

MINUTES OF NETHER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 8 OCTOBER 2018 AT 7.00pm
IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Parish Councillors John Roberts (Chairman)
 Colin Falla
 Kevin Ferriday
 Margaret Hogg
 Andrew Jeanes (from min 5252)
 Pat Pardoe
 Chris Pearson (from min 5249)
 Malcolm Reid
 Barbara Rich

In Attendance: Caro Slaymaker (Parish Clerk)
 Cllr Michael Caswell (Somerset CC and Sedgemoor DC)
 Cllr Julie Pay (Sedgemoor DC)
 Approximately 28 members of the public

Before the meeting started formally the Chairman explained that he would suspend Standing Orders before the Planning items to allow members of the public to speak on that subject and explained the rules for those who to speak.

Public Session

Mrs Mayell advised that she was present on behalf of Nether Stowey Recreation Ground to answer any questions on their grant application. There were no other issues.

5246 Apologies

None. It was noted that Cllr Jeanes would arrive late from an engagement elsewhere.

5247 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Rich declared an interest in the Playing Field/Village Hall as Parish Council Representative. Cllr Reid declared an interest item 8b (Planning application 36/18/00014) as a neighbour.

5248 Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

5249 Co-option of a new Member

Mr Chris Pearson was duly co-opted to the Parish Council. He signed the Declaration of Acceptance and joined the meeting.

5250 County and District Council Liaison

Cllr Pay had attended a meeting concerning the new 30-year Transport Strategy. She would advise on this at a future meeting.

Cllr Caswell reminded that the Local Plan Consultation would close shortly. He had received some comment that the pre-Inspection draft was better.

The District Council still had some funding available for grants for Village Halls on a match-funding basis up to £10,000.

The County Council was engaged in trying to save money everywhere, however it was not true that SCC was “virtually bankrupt”. He hoped that the “end of austerity” would ease the situation.

5251 Grant Application

It was **agreed** to award a grant to Nether Stowey Recreation Ground amounting to £1,427 (proposed Cllr Ferriday, seconded Cllr Reid)

5252 Local Plan Consultation

It was agreed to make no further comment.

5253 Planning Applications

Standing Orders were suspended to allow members of the public to speak in favour and against the applications, after which Standing Orders were resumed.

The following applications were considered:

- a) Application Ref: 36/18/000011 – Land To The NE of, Butchers Lane, Nether Stowey
 Proposal: Erection of dwelling with car parking and turning area
 Response agreed: *Objection: (text appended below)*

All but seven members of the public left after this item

- b) Application Ref: 36/18/00014 – Milburn, Jacksons Lane, Nether Stowey
 Proposal: Proposal: Outline application with some matters reserved, for the erection of a dwelling and formation of access and parking.
 Response agreed: *Objection: (text appended below)*
- c) Application Ref: 36/18/00018 – Poole Retreat, Tanyard, Nether Stowey
 Proposal: 1 No. Weeping Willow reduce by approx 1.5m
 Response agreed: *No objection*
- d) Application Ref: 36/18/00019 – 42 Castle Street, Nether Stowey
 Proposal: Reduce 1 No. Ash by 30% and remove 1 No. Mimosa
 Response agreed: *No objection*
- e) Application Ref: 36/18/00019 – 44 Castle Street, Nether Stowey
 Proposal: Remove 1 No. white poplar
 Response agreed: *No objection*
- f) Application Ref: 36/18/00023 – 53 Castle Street, Nether Stowey
 Proposal: Installation of lift and en-suite shower room
 Response agreed: *No objection*

5254 Budget Report

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

5255 Expenditure

Expenditure incurred since the Parish Council meeting of 10 September:

Date	Payee Name	Cheque	Amount	Transaction Details
14 Sept	GWB Services	122028	785.00	Village Maintenance Contract
19 Sept	Office Payroll	122029 -32	2,454.28	Office Payroll September 2018
21 Sept	Sedgemoor DC	DCR	418.08	Bins service (Oct to March)
25 Sept	Post Office	250918	13.92	Second class stamps
1 Oct	EDF Energy	DDR	18.00	Public Toilets Electricity
1 Oct	E Martin Computer Services	DDR	28.34	Office Website Maintenance Contract
2 Oct	NS Village Hall	122033	22.50	Hire of club room 10 September 2018

4 Oct	EDF Energy	DDR	7.00	Clock Tower Electricity
04 Oct	Santander	DDR	00.30	Interest charged on A/C 3
08 Oct	BT Business	DDR	53.35	Office Telephone & Broadband charges
TOTAL			£3,800.77	

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

5256 Bank Reconciliation

The bank statement had not arrived. Cllr Falla would carry out the bank and voucher check later in the week. *Afternote: he duly did so on 10 October and was satisfied that all was in order.*

5257 Highways

The Parish Council recorded their thanks to SCC Highways for dealing with a tree that had broken on Palmers Path.

5258 Reports

Chairman's Report:

Clock Tower: He had noticed that the paintwork at the upper levels of the tower was in need of work. He suggested that when replacement lights were agreed the Parish Council could arrange scaffolding for the upper levels to be repainted, the ropelights removed and the new lighting installed. The Clerk continued to try to find suppliers of suitable alternatives at an affordable price. Blachère had suggested an alternative, improved form of ropelight, but, apart from the cost, it would mean making further holes in the stonework. There was general agreement that this would be a good way forward.

Clerk's Report:

External Audit: It was required to be completed by 30 September, but the Clerk had so far only received an interim report. No reason had been given for the delay and there had been no correspondence at any point since the Annual Return had been submitted in June.

5259 Parish Council Representatives on outside bodies

Neighbourhood Plan: (Cllr Ferriday): The Group would shortly be submitting aims and policy to Sedgemoor. The next meeting was on 15 October.

Playing Field and Village Hall: (Cllr Rich) There was yet more paperwork to be finalised before the completion of the the merger. Kevin Hellier had been awarded "Volunteer of the Year" by the Somerset Playing Fields Association. As reported previously, the Village Hall is struggling financially. The decision to cancel the pantomime this year and the departure of Stowey Gardeners (but not the WI as reported previously) were significant losses to the Hall's income.

Footpaths: (Cllr Falla) Three improvements to report: a new kissing gate to replace the stile on the path near Highbeer Close. The steps and stile had been repaired on the Mount.

Hinkley Point: (Cllr Reid) the next meeting was on 20 October.

Quantock Cluster: (Cllr Reid) the next meeting was on 9 October

Active Living: Stowey Walking had provided an annual report which was interesting and would be available on the Parish Council website shortly.

5260 Forthcoming meetings and events

Thurs 25 Oct	HPC Community Fund drop-in day	Cannington VH	10am-4pm
Thurs 25 Oct	Community Resilience Day	Sedgemoor Auction Centre	10am-4pm ?
Fri 26 Oct	"Building homes for the Future"	McMillan Theatre	10am KF

Sedgemoor Housing conference

Fri 26 Oct	Hinkley Point SSG	Hill House	10am	MR
Sun 11 Nov	Armistice Day Service + Lunch	The Cross	10.30am	public event

Neighbourhood Planning

Mon 15 October	Neighbourhood Planning Group	Parish Office	7pm	KF, MC, CS
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5245 Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 12 November at 7 pm at Nether Stowey Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Planning Application Responses

Application Ref: 36/18/000011 – Land To The NE of, Butchers Lane, Nether Stowey

Proposal: Erection of dwelling with car parking and turning area

Response agreed: *Objection:*

- 1. The application site is located outside the Nether Stowey development boundary as defined by the adopted Core Strategy and latest emerging Local Plan.*
- 2. The proposed development lies adjacent to the scheduled monument of Stowey Castle, the site of St Michael's Chapel and a medieval kiln site (National Number. 1019421). The historic value of these sites is more expertly expressed by other representations made in connection with this application, with which the Parish Council accord. The Parish Council does not believe the development will make a positive contribution to the setting of the heritage asset and is therefore contrary to Policy D17. It would also remove further the separation of the castle from the village, cause significant harm to the setting and therefore the significance of the castle.*
- 3. The site lies within an Area of High Archaeological Potential as defined by saved policy HE9 from the Local Plan included within the adopted Core Strategy and there is therefore a credible expectation that, if properly excavated, the investigation may well yield artefacts of historic value. The Parish Council notes that, despite the known archaeological sensitivity of the area, the applicant has apparently no details of any study or assessment carried out, The impact of the development cannot be fully determined and as a result is contrary to Policies D17 and saved policy HE9 of the Sedgemoor District Core Strategy (Policies S27 and 28 in the emerging new Local Plan)*
- 4. The development will have a detrimental impact on the amenity of nearby residents, particularly those immediately below the proposed development contrary to Policy D16 of the Core Strategy. Concerns are recognised regarding loss of privacy to their rear gardens, and regarding overlooking and visual impact in view of the different levels.*
- 5. The Parish Council has concerns regarding the management of surface water runoff. Given the increased amount of impermeable surfaces on the site as proposed, the Council is concerned that there would be an increased risk of flooding to the gardens in the properties immediately below the proposed development site affecting their enjoyment of their properties*
- 6. It is assumed that the reference to existing mains drainage in Horsey Lane in Bridgwater is erroneous. Although it is understood that on-site treatment and storage is envisaged no detail has been provided to indicate what this would be nor where the treated waste would eventually go. The Parish Council is concerned that this will increase further the risk of flooding to the gardens in the properties below*

Application Ref: 36/18/00014 – Milburn, Jacksons Lane, Nether Stowey

Proposal: Proposal: Outline application with some matters reserved, for the erection of a dwelling and formation of access and parking.

Response agreed: *Objection:*

- 1. Overbearing: The Parish Council considers that even a single storey building at the current ground-levels would be overbearing/visually dominant. This could be overcome if the building was set at a lower level similar to that agreed at the neighbouring site at Quantock Close (application ref 36/16/00027).*
- 2. Highways Safety – the Parish Council is concerned that the entry/exit to the site is too close to the junction with Jacksons Lane and blind bend on to a stretch of lane with no pedestrian footway. The situation could be mitigated if the entry/exit was moved further along Mill Lane away from that junction.*

Budget Report to 5 October 2018

Income

Account	Budget 2018/19	First quarter	July 2018	Aug 2018	Sept 2018	Second quarter	Oct 2018	Third quarter	Total spent to date	% of budget
1002 Allotment Rental	100.00	0.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
1003 Council Tax Grant	1,214.00	607.00			607.00	607.00		0.00	1,214.00	100.00%
1004 Bank Interest	189.00	0.03	0.01	0.01		0.02		0.00	0.05	0.03%
1006 Cemetery Income	1,300.00	360.00	450.00	40.00	540.00	1,030.00		0.00	1,390.00	106.92%
1012 Printing & Copying receipts	550.00	26.26	14.30	12.37	15.85	42.52	8.55	8.55	77.33	14.06%
1016 Village Trail Booklet Income	10.00	10.00				0.00		0.00	10.00	100.00%
115 VAT Refunds	0.00	0.00	2,219.13			2,219.13		0.00	2,219.13	**
1011 Precept	47,720.00	23,860.00			23,860.00	23,860.00		0.00	47,720.00	100.00%
Subtotal Income For Year	51,083.00	24,863.29	2,683.44	52.38	25,022.85	27,758.67	8.55	8.55	52,630.51	103.03%

Expenditure

Account	Budget 2018/19	First quarter	July 2018	Aug 2018	Sept 2018	Second quarter	Oct 2018	Third quarter	Total spent to date	% of budget
Parish Office										
4101 Office Equipment	100.00	0.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
4102 Parish Council Office Rent	3,100.00	803.33	750.00	7.00	750.00	1,507.00		0.00	2,310.33	74.53%
4103 Postage	75.00	6.00			13.92	13.92		0.00	19.92	26.56%
4104 Stationery	150.00	0.00	7.99	33.25		41.24		0.00	41.24	27.49%
4105 Telephone & Internet	410.00	110.22	48.39	44.67	46.82	139.88	44.46	44.46	294.56	71.84%
4106 Website + IT costs	628.00	70.86	142.62	53.62	23.62	219.86	23.62	23.62	314.34	50.05%
4108 Printing costs	900.00	0.00		304.98		304.98		0.00	304.98	33.89%
TOTAL Parish Office	5,363.00	990.41	949.00	443.52	834.36	2,226.88	68.08	68.08	3,285.37	61.26%
Staff Costs										
4201 Salaries	29,137.00	7,296.64	2,430.56	2,430.55	2,430.55	7,291.66		0.00	14,588.30	50.07%
4204 Staff travel and expenses	80.00	14.85			23.73	23.73		0.00	38.58	48.23%
4205 Staff Training	45.00	0.00	20.00			20.00		0.00	20.00	44.44%
TOTAL Staff Costs	29,262.00	7,311.49	2,450.56	2,430.55	2,454.28	7,335.39	0.00	0.00	14,646.88	50.05%

Account		Budget 2018/19	First quarter	July 2018	Aug 2018	Sept 2018	Second quarter	Oct 2018	Third quarter	Total spent to date	% of budget
Administration & Finance											
4301	Audit Fees	625.00	325.00				0.00		0.00	325.00	52.00%
4302	Bank charges	10.00	1.20				0.00	0.30	0.30	1.50	15.00%
4303	Chairman's Honorarium	250.00	250.00				0.00		0.00	250.00	100.00%
4304	Councillors' Expenses	0.00	28.20				0.00		0.00	28.20	**
4305	Councillors' Training	0.00	0.00	25.00			25.00		0.00	25.00	**
4307	Insurance	1,215.00	1,167.92				0.00		0.00	1,167.92	96.13%
4308	Statutory Fees	35.00	0.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
4309	Subscriptions	555.00	10.00				0.00		0.00	10.00	1.80%
4310	Village Hall Hire	329.00	67.50	22.50	22.50		45.00	22.50	22.50	135.00	41.03%
	TOTAL Admin & Finance	3,019.00	1,849.82	47.50	22.50	0.00	70.00	22.80	22.80	1,942.62	64.35%
Cemetery											
4402	Cemetery Rates	155.00	166.45				0.00		0.00	166.45	107.39%
4403	Maintenance	3,266.00	850.00	527.00	119.00	357.00	1,003.00		0.00	1,853.00	56.74%
	TOTAL Cemetery	3,421.00	1,016.45	527.00	119.00	357.00	1,003.00	0.00	0.00	2,019.45	59.03%
Community Services											
4501	Christmas Tree & Lights	350.00	0.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
4502	Allotment	100.00	0.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
	TOTAL Community Services	450.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Neighbourhood Plan											
4520	Neighbourhood Plan	0.00	0.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	**
4521	Neighbourhood Plan Grant	0.00	967.41				0.00		0.00	967.41	**
	TOTAL Neighbourhood Plan	0.00	967.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	967.41	**
Village Maintenance											
4601	A39 Verge	700.00	272.00	68.00		136.00	204.00		0.00	476.00	68.00%
4602	Clock Tower Maintenance	275.00	0.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
4603	Clock Tower Electricity	390.00	82.95	7.00	7.00	7.00	21.00	7.00	7.00	110.95	28.45%
4604	General Maintenance	350.00	31.86	1.60			1.60		0.00	33.46	9.56%
4605	Old Gaol + The Cross	250.00	0.00	32.25			32.25		0.00	32.25	12.90%
4606	Palmer's Path	455.00	51.00	55.75		17.00	72.75		0.00	123.75	27.20%
4607	Public seating	100.00	0.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
4609	Dog Bins	1,470.00	348.40	180.70		348.40	529.10		0.00	877.50	59.69%

Nether Stowey Parish Council

Account	Budget 2018/19	First quarter	July 2018	Aug 2018	Sept 2018	Second quarter	Oct 2018	Third quarter	Total spent to date	% of budget
Village Maintenance (continued)										
4610 Coleridge Road	150.00	59.50	34.00			34.00		0.00	93.50	62.33%
4613 Mill Lane/Lime St maintenance	200.00	8.50	68.00			68.00		0.00	76.50	38.25%
4612 Plot 173	175.00	0.00		340.00		340.00		0.00	340.00	194.29%
4613 Mill Ln/Lime St maintenance	200.00	8.50	68.00			68.00		0.00	76.50	38.25%
TOTAL Village Maintenance	4,630.00	854.21	447.30	363.04	508.40	1,318.74	7.00	7.00	2,179.95	47.08%
Castle Street Toilets and Car Park										
4701 Castle St Toilets Cleaning	3,465.00	553.00	275.00	275.00	275.00	825.00		0.00	1,378.00	39.77%
4702 Castle St Toilets Electricity	250.00	48.00	60.61	10.00	18.00	88.61	18.00	18.00	154.61	61.84%
4703 Castle St Rates	650.00	703.10				0.00		0.00	703.10	108.17%
4704 Castle St Toilets Maintenance	100.00	0.00		17.00		17.00		0.00	17.00	17.00%
4705 Castle St Toilets Water	440.00	196.25				0.00		0.00	196.25	44.60%
4706 Castle St Car Park maintenance	370.00	51.00	56.00			56.00		0.00	107.00	28.92%
4709 Castle St miscellaneous	0.00	232.18				0.00		0.00	232.18	**
TOTAL Castle Street Toilets	5,275.00	1,783.53	391.61	302.00	293.00	986.61	18.00	18.00	2,788.14	52.86%
Grants										
4801 Miscellaneous Grants	3,726.67	0.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
4803 Playing Field	373.33	373.33				0.00		0.00	373.33	20.74%
4805 Village Hall	0.00	0.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00%
TOTAL Grants	4,100.00	373.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	373.33	9.11%
Capital Expenditure										
TOTAL Capital Expenditure	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**
VAT Account										
515 VAT Paid	0.00	269.69	64.91	44.18	83.76	192.85	17.00	17.00	479.54	**
Total Expenditure	55,520.00	15,416.34	4,877.88	3,724.79	4,530.80	13,133.47	132.88	132.88	28,682.69	51.66%
Total Income	51,083.00	24,863.29	2,683.44	52.38	25,022.85	27,758.67	8.55	8.55	52,630.51	103.03%
Balance expenditure-income	4,437.00	-9,446.95	2,194.44	3,672.41	-20,492.05	-14,625.20	124.33	124.33	-23,947.82	

Bank:	Current a/c	31,421.40
	Deposit a/c	29,084.57
	A/c no 3	87.23
	Total	60,593.20

Balance:	as at 1 Apr	36,641.99
	Plus: income	52,630.51
	Less: payments	28,679.30
	Total	60,593.20