

MINUTES OF NETHER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 18 JANUARY 2010 AT 7.00pm
IN THE VILLAGE HALL

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

In attendance:
 District Councillor David Joslin
 National Trust Stephen Hayes
 National Trust Sophie Radnor
 Parish Clerk Ainslie Ensor
 2 Parishioners

3784 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Roberts (business) Pardoe (another meeting), Parsons (funeral) and Youe (family commitment). The absences were **approved**.
 Apologies were also received from District Cllr Dyer and District /County Cllr Edney who was at another meeting.

3785 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14 December 2009 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3786 Coleridge Cottage

The Council considered the proposed agreement between the Parish Council and the National Trust regarding the garden at Coleridge Cottage, 35 Lime Street, Nether Stowey. The Clerk circulated a letter from Cllr Roberts indicating he supported the proposal. It was agreed that the Parish Council enter into the agreement with the National Trust as drafted subject to the prior confirmation of the membership of the Management Committee and **instructed** the Chairman and Clerk to sign the document on behalf of the Parish Council.

3787 Finance

(i) Budget and Precept 2010 – 2011

The budget of total net expenditure of £36,290 for the year 2010 – 2011 was **approved** and the Parish Council precept of £25,825 was **agreed**. A copy of the approved budget is appended to these minutes.

(ii) Monthly Financial Report

The monthly financial report for December 2009 was noted.

(iii) Expenditure incurred since the Parish Council meeting of 14 December 2009

Payee	Amount	Details
Chanin & Thomas	433.32	Office Rent Dec / Jan + £100 contribution new

		sign
Clarity Copiers (Avon) Ltd	2585.00	New Printer
EDF Energy 1 Limited	29.21	Clock Tower Electricity
EDF Energy Customers plc	22.76	Clock Tower Electricity
Opal	35.10	Office Telephone
St Mary's Church Nether Stowey	200.00	Hire of Hall for Active Living (2009)
Viking Direct	166.95	Stationery
A J Nicholls	768.26	Repairs to clock (£575) Annual Mtce (£193.26)
Npower Ltd	241.99	Toilets electricity
A Ensor	32.68	Internet £29.99 Active Living£2.69
HM Revenue & Customs	186.26	PAYE/NI
J Falla	543.49	January Salary
A Ensor	759.02	January Salary
Total	£6,004.04	

3788 Highways

The following items were noted:

- Salting of road – Highways had informed that reduced stocks and government control of supplies mean that only strategic routes will be salted about 21% of the Somerset road network
- Potholes – following recent cold weather Highways were prioritising pothole repairs but it would take time for all potholes to be repaired.
- Snow clearance in the village – the Clerk reported that Rob Vaughan had cleared snow from the main roads in the village and had volunteered to go to Dunball and collect a supply of road salt and then treated the roads in the centre of the village. The Council recorded its thanks to Mr Vaughan.

3789 Committee Minutes

The following Committee minutes were noted

- Cemetery Committee held on 22 December 2009
- Village Maintenance Committee held on 5 January 2010

copies of which are appended to these minutes.

3790 Reports

Police – the Clerk presented a report from the beat team; unfortunately there had been another spate of burglary's in rural locations in this area. The police ask all residents to be extra vigilant especially if out and about in the evenings and to report to the police any suspicious persons and/or vehicles. Residents were asked to take extra care to ensure that their property, especially outbuildings and sheds are secure. Residents can contact the beat team via the Parish Office.

3791 District / County Liaison

Cllr Joslin reported that the current electoral review of the Sedgemoor District may lead to changes in the Cannington and Quantocks Ward arrangements.

3792 Correspondence

Correspondence received included:

- Sedgemoor Community Support – letter regarding new development worker to assist in grass roots community development – Clerk to contact regarding various groups/projects in the village
- SALC – January newsletter – points of interest new model standing orders and new model financial regulations due to be published shortly. Changes to the Code of Conduct due from 6 May 2010.

3793 Forthcoming Meetings and Events

- Thursday 21 January SDC Quantock Cluster Workshop
Village Hall 7.00pm
- Monday 25 January Beat Surgery in new police pod at library
11am to Noon
- Monday 25th January CANS – 7.00pm Village Hall
- Wednesday 27th January Nuclear consultation - Victory Hall Stogursey
6pm – 8pm

3794 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be in the Village Hall on Monday 8th February 2010 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm

APPROVED BUDGET 2010 - 2011

Account Code	Budget	Projected Balance at 31 March 2009	2010 / 2011 Proposed Budget	
2001	Payroll Costs	2,155.50	19,010.00	Clerk, Asst Clerk Salary & Employers NI, (allows for 1% national pay settlement)
2002	Telephone & Internet		500.00	Telephone & internet services
2004	Office Rent, Electric & maintenance		2,000.00	
2005	Councillors/Clerks Expenses		50.00	
2006	Audit Fees		600.00	Internal auditor £250, external auditors fees £350
2007	Hire of Meetings venue		80.00	
2008	Office Equipment & Mtce		100.00	
2009/9011	Stationery, photocopying, printing		450.00	
2010	Chairman's Allowance		175.00	
2012	Newsletter		405.00	in house printing of newsletters
2013	Postage		140.00	
2015	Statutory Fees		35.00	Data Protection Act 1998 registration
3002	Training		50.00	Seminar fees
3003	Insurance		1,200.00	
3010	Subscriptions		500.00	Community Council , Twinning, SALC, SLCC, Somerset PFA,
3018	Elections	250.00	250.00	election reserve
	Administration Net Expenditure		25,545.00	
1004	Rates		200.00	
1006	Pest Control		50.00	contingency
1008	Cemetery Maintenance (Contractor)		2,400.00	
9003	Fees & Income Rec'd	1,437.89	-2,000.00	increase fees by 10% wef 01.04.2010
	Cemetery Net Expenditure		650.00	
3001.01	Ad Hoc		1,000.00	
3001.02	Seat Mtce & Replacement		450.00	
3001.03	South Lane FP		100.00	
3001.04	A39 Verge		100.00	
3001.05	Palmers Path		450.00	
3001.07	Old Gaol		100.00	
3004	CCTV/ Maintenance		150.00	
3006	Clock Tower Maintenance		250.00	
3008.01	Playing Field (mtce grant)		1,800.00	Maintenance grant to playing field committee
3009	Village Hall		1,200.00	Maintenance grant
	Maintenance Net Expenditure		5,600.00	
3020.01	Castle Street Toilets Rates		985	
3020.02	Castle Street Toilets Power		700	
3020.04	Castle Street Toilets sewerage		135	Toilets closed 1st November to 28th February
3020.05	Castle Street Toilets water		125	
3020.06	Castle Street Toilets cleaning		1400	
3020.07	Castle Street Toilets repairs & mtce		250	
9020	Castle Street Toilets Mtce Grant		-500	grant from SDC
	Castle Street Toilets Net Expenditure		3,095.00	
3005	Clock Tower Electricity		95.00	
3012	Street Lighting Wayleaves		30.00	payable every 5 years
3015/9005	Community Transport		325.00	grant to SCT to provide transport for elderly & infirm
3016	Christmas Tree/Lights	231.15	0.00	
4001	Miscellaneous Grants		400.00	Grants to local voluntary organisations

	Community Services & Special Expenditure Net Expenditure		850.00	
4005	Parish Plan	771.19	0.00	Preparation of Parish Plan as per PC decision of November 2006
	Parish Plan Net Expenditure		0.00	
4008.01/9013	Community Action for Nether Stowey	2,178.40	250.00	
4008.05	Youth Council/Activity	584.18	150.00	
	CANS / Youth Net Expenditure		400.00	
4008.02/9014	Active Living	368.21	150.00	
	Active Living Net Expenditure		150.00	
4006/4007	Nether Stowey Community Pavilion Project	1,685.48	0.00	PC agreed grants of £3000 (Mar 06) & £75(Jul 06)
	Community Pavilion Net Expenditure		0.00	
4011/9018	May Fair 2010	996.09	0.00	
	May Fair 2010 Net Expenditure		0.00	
4030/9030	Oral History Project	420.00	0.00	
	Oral History Net Expenditure		0.00	
	Total Net Expenditure For Year		36,290.00	
	VAT Paid		-2,654.60	
9001	Precept		35,825.00	
	(-)deficit / (+)surplus for year		2,189.60	
	Balances at year end (31st March)	15,734.10	17,923.70	General Reserve £6845
	Precept		35,825.00	increase of £1325 (3.84%) on 2009/10
	Precept Increase on Previous Year (£)		1,325.00	
	Precept Increase on Previous Year (%)		3.84%	inflation for 12 months to November 2009 was 3.5% (all items excluding mortgage interest payments and indirect taxes)
	Tax Base (Band D property)		566.64	
	Precept per Band D property		63.22	equivalent to £1.15 per week
	Increase per Band D property (£)		3.01	equivalent to 6p per week
	Increase per Band D property (%)		5.00%	

NETHER STOWEY CEMETERY – TABLE OF FEES AND CHARGES
(EFFECTIVE FROM 1ST APRIL 2010)

1. PURCHASE OF "EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF BURIAL" IN AN EARTHEN GRAVE

This purchase price does NOT include the cost of interment or the erection of monuments. "Exclusive Right of Burial" may be purchased at the time of interment or at an earlier time if wished.

- a) For the "Exclusive Right of Burial" in an earthen grave 7' x3' **£110**
 - b) For the "Exclusive Right of Burial" of cremated remains in an earthen grave 2' x2' **£44**
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2. COST OF INTERMENT

Regardless of whether "Exclusive Right of Burial" has or has not been granted the following charges will be made for interment.

- a) For the interment in an earthen grave of the body of a still-born child, or of a child whose age at the time of death did not exceed one month **£44**
 - b) For the interment in an earthen grave of the body of any other person **£137.50**
 - c) For the interment of cremated remains in an earthen grave **£55**
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3. MONUMENTS, GRAVESTONES, TABLETS, FUNERARY URNS/VASES

No Monuments, Gravestones, Tablets, Funerary Urns/Vases may be erected or placed on any grave unless the "Exclusive right of Burial" in that grave has been granted. For the right to erect or place on a grave in respect of which "Exclusive Right of Burial" has been granted:

- a) A flat stone not exceeding 6' 8" x 2' 8" and lying flush with or very slightly below the level of the surrounding turf **£66**
 - b) A headstone not exceeding 4' 6" in height **£66**
 - c) A headstone with funerary urn/vase attached or forming an integral part of the said headstone, the whole not exceeding 4' 6" in height **£66**
 - d) A monumental urn or funerary vase not exceeding 15" in height and standing on the earth or on its own base **£27.50**
 - e) A brass type plaque to be placed on the memorial wall for those whose ashes have been scattered elsewhere **£33**
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4. MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS

The charge for the foregoing monuments includes the charge for the first inscription thereon.

The charge for each subsequent inscription **£22**

5. THE FEES FOR BURIALS OF PERSONS NOT RESIDENT IN THE PARISH OF NETHER STOWEY

The foregoing fees, payments and sums will normally be **doubled** in the case of any person who at the time of death was NOT a PARISHIONER or INHABITANT of the Parish of NETHER STOWEY. The fees, payments and sums will normally be doubled in the case of any still-born child, neither of whose parents at the time of birth was a PARISHIONER or INHABITANT of the Parish of NETHER STOWEY.

The doubling of fees, payments and sums may be waived at the discretion of the Burial Authority in the case of PARISHIONERS or INHABITANTS of the Parish of NETHER STOWEY who for reasons of age, ill-health, or infirmity are at the time of their death resident in a nursing home, hospital, or similar institution and who but for this aforesaid age, ill-health or infirmity would have remained as PARISHIONERS or INHABITANTS of the Parish of NETHER STOWEY.

6. FEES TO BE RECEIVED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL IN RESPECT OF SERVICES RENDERED BY MINISTERS OR BY SEXTONS

NIL

7. FEES FOR SEARCHES OF REGISTERS AND FOR COPIES AND EXTRACTS TO BE TAKEN THEREFROM

a) If the search is carried out and extracts are made by the enquirer

£16.50

b) If the search is carried out and extracts are made by the Clerk

£22

c) Each Certified Copy of the Burial Register

£22

8. MAINTENANCE OF PURCHASED GRAVES

The maintenance, by the Parish Council, of purchased graves limited to grass cutting and weeding and specifically excluding the maintenance of any Monuments, Gravestones, Tablets, Funerary Urns/Vases that have been placed on the grave

£27.50 per

annum

Approved: 22nd December 2010 Nether Stowey Parish Council Cemetery Committee

Ainslie Enson
**Clerk to the Parish Council
and Burial Authority**

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE VILLAGE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE
HELD ON TUESDAY 5th JANUARY 2010 AT 11.00am
IN THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE

Present: Parish Councillors Peter Greig (Chairman)
 Rita Corbett
 Tony Rich

In attendance: Parish Council Clerk Ainslie Ensor

VM-0025 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Carol Parsons and Teresa Youe, both due to business commitments. The absence was **approved**.

VM- 0026 Election of Chairman

Peter Greig was **elected** Chairman.

VM-0027 Review of Village Maintenance Works

The Committee reviewed work undertaken.

The following maintenance budget for 2010/11 was **approved** for submission to the Parish Council precept meeting.

Budget Code	Budget Heading	Proposed Budget 2010/11	Comments
3001.00	Recharge Work	Nil	It was noted that occasionally work was carried out for third parties and recharged. When such work is undertaken a £10 administration charge to be added to the actual cost.
3001.01	Ad Hoc Work	£1,000	Contingency for any maintenance works the Parish Council may wish to be undertaken during the year.
3001.02	Seat Maintenance	£450	Routine maintenance of public seats owned by the Parish Council
3001.03	South Lane Footpath	£100	Fenced footpath from South Lane to Hockpitt Farm, Over Stowey. Reduced budget - Falcon Rural Housing to be requested to contribute to the cost of maintenance of footpath adjacent to their houses.
3001.04	A39 Footpath/Verge	£100	For grass cutting round parish council seat at Stogursey Lane junction

3001.05	Palmers Path	£450	Maintenance of grass area round Parish Council seat – not part of the highway
3001.06	Mount Road Verge	Nil	Budget deleted – appeal for voluntary help to maintain this area.
3001.07	Old Gaol	£100	Contingency for maintenance of Parish Council asset.
3001.08	Millennium Wood	Nil	Budget deleted – appeal for voluntary help to maintain area. Note: picnic seats owned by Parish Council and covered by budget code 3001.02
3001.09	Footpaths General	Nil	Budget deleted – any work necessary to be referred to County Council Rights of Way team
3008	Playing Field	£1,800	The Committee noted that the Playing Field Management Committee had succeeded in raising significant funds during 2009 and it was felt that the maintenance agreement should therefore cease and that support should be via a direct grant.

VM-0028 Current Works

The Committee expressed concern at the state of the cobbles outside the Parish Office; the moss made them very slippery when wet. It was **agreed** that these should be cleaned as soon as weather conditions permitted.

VM-0029 Dog Fouling

The ongoing problem of persons allowing their dogs to foul footpaths in the centre of the village was discussed. It was felt that action needed to be taken as previous appeals via the Quantock Messenger had not improved the position. It was **agreed** that

- (i) The Clerk to seek confirmation from Sedgemoor District Council that they would prosecute offenders if the Parish Council provided evidence that an able bodied person allowed their dog to foul and had not remove the faeces.
- (ii) The Clerk to obtain a written proposal from a person willing to obtain the necessary evidence and provide the District Council with necessary statements etc., to enable prosecution of offenders.
- (iii) A report on the cost implications to be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

The meeting closed at 12.25pm