

**MINUTES OF NETHER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 16 FEBRUARY 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  
John Roberts  
Teresa Youe

**In attendance:** District Councillor David Joslin  
Parish Council Clerk Ainslie Ensor  
Chairman of CANS Mary Roberts  
1 Parishioner

**3656 Public Session**

The Chairman reported that efforts to establish an expanded Playing Field Management Committee were proceeding well. Cllr Pardoe volunteered to serve on the Management Committee. There would be a meeting with County Council officers regarding The Cross on Wednesday 18 February 2009. There was a meeting of the Quantock Cluster Parishes on 3<sup>rd</sup> February when the Parishes supported the Nether Stowey proposal for increased liaison and revisions to the format of the Cluster meetings.

**3657 Apologies**

Apologies were received from District / County Cllr Edney and District Cllr Dyer.

**3658 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Cllr Youe stated that she wished her opposition to the decision made under minute 3634 to be recorded and Cllr Parsons stated that she wished her comments, made at the 12 January meeting, regarding the need to cut back on expenditure recorded. Subject to the foregoing the minutes for the meetings held on 8 December 2008, 15 December 2008 and 12 January 2009 were **approved** and signed by the Chairman.

**3659 Affordable Housing**

Further to the Housing Needs Survey prepared by the Community Council, which was presented to the Council on 12 January it was **agreed** that Housing Development Group be formed to promote further affordable housing in the village, Cllrs Margaret Hogg and Carol Parsons volunteered to serve on the Group. Further volunteers would be sought via CANS and an item in the next Quantock Messenger. It was also **agreed** that steps be taken to assess tenants' experiences of the affordable houses in Highbeer Close.

**3660 Finance**

Expenditure incurred since the Parish Council meeting of 12 January 2009

Payee	Amount	Details
KDR Electrical Services	255.16	Toilets Mtce (hand dryers)
Nether Stowey Village Hall	38.00	Playing Filed Mtg 29/1 Car Scheme Mtg 19/1
Clarity Copiers (Avon) Ltd	280.02	Copy Charges
Chanin & Thomas	166.66	Office Rent February
G Bickers	598.00	Playing Field MTCE £108 Cemetery Mtce £96 Village Mtce £228 Toilets Cleaning £166
Opal	31.15	Office Telephone
A Ensor	54.68	Stationery £12.99 Office Keys £10 Internet £29.99 Parking £1.70
HM Revenue & Customs	191.80	PAYE/NI
J Falla	526.40	Salary Feb
Cancelled		
A Ensor	741.37	Salary Feb
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,883.24</b>	

The above expenditure was approved.

**3661 Highways**

The following items were noted:

- There would be a meeting at 10am on 18 February on The Cross to discuss details of forthcoming maintenance works with officers from the County Council
- Junction of Mill Lane and Lime Street, bollard indicating water point is loose
- Following the recent cold weather a number of pot holes have appeared in roads around the village. Clerk to write to Highways to ascertain plans for repairs.
- There was considerable smokers mess outside the public houses, the Chairman agreed to speak to the licensees.
- Letter of thanks to be sent to Rob Vaughan for clearing snow round the village with his tractor
- The recent closure of the A39 due to traffic accident led to considerable congestion on the minor roads between Nether Stowey and Bridgwater. This matter was being raised at the next Cluster meeting as it affected several parishes.

**3662 Liaison**

Cllr Joslin reported that the District council would be setting its budget for 2009/10 on 18 February and would be endeavouring to minimise any increase in Council Tax, members of the public were welcome to attend the meeting.

**3663 Reports**

Quantock Commoners Cllr Parsons reported that she was unable to attend the last meeting.

Footpaths The Clerk reported that Ms Woolcock, the Parish Rights of Way Liaison Officer had completed an inspection of the footpaths in the Parish. There are only a couple of problems identified and she would be providing details to the Parish Office shortly.

Village Hall Cllr Corbett reported that a review of the Hall's insurance had recently been completed and reminded everyone that equipment owned by user groups was not covered by the Village Hall's insurance.

Western Somerset LARC Cllr Greig reported that there was considerable bureaucratic work to get the project started and that it was hoped to get the contracts between the County Council and SWRDA in place shortly to enable the release of funds, it was expected that the majority of funds would be committed in years 2 and 3 of the project. The principal objective was to work towards a low carbon economy.

Community Pavilion Project Cllr Rich reported that it was hoped to commence the project, with a new multi use games area this year. He thanked everyone who had supported the project over the last two years.

Recycling Following general discussion about the lack of recycling facilities in the Parish it was agreed that the Council write to Sedgemoor, Somerset Waste Partnership and the MP.

Oral History Project Cllr Roberts reported that it was proposed that this be established as a permanent CANS project, to record the memories of residents. The Council supported the proposed project and CANS becoming a member of the Oral History Society.

### **3664 Correspondence**

Correspondence received includes:

- SDC – Code of Conduct Training event 6.30pm Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 Bridgwater House (3 hours) by nationally Acknowledged expert
- Mendip & Sedgemoor Community Partnership Funding Advice Evening Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm to 9.30pm Edington Village Hall
- SDC training event for Cllrs 2.00pm Wednesday 25 March 2009 Bridgwater House
- SALC – power of well being for Parishes & Towns – events at Dunster 10.30am 9<sup>th</sup> March, FiveHead 9 March 7.30pm Burnham on Sea 12 March 7.30pm
- Severn Barrage Information Event Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March Locking 7.30pm

### **3665 Forthcoming Meetings and Events**

- Tuesday 24 February PACT Meeting and Quantock Cluster meeting, 7.00pm Otterhampton Village Hall (Chairman, Cllr Greig & Clerk to attend)
- Wednesday 25 February Playing Field Meeting, 7.00pm Portacabin

### **3666 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be in the Village Hall on Monday 9 March 2009 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm