney confirmed that the County Council elections would take place on 4 May. As mentioned previously he would retire from that date. As far as he knew, the only outstanding item of business was that of the Lime Street/Mill Lane Road Safety Scheme. It was unlikely that he would be able to attend the Parish Council's meeting in April, as wife would be in hospital.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks for Cllr Edney's work as County Councillor on behalf of Nether Stowey and wished him a happy retirement. All agreed.

Cllr Caswell reminded the Parish Council that the deadline for the consultation on the Local Plan was Friday. All comments would be submitted to the Inspectorate for consideration.

4962 Parish Council Vacancy

As Councillors were aware, Electoral Services had confirmed that the vacancy should be filled by co-option as there had been no demand for a by-election. Notices had been posted and on the website. Application forms were available at the meeting if wanted.

4963 Planning Application

Application Ref: 36/16/00024

Address: 94 Castle Hill, Nether Stowey

Proposal: Fell two Monterey Cypress Trees (T2 and T3)

Six members of the public had attended to speak in favour of the application as well as the applicant. There were significant safety concerns particularly in stormy weather. They were no longer attractive. The following response was agreed:

The Parish Council supports this application in view of the potential risk to members of the public using the road passing the site and two Public rights of Way which converge there and in view of the potential risk to neighbouring properties and the evident detrimental effect on the applicant's garage.

At the Parish Council meeting a number of neighbours expressed their concerns regarding the trees. It was noted that in storms in recent years a number of substantial branches have broken off, causing damage to power/telephone lines and blocking the road. The consequences for anyone passing by at these times would have been extremely serious.

The Parish Council consider the trees have no significant visual amenity value.

If the LPA considers it appropriate to require replanting the Parish Council would suggest a suitable slow-growing native tree be specified in a nearby position which would cause less of a hazard.

Seven members of the public left the meeting.

4964 Local Plan Response

The Clerk presented a draft response collating Members' contributions. The draft was **approved** and a copy is attached at Annex A to these minutes.

4965 Boundary Commission Consultation

It was **agreed** that the Parish Council had no comments.

4966 Budget Report

The Clerk presented the Budget Report to 10 March, a copy of which is at Annex B. The report was **noted**. The Clerk pointed out that this was the last meeting before the end of the Financial Year, but a report would be circulated to members once the account was finalised.

4967 Expenditure

Expenditure incurred since the Parish Council meeting of 9 January:

Date	Payee Name	Cheque	Amount	Transaction Details
21 Feb	Mrs C F Slaymaker	103766	149.28	Folding Display Boards
22 Feb	February Payroll	103767-70	2,261.46	February Staff Payroll
22 Feb	Chanin & Thomas	103771	750.00	Quarterly Office Rent Jan-March 17
3 Mar	EDF Energy	DDR	12.00	Clock Tower Electricity metered
3 Mar	EDF Energy	DDR	17.00	Public Toilets electricity
3 Mar	E Martin Computer Services	DDR	28.34	Office Website & Maintenance contract
6 Mar	AT Goddard (ATG Planning)	103772	275.30	Work in support of NHP
6 Mar	Nether Stowey Village Hall	103773	22.50	Hire of Club Room 13 th Feb 17
9 Mar	BT Business	DDR	39.26	Office Telephone and Broadband cost
TOTAL			£3,555.14	

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

4968 Bank Reconciliation

Cllr Roberts had carried out a bank reconciliation and accounts check on 10 March and was satisfied that all was in order.

4969 Viring and Reserves Transfers

The Clerk had prepared a proposal for budget viring and Reserves transfers in preparation for the end of the financial year. The proposals were **approved**.

4970 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Ferriday felt that members of the Working Group were suffering from fatigue. A lot had been done to analyse the questionnaire, undertake other research and prepare topic papers. But it was a small group and needed to refocus. This would be discussed at the next meeting on 20 March. It was also possible that the consultant would be less available than previously and it was **agreed** to find a new consultant if necessary.

4971 Annual Parish Meeting

It was **agreed** to bring this meeting forward to Monday 3 April owing to the various absences of Members. It was also **agreed** to hold a Planning Committee meeting to consider the Cricketer Farm application immediately to avoid trying to fit in a second meeting. It was hoped that this would attract more attendance at both events.

4972 Highways

There were no issues. There had still been no response from the Hunt since the letter sent after the January meeting.

4973 Reports

FONSL – Cllr Pardoe said that the next meeting was on 20 March. They had decorated a room at the Library and hoped to buy blinds for the computer room.

Active Living – Cllr Hogg said that attendance was still good.

Playing Field – Cllr Penny had been unable to attend the last meeting.

Hinkley SSG – Cllr Reid had attended the most recent meeting. The key matters were that the turbine hall would be deconstructed in the Autumn, which will have a visible effect on the landscape. Storage was to be built for encapsulated waste. Hinkley Point C was having difficulty finding labour. The next meeting would be on 23 June.

4974 Forthcoming meetings and events

Outside meetings and events

16 March	SALC SW Regional Conference	Taunton Rugby Club	9.00 am	BR
27 March	Code of Conduct Training	Bridgwater House	6.00pm	KF, MH, CP
27 April	HPC Transport Forum	Puriton Village Hall	6.30pm	TBC
11 May	HPC Community Forum (Workshop starts at 5.30pm)	Cannington College		

Neighbourhood Planning

20 March	Neighbourhood Planning	Parish Office	7pm	KF, MC, CS
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4975 Next Parish Council Meeting

Mon 3 April	Annual Parish meeting followed by Planning Committee	NS Village Hall (main hall)	7 pm	All Councillors
Mon 10 April	Parish Council Meeting	NS Village Hall (Club Room)	7 pm	All Councillors

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm

Consultation Response – Proposed Submission Local Plan



Representation Form – Part B
Regulation 19 Consultation: Proposed Submission Local Plan

Please **use a separate form for each representation**. Representations need to be attached to Part A of the representation form. Please note that we cannot accept anonymous responses.

Please print your name on each separate Part B representation.

Name (Print)	Caroline Slaymaker
Date	

1. To which part of the Local Plan (or supporting document) does this representation relate?

Please state clear clearly which policy, paragraph, map, diagram or table.

Policy S2 table 4.6 for Tier 2 settlements
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2. Do you consider the Local Plan is?

Legally compliant? Please select one answer	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sound? Please select one answer	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Please refer to guidance note for further explanation. If you have indicated that the plan is sound please skip question 3 and continue to question 4.

3. If you consider the Plan is unsound, on which grounds do you consider the document is unsound?

Please select as many as you consider apply.

Positively Prepared	<input type="checkbox"/>
Justified	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Consistent with national policy	<input type="checkbox"/>

Consultation Response – Proposed Submission Local Plan

4. Please provide details of why you consider the Local Plan is not legally compliant or is unsound. Please be as precise as possible. If you wish to support the legal compliance or soundness of the plan, please also use this box to set out your comments.

Policy S2 table 4.6 for Tier 2 settlements – inclusion of Nether Stowey as a Tier 2 settlement. We consider that Nether Stowey should not be included as a Tier 2 settlement but should be classified as a Tier 3 settlement.

The circumstances surrounding Nether Stowey have changed considerably since the previous consultation. At that time although accepting the classification the Council pointed to a number of factors that limited qualification under the criteria proposed. The most significant of these concerns public transport, but there are other infrastructural concerns.

Whilst there is some opportunity for housing within the development boundary, this is only small parcels of land allowing one or two properties at most.

There is already a proposed development on the outskirts of the development boundary that if it goes ahead will mean a further 45 to 50 dwellings, this is in addition to land indicated on the local plan as being available for development.

In October 2016 the bus service between Minehead and Bridgwater was withdrawn, leaving only one bus to Bridgwater at 7am and returning at 18.00. EDF have kindly provided a very restricted service on weekday mornings, but reliance on cars is now virtually absolute. At the same time there are no safe pedestrian/cycling routes beyond the immediate confines of the main village, including to the nearest Hinkley Park and Ride. Local employment opportunities in the immediate vicinity or accessible by foot or cycle are almost non-existent and/or casual/seasonal.

At the same time, we have been advised that the local telephone exchange is at capacity, with no plan to increase it and a waiting list for access to improved services in an area with a broadband service which is variable in quality or speed.

It seems unlikely that additional housing could be connected. It is also a serious disincentive for business growth in the area particularly when coupled with the limited mobile phone coverage (see below)

Nether Stowey has very limited mobile coverage and although planning consent has recently been given for a mast, there is no indication when this will be built and operational and will only improve services for some operators.

In these circumstances, we consider that Nether Stowey is not suitable to absorb more of the district's housing growth than to meet local needs and it would be unsound to include Nether Stowey as a Tier 2 settlement.

5. Please set out what change(s) you consider necessary to make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound, having regard to the tests you have identified in question 3 above where this relates to soundness.

Please say why you consider the change(s) will make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text.

It is our opinion that Nether Stowey does not meet the criteria for Tier 2 settlements and should therefore be re-designated as a Tier 3 settlement.

Consultation Response – Proposed Submission Local Plan

6. If your representation is seeking a change, do you consider it necessary to participate at the oral part of the examination?

No	X	Yes	
I do not wish to participate		I wish to participate	

7. If you wish to participate at the oral part of the examination, please outline why you consider this to be necessary:

Please note the Inspector will determine the most appropriate procedure to adopt to hear those who have indicated that they wish to participate at the oral part of the examination.

Budget Report to 10 March 2017

Income

Account Code	Account	Budget 2016/17	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Fourth quarter	Total spent to date	
Reserves Total		53,957.68	3,299.81	1,900.00	1,966.33	2,175.00	-	-	2,175.00	9,341.14	44,616.54
Income											
1002	Allotment Rental	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00				0.00	100.00	**
1003	Council Tax Grant	4,228.00	2,114.00	2,114.00	0.00				0.00	4,228.00	100.00%
1004	Bank Interest	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	188.74			188.74	188.74	943.70%
1006	Cemetery Income	1,400.00	30.00	606.00	207.00	615.00	120.00		735.00	1,578.00	112.71%
1012	Printing & Copying receipts	800.00	179.81	102.60	90.65	70.00	7.60	28.24	105.84	478.90	59.86%
1013	May Fair 2017 Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	434.00	142.00	497.00	60.00	699.00	1,133.00	**
1014	May Fair 2016 Income	0.00	812.27	313.50	0.00	13.50			13.50	1,139.27	**
115	VAT Refunds	0.00	0.00	844.02	1,719.17				0.00	2,563.19	**
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	2,550.82	1,029.24	624.60	88.24	1,742.08	57,886.10	109.37%

Expenditure

Account Code	Account	Budget 2016/17	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Fourth quarter	Total spent to date	
Parish Office											
4101	Office Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00	62.73		149.28		149.28	212.01	**
4102	Parish Council Office Rent	2,100.00	750.00	853.50	772.81		750.00		750.00	3,126.31	148.87%
4103	Postage	130.00	0.00	0.00	23.10	33.00			33.00	56.10	43.15%
4104	Stationery	190.00	88.22	72.05	4.16	35.91			35.91	200.34	105.44%
4105	Telephone & Internet	350.00	98.70	70.65	97.97	32.68	32.39	32.72	97.79	365.11	104.32%
4106	Website + IT costs	705.00	130.85	282.86	70.86	103.61	23.62	23.62	150.85	635.42	90.13%
4108	Printing costs	950.00	0.00	852.71	114.48		101.32		101.32	1,068.51	112.47%
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	1,146.11	205.20	1,056.61	56.34	1,318.15	5,741.74	128.59%

Account Code	Account	Budget 2016/17	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Fourth quarter	Total spent to date	
Staff Costs											
4201	Salaries	24,001.00	6,648.49	6,750.65	6,784.37	2,261.46	2,261.46		4,522.92	24,706.43	102.94%
4204	Staff travel costs	170.00	0.00	107.51	0.00	18.00			18.00	125.51	73.83%
4205	Staff Training	400.00	145.00	138.00	0.00		260.00		260.00	543.00	135.75%
TOTAL Staff Costs		24,571.00	6,793.49	6,996.16	6,784.37	2,279.46	2,521.46	0.00	4,800.92	25,374.94	103.27%
Administration & Finance											
4301	Audit Fees	600.00	295.00	0.00	300.00				0.00	595.00	99.17%
4302	Bank charges	20.00	3.75	2.25	2.25				0.00	8.25	41.25%
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	36.86%
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				0.00	35.00	100.00%
4309	Subscriptions	500.00	382.16	28.00	157.00				0.00	567.16	113.43%
4310	Village Hall Hire	400.00	90.00	67.50	67.50	22.50	22.50	22.50	67.50	292.50	73.13%
TOTAL Administration & Finance		3,260.00	1,939.56	364.90	561.75	22.50	22.50	22.50	67.50	2,933.71	89.99%
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	881.38	176.00			176.00	2,593.38	78.11%
TOTAL Cemetery		3,460.00	140.36	1,536.00	881.38	176.00	0.00	0.00	176.00	2,733.74	79.01%
Community Services											
4502	Allotment	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00				0.00	100.00	see receipts
4504	Christmas Tree & Lights	200.00	0.00	0.00	451.73				0.00	451.73	225.87%
4508	Neighbourhood Plan	2,000.00	308.35	133.10	533.10	50.00	88.10	275.30	413.40	1,387.95	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	1,084.83	50.00	88.10	275.30	413.40	1,980.17	90.01%

Nether Stowey Parish Council

Account Code	Account	Budget 2016/17	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Fourth quarter	Total spent to date	
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	21.00			21.00	141.90	see reserve
TOTAL CANS		0.00	1,853.65	90.00	120.90	21.00	0.00	0.00	21.00	2,085.55	**
Village Maintenance											
4601	A39 Verge	768.00	0.00	416.00	208.00				0.00	624.00	81.25%
4602	Clock Tower Maintenance	300.00	0.00	0.00	8.10				0.00	8.10	2.70%
4603	Clock Tower Electricity	420.00	95.93	95.24	97.33	2.93	12.00	12.00	26.93	315.43	75.10%
4604	General Maintenance	500.00	3.42	4.56	40.20	2,303.00	132.43		2,435.43	2,483.61	496.72%
4605	Old Gaol + The Cross	575.00	240.50	79.08	74.75				0.00	394.33	68.58%
4606	Palmers Path	600.00	32.50	215.75	119.50	48.00			48.00	415.75	69.29%
4607	Public Seating	0.00	174.81	82.87	-325.29				0.00	-67.61	**
4609	Dog Bins	1,500.00	348.40	348.40	371.80				0.00	1,068.60	71.24%
4610	Coleridge Road	256.00	0.00	128.00	32.00				0.00	160.00	62.50%
4611	Millennium Wood	0.00	0.00	0.00	48.00				0.00	48.00	**
4612	Plot 173	200.00	0.00	424.00	-438.00				0.00	-14.00	-7.00%
4613	Mill Lane/Lime Street maint	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	236.39	2,353.93	144.43	12.00	2,510.36	5,452.46	98.79%
Castle Street Toilets											
4701	Castle St Toilets Cleaning	2,500.00	0.00	965.47	795.00	530.00			530.00	2,290.47	91.62%
4702	Castle St Toilets Electricity	400.00	48.00	18.00	3.00	-78.58	17.00	17.00	-44.58	24.42	6.11%
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	200.00	0.00	16.00	8.15				0.00	24.15	12.08%
4705	Castle St Water/Sewerage	500.00	179.83	0.00	165.25				0.00	345.08	69.02%
4706	Castle St Car Park maint	450.00	42.25	171.75	254.05	96.00			96.00	564.05	125.34%
TOTAL Castle Street Toilets		4,650.00	862.98	1,171.22	1,225.45	547.42	17.00	17.00	581.42	3,841.07	82.60%

Account Code	Account	Budget 2016/17	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Fourth quarter	Total spent to date	
Grants											
4801	Miscellaneous Grants	1,200.00	0.00	0.00	850.00				0.00	850.00	70.83%
4803	Playing Field	1,800.00	0.00	0.00	2,776.00				0.00	2,776.00	100.00%
4804	Transport	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00				0.00	200.00	**
4805	Village Hall Maint Grant	1,800.00	0.00	0.00	2,147.26				0.00	2,147.26	100.00%
	TOTAL Grants	4,800.00	0.00	200.00	5,773.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,973.26	97.55%
Capital Expenditure											
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	0.00	4,825.00	**
VAT Account											
515	VAT Paid	0.00	997.62	721.55	343.39	12.42	31.46	11.26	55.14	2,117.70	**
Total Expenditure A/cs For Year		52,925.00	17,984.34	16,973.28	18,157.83	5,667.93	3,881.56	394.40	9,943.89	63,059.34	116.24%
Income		52,925.00	26,374.58	27,218.62	2,550.82	1,029.24	624.60	88.24	1,742.08	57,886.10	109.37%
Balance expenditure-income		0.00	-8,390.24	-10,245.34	15,607.01	4,638.69	3,256.96	306.16	8,201.81	5,173.24	= CYF