

**MINUTES OF NETHER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 12 MARCH 2012 AT 7.00pm**  
**IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** Parish Councillors John Roberts (Chairman)  
Malcolm Hogg  
Margaret Hogg  
Pat Pardoe  
Teresa Youe  
Robert Booth

**In Attendance:**

District Councillor Julie Pay  
Parish Clerk Ainslie Ensor  
Chair of CANS Mary Roberts  
Sedgemoor District Council Mary Chorley (Affordable Housing Project Officer)  
28 Members of the Public

**4070 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Greig (holiday), Cllr Corbett (family) the absences were **approved**. Apologies were also received from County Cllr Edney and District Cllr Caswell.

**4071 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Booth declared a personal prejudicial interest in Affordable Housing (agenda item 11) in that he lived adjacent to the proposed site.

Cllr Booth left the meeting for the following item.

**4072 Affordable Housing**

Mary Chorley made a report on the Affordable Housing Consultation event held on 25 February, a copy of which is appended to these minutes, and responded to points raised by Cllrs and members of the public.

Cllr Booth rejoined the meeting.

Cllr Pay left the meeting.

**4073 Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 10, 13 and 17 February were **approved** as true records and signed by the Chairman.

**4074 Income and Expenditure Report**

The Clerk presented the Income and Expenditure report for February 2012, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

**4075 Expenditure**

Expenditure incurred since the Finance & Audit Committee meeting of 6 February 2012

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Details</b>
Viking	256.26	Stationery

EdF Energy 1	25.64	Clock tower electricity
Purnells	50.88	Receipt Books
Tony Rich	10.98	Insulation strip for clock tower
Gary Bickers	505.75	Rub down and paint old gaol, cemetery maintenance and removal of rubbish
Nether Stowey Village Hall	85.00	Meetings: EdF, F&A, (CANS) War memorial, PC
Chanin & Thomas	166.67	Office rent March
Payroll Expenses	1,292.32	Salaries
J Roberts	32.38	New inner office door lock & keys
South West One	48.00	Recruitment Advert
Viking Direct	131.38	Shredder
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2605.26</b>	

The above expenditure was **approved** and (any) two of the authorised signatories were **instructed** to sign the relevant cheques.

#### **4076 Laminator**

The purchase of a laminator for the Parish office was **approved**.

#### **4077 Millennium Wood**

The expansion of the Stowey Millennium Wood as proposed in a report submitted by Richard Ince and Ray Osborne a copy of which is appended to these minutes, was **supported**.

#### **4078 The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations**

It was reported that applications had been received from FONSS, CANS and the Playing Field Committee for grants towards Diamond Jubilee events. It was **agreed** that further information be requested from all three applicants such information to be received by the Parish Council by Friday 23 March. The Finance & Audit Committee would consider the applications as soon as possible.

#### **4079 Planning**

The following response was **agreed**:

- (i) Application ref: 36/12/00002/CJA  
Address: Inwood Farm, Nether Stowey  
Proposal: Change of use of farmstead buildings to include a combination of B1, B2, B8, D1, D2, fishing lakes and holidaylet/tourism units; together with revisions to access, car parking (including disabled provisions) and landscaping.  
Applicant: F G Jeanes Ltd  
Response: The Parish Council fully supports this application which will provide welcome employment and economic activity in a manner suitable to the buildings and location.

#### **4080 District and County Council Liaison**

There were no items to report.

**4081 Highways**

There were no items to report.

**4081 Reports**

Friends of Nether Stowey Library – Cllr Youe stated that there would be a Public Meeting on Wednesday 28 March at the Church Centre.

Village Hall – Cllr Pardoe reported that the Management Committee were to appoint a builder to investigate the Club Room, the settings for the heating system were being altered to improve efficiency; the Committee would be organising another Christmas Market

CANS – The Chairman of CANS reported that there were 56 confirmed stalls and a programme of entertainment

Active Living – Cllr Pardoe & Cllr Margaret Hogg reported on the recent meeting which was well attended

**4082 Correspondence**

Correspondence received included:

- Sedgemoor DC – Parish Council vacancy no call for election – it was **agreed** that the vacancy be publicised with a view to co-opting a person at the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council in May

**4083 Forthcoming Meetings & Events**

Thursday 15 March	SALC Area meeting	Nether Stowey Church Centre	7.30 pm
Wednesday 21 March	IPC Preliminary Meeting re Hinkley Point C	Sedgemoor Auction Centre	10.30 am
Monday 2 April	Finance and Audit Committee	Parish Office	7 pm
Monday 16 April	Parish Council Meeting	NS Village Hall	7 pm
Monday 23 April	Annual Parish Meeting	NS Village Hall	7 pm

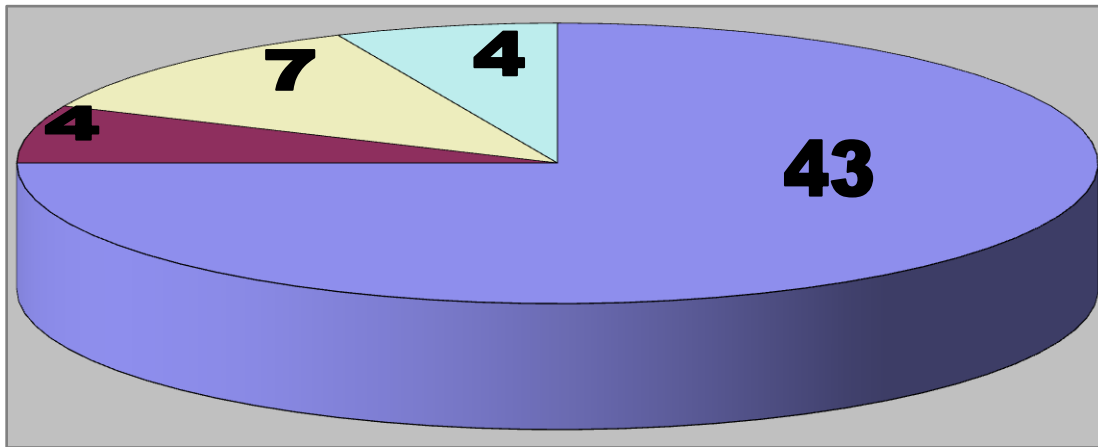
**4084 Date of Next Meeting**

- Monday 16 April 2012 - Village Hall 7.00pm


The meeting closed at 9.02 pm.

# Nether Stowey

## Affordable Housing Consultation



- Yes to AFH & Yes to Stogursey Lane
- Yes to AFH but No To Stogursey Lane
- No to AFH and No to Stogursey Lane
- Undecided - Want More Information

 The Majority of views FOR Affordable Housing: were to keep the young people in the village.

9.3.2012

The Consultation Day on Saturday 25 February 2012 proved to be very successful and was extremely well attended [over 200 people]. It was great to have the support of so many Parish Councillors along with the other stand holders and the ladies providing refreshments which all added to make the event such a success. I would like to express my thanks to them all.

At the event I met numerous young families who had been born and bred in Nether Stowey but when setting up home had been forced to leave the village due to the lack of affordable accommodation.

The majority of views are of the opinion that Affordable Housing is needed in Nether Stowey to keep the young people in the village and to have a balanced community.

The views of those who were against Affordable Housing in Stogursey Lane – mainly were concerns regarding highway safety issues, homes not going to local people and their properties devaluing.

I extended the consultation period for two weeks to allow residents who missed the event time to view the plans on the Sedgemoor web site or at the Parish Council Offices. The consultation period has now ended although I understand the plans will remain on view for some time at the village Library.

A planning application is likely to be submitted in April of which both the Parish Council and Somerset County Highways along with others are statutory consultees. The normal planning regulations apply and members of the public can voice their views through the normal planning channels. The Parish Council will also be consulted with regards to the s106 – local criteria – the way in which the homes will be allocated to local people.

Mary Chorley  
Affordable Housing Project Officer

Email: [mary.chorley@sedgemoor.gov.uk](mailto:mary.chorley@sedgemoor.gov.uk)

Phone: 01278 435556

### Nether Stowey Parish Council Financial Report February 2012

Account Code	Account	Balance at 31.03.2011	Budget 2011/2012	Total 2011/2012	Expenditure April to Sept	Oct-11	Nov-11	Dec-11	Jan-11	Feb-11	Mar-11	Total to 31 Feb 2012	Balance
<b>Parish Office</b>													
10001	Office Equipment	0.00	500.00	500.00	0.00		4.81		96.66	141.86		243.33	256.67
10002	Parish Council Office Rent	0.00	2,750.00	2,750.00	520.00	667.16	166.67	168.45	333.34			1,855.62	894.38
10003	Postage	0.00	150.00	150.00	74.57	-37.84	28.32		82.84			147.89	2.11
10004	Stationery, printing	0.00	950.00	950.00	973.62	-37.41	45.70	-24.07	-106.61	596.47		1,447.70	-497.70
90012	Printing & Copying	0.00	-100.00	-100.00	-109.74	-9.68	-24.02	-51.56	-23.50	-21.79		-240.29	140.29
10005	Telephone & Internet	0.00	550.00	550.00	209.05	27.03	28.04	28.10	28.01	26.93		347.16	202.84
<b>Staff Costs</b>													
20001	Payroll Reserve	2,833.81	400.00	3,233.81	0.00							0.00	3,233.81
20002	Recruitment	0.00	250.00	250.00	0.00				1,062.20	40.00		1,102.20	-852.20
20003	Salaries	0.00	20,400.00	20,400.00	8,947.68	1,491.28	1,491.28	1,491.28	1,491.28	1,304.52		16,217.32	4,182.68
20004	Staff travel and subsistence costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	31.30	1.20		1.20	1.20			34.90	-34.90
20005	Staff Training	0.00	250.00	250.00	75.00							75.00	175.00
<b>Administration &amp; Finance</b>													
30001	Audit Fees	0.00	550.00	550.00	535.00							535.00	15.00
30003	Chairman's Honorarium	0.00	175.00	175.00	175.00							175.00	0.00
30005	Councillors' Training	0.00	150.00	150.00	0.00							0.00	150.00
30006	Elections	750.00	250.00	1,000.00	105.00							105.00	895.00
30007	Insurance	0.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,256.27							1,256.27	-56.27
30008	Statutory Fees	0.00	35.00	35.00	0.00	35.00						35.00	0.00
30009	Subscriptions	0.00	500.00	500.00	0.00			140.00	10.00			150.00	350.00
30010	Venue Hire	0.00	25.00	25.00	152.00	38.00	38.00	38.00	19.00	65.00		350.00	-325.00
90011	Precept	0.00	-47,000.00	-47,000.00	-47,000.00							-47,000.00	0.00
90009	Miscellaneous Grants	3,700.00	0.00	3,700.00	0.00							0.00	3,700.00

Nether Stowey Parish Council

Cemetery												
40002	Cemetery Rates	0.00	170.00	170.00	125.57						125.57	44.43
40003	Maintenance	0.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	1,255.50	486.00	243.00			121.50	2,106.00	294.00
40004	Pest Control	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00						0.00	50.00
90006	Cemetery Income	0.00	-2,100.00	-2,100.00	-1,545.00		-145.00	-25.00	-395.00	-95.00	-2,205.00	105.00
Community Services												
50001	Active Living	922.55	100.00	1,022.55	1,022.55						1,022.55	0.00
50002	Allotment	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00						0.00	100.00
90002	Allotment Rental	0.00	-100.00	-100.00	0.00				-100.00		-100.00	0.00
50003	CANS	2,007.40	0.00	2,007.40	63.31	1.67	12.29	45.07	355.28	20.79	498.41	1,508.99
50004	Christmas Tree & Lights	224.79	0.00	224.79	0.00		362.20		42.50		404.70	-179.91
50005	May Fair 2011/12	1,636.09	0.00	1,636.09	851.54	95.93		0.90			948.37	687.72
90008	May Fair 2011/12 Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	-623.80	-30.00	-270.00	-254.00	-744.00	-130.00	-2,051.80	2,051.80
50006	Oral History	349.11	0.00	349.11	0.00						0.00	349.11
50007	Parish Council Newsletter	0.00	600.00	600.00	0.00						0.00	600.00
50008	Parish Plan	771.19	0.00	771.19	0.00						0.00	771.19
50009	Youth Services	226.66	100.00	326.66	0.00						0.00	326.66
50010	Nether Stowey Village Trail Booklet	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.83	13.65					20.48	-20.48
90016	Village Trail Booklet Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	-25.00	-20.00					-45.00	45.00
90017	War Memorial Project	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				-85.00		-85.00	85.00
Nether Stowey Library												
	Staff Costs	0.00	2,200.00	2,200.00	0.00						0.00	2,200.00
	Rates	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00						0.00	1,000.00
	Heat & Light	0.00	600.00	600.00	0.00						0.00	600.00
	Water	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00						0.00	50.00
	Cleaning & Refuse	0.00	700.00	700.00	0.00						0.00	700.00
51001	Miscellaneous	0.00	250.00	250.00	0.00			24.00	1.01		25.01	224.99
51000	Establishment of Community Organisation	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00		1,000.00				1,000.00	500.00
Village Maintenance												
60001	A39 Verge	0.00	150.00	150.00	53.25	13.50	13.50				80.25	69.75
60002	CCTV	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00						0.00	100.00

Nether Stowey Parish Council

<b>60003</b>	Clock Tower Maintenance & Electricity	0.00	1,650.00	1,650.00	<b>1,280.69</b>		649.42	4,236.41		35.40	<b>6,201.92</b>	<b>-4,551.92</b>	
<b>60004</b>	General Maintenance	0.00	400.00	400.00	<b>0.00</b>						<b>0.00</b>	400.00	
<b>60005</b>	Old Gaol	0.00	50.00	50.00	<b>0.00</b>			7.50	67.50	209.25	<b>284.25</b>	<b>-234.25</b>	
<b>60006</b>	Palmers Path	0.00	300.00	300.00	<b>40.50</b>	121.50	27.00		94.50		<b>283.50</b>	16.50	
<b>60007</b>	Public Seating	0.00	250.00	250.00	<b>0.00</b>						<b>0.00</b>	250.00	
<b>60008</b>	South Lane Footpath	0.00	100.00	100.00	<b>40.00</b>	40.00					<b>80.00</b>	20.00	
<b>60009</b>	Dog Bins	0.00	150.00	150.00	<b>139.18</b>						<b>139.18</b>	10.82	
	A39 Wood	0.00	750.00	750.00	<b>0.00</b>						<b>0.00</b>	750.00	
	Millennium Wood	0.00	300.00	300.00	<b>0.00</b>						<b>0.00</b>	300.00	
<b>Castle Street Toilets</b>													
<b>70001</b>	Castle Street Toilets Cleaning	0.00	2250.00	2250.00	<b>691.00</b>	350.00	350.00		350.00	175.00	<b>1,916.00</b>	334.00	
<b>70002</b>	Castle Street Toilets Power	0.00	600.00	600.00	<b>186.95</b>	162.29			137.45		<b>486.69</b>	113.31	
<b>70003</b>	Castle Street Toilets Rates	0.00	450.00	450.00	<b>0.00</b>						<b>0.00</b>	450.00	
<b>70004</b>	Castle Street Toilets Repairs & Mtce	0.00	250.00	250.00	<b>0.00</b>		27.00		40.50		<b>67.50</b>	182.50	
<b>70005</b>	Castle Street Toilets Sewerage	0.00	275.00	275.00	<b>48.99</b>		109.69				<b>158.68</b>	116.32	
<b>70006</b>	Castle Street Toilets Water	0.00	250.00	250.00	<b>40.69</b>		114.92				<b>155.61</b>	94.39	
<b>Grants</b>													
<b>80001</b>	Miscellaneous Grants	0.00	200.00	200.00	<b>0.00</b>			100.00			<b>100.00</b>	100.00	
<b>80003</b>	Playing Field	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	<b>0.00</b>		1,500.00				<b>1,500.00</b>	0.00	
<b>80004</b>	Transport	0.00	250.00	250.00	<b>0.00</b>						<b>0.00</b>	250.00	
<b>80005</b>	Village Hall	0.00	900.00	900.00	<b>0.00</b>						<b>0.00</b>	900.00	
	General Reserve	9,635.15	0.00	9,635.15	<b>0.00</b>						<b>0.00</b>	9,635.15	
<b>Total Net Expenditure For Year</b>		<b>23,056.75</b>	<b>730.00</b>	<b>23,786.75</b>	<b>-30,402.50</b>	<b>3,409.28</b>	<b>5,772.82</b>	<b>5,926.28</b>	<b>2,759.16</b>	<b>2,489.93</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-10,045.03</b>	33,831.78
<b>90013</b>	VAT Paid	0.00	1,100.00	1,100.00	<b>637.20</b>	13.53	350.83	852.90	273.88	155.96	<b>2,284.30</b>	<b>-1,184.30</b>	
<b>Total Expenditure for Year</b>		<b>23,056.75</b>	<b>1,830.00</b>	<b>24,886.75</b>	<b>-29,765.30</b>	<b>3,422.81</b>	<b>6,123.65</b>	<b>6,779.18</b>	<b>3,033.04</b>	<b>2,645.89</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-7,760.73</b>	<b>32,647.48</b>
	Current Account	22,062.74			<b>-29,765.30</b>	3,422.81	6,123.65	6,779.18	3,033.04	2,645.89	0.00	<b>29,823.47</b>	
	Deposit Account	994.01										<b>994.01</b>	
<b>Total</b>		<b>23,056.75</b>			<b>-29,765.30</b>	<b>3,422.81</b>	<b>6,123.65</b>	<b>6,779.18</b>	<b>3,033.04</b>	<b>2,645.89</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>30,817.48</b>	



Pear Tree Farm,  
Over Stowey,  
Bridgwater,  
Somerset,  
TA51JB

Tel: 01278 734604

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Ms Jean Falla,  
Assistant Parish Clerk,  
Nether Stowey Parish Council

## **STOWEY MILLENIUM WOOD**

As you may know, the Quantock Hills AONB, Quantock Eco and Friends of Quantock have jointly launched a "Wild Places" competition, to encourage people living in and around the Quantocks to put forward proposals for projects of community, wildlife and amenity value and to apply to the competition organisers for possible financial support.

One suggestion is that the Millenium Wood on Stowey Rocks Farm, which was planted in 2001, be extended to include the strip of land between the existing wood and the old Stowey road as well as the strip of rough scrubland between the existing wood and the adjacent New Stowey Farm. The existing wood, which measures 1.26 acres, is maturing nicely, but the wildlife and amenity value would be enhanced if it could be enlarged.

I have discussed this with Richard Ince of Parsonage Farm, Over Stowey (a fellow member of the Quantock Eco Executive Committee) and with the farmer, Richard Plowright, who is supportive of the idea. I have also discussed it in outline terms with Alex Meletiou, SCC Land Agent for County Farms and with Iain Porter, head of the AONB, who will ultimately assess the merits of entries for the Wild Places competition. All have indicated agreement in principle to planting the areas identified. The project should be relatively straightforward, comprising mainly sourcing, planting and protection of around 100 standard trees, all of which would be locally suitable native English species, and a possible realignment of part of the existing fencing to encompass the expanded wood.

As this is the Royal Jubilee year we would like to involve as many people as possible from Nether and Over Stowey in the ground preparation, planting and caring process. In that context, we would welcome the agreement of the Parish Council to what is proposed and would appreciate any thoughts the Council may have on the management of the existing wood and on how best to ensure community involvement in any new project. Perhaps this could item could be added to the agenda for the meeting of the Parish Council scheduled for 13 February?

I am aware that Friends of Quantock plan to offer each Quantock village a "royal" tree to mark Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee. There may be scope for planting such a tree as a "standard" within the extended Millenium Wood.

Roy P Osborne

## Proposed Expansion of the Stowey Millennium Wood

Stowey Rocks Farm; Nether Stowey 2012

Present Site: Stowey Millennium Wood was established in 2001, with trees mostly propagated from seed by pupils of the Nether Stowey Primary School, at Stowey Rocks Farm, owned by Somerset County Council. The site was established in 1999 and use is defined by licence from the County Council. The present site is 0.49 hectares (1.21 acres) and was fenced by volunteers in early 2000. Approximately 800 trees were planted in the 2000/2001 planting season by the primary school pupils and total residents. After planting the trees were protected by 1.2 metre Tubex tree shelters with stakes, most of which have now been removed from the original planting. A picnic table was installed for use by the public in 2001. Access is via public footpath from the old A39.

Funding to support the fencing materials, tree *guards and stakes*, and other miscellaneous expenses was made available through grants from the Forestry Commission, Sedgemoor District Council, Wessex Water, Quantock AONB Service, and donations from local people. The planting survival rate exceeded 90 percent and the present wood is maturing well. Additional trees have seeded naturally on the site and have enhanced the natural biodiversity.

Proposed Expansion: An additional approximately 0.30 hectares (0.76 acres) is available to expand the original Millennium Wood area on the west and north sides. Existing natural regeneration of mostly blackthorn on the north portion would be left to mature naturally. The new area, not counting where the blackthorn is dominant, would accommodate an additional 350 to 400 trees at a 2.5 m by 2.5 m spacing. Planting would take place at a date or dates to be decided in autumn 2012.

Enlarging the wood would further enhance the site in terms of biodiversity, wildlife habitat and general interest, and improve the experience of public visits to the site, and would be part of a national (and international) effort to increase woodland cover for the many benefits inherent in trees and forests, including carbon storage.

### Issues to be addressed:

*Planting:* propose to involve primary school children again and interested members of the general public. Richard Adams, Headmaster of Nether Stowey Primary School, has already confirmed that he would like his pupils to be involved.

*Maintenance:* organise a volunteer team to undertake fence building and maintenance; rubbish removal (including obsolete Tubex tree protection); topping of the site where needed before planting; and periodic strimming to give access to the site, public footpath, and picnic area.

*Budget for Materials and Supplies:* to be prepared (no allocation from N S Parish Council requested or expected)

*Source of financial and other support:* Quantock AONB Service Wild Places Competition and Woodland Trust. The latter would be willing to provide, free of charge, a selection of 420 mixed saplings as part of their Community Woodlands Project, including a "Royal Oak" to commemorate HM The Queen's Golden Jubilee.

### **For further information:**

Richard Ince - 01278 733237

Roy Osborne - 0.1278 734604