

**Minutes of a meeting of the Fivehead Parish Council
held at the Village Hall
Stowey Road Fivehead
on Monday 7th December 2009 at 8pm.**

Present Mr M Cavill (Chairman) Mrs N Cameron Mrs H Clarke Mr R Fielding Mrs M Knox (Clerk)

PUBLIC SESSION

PC Lines & PCSO Unthank attended the Public Session giving feedback on the parking issues in Stowey Road.

Mrs P Price, newsletter editor, advised on how she could develop the newsletter accommodating an extra page and more advertisers. She recommended the advertising charges be increased.

1588. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Balmer, Beacham and Male and Dist. Cllr. S Steele (her road flooded).

1589. MINUTES

The **minutes** of the meeting held on the 2nd November 2009 having been circulated were taken as a true record of what took place and duly signed by the Chairman.

1590. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES AND RAISED BY MEMBERS.

- a) Possible **Land Purchase** adjacent to the Playing Field. MC had spoken to Mr Doggett and Mrs Loveridge. No meeting has yet been held but there will be one. The project seems unlikely to proceed.
- b) Activity at **Sedgmoor Game Farm**. Clerk to pursue via Planning Enforcement.
- c) Activity at **Stillbrook Woodyard**. A Temporary Stop Notice was issued on the evening of Dec. 4th in respect of the works to the top of the site. There are now 15 electricity pick up points installed, 10 on the north of the site. Taps are mounted on posts. There is a largely kerbed road by the west hedge again on the north part of the site which under condition 4 is to remain a paddock. Water has been flooding out of the bottom of the site where a ditch has been filled in. Clerk to write to Enforcement stating villagers are concerned and quite uneasy about the development over and above the granted permission.
- d) **Langford Corner**. Cllr. Clarke reported that it is possible to apply for Voluntary First Registration of the area. First action is to decide what Council wishes to do with the area. Deferred for a full Council.
- e) **Parish Magazine**. Having listened to the opinion of the editor in Public Session it was **resolved** unanimously to increase the advertising charges to £36 for a half page and £18 for a quarter page, to leave the charging to Mrs Price's discretion in respect of Charities, to trial the extra page then consult again.
- f) **Potential flooding** issues on Butchers Hill. GB sent a report of his investigations regarding the filled in ditch on the west side of Butchers Hill. This seems a complex matter to resolve. Clerk to consult Mr & Mrs Whittle who raised the issue and if

appropriate write to the householders as identified by Cllr Balmer.

- g) The **distribution and storage of salt** for use on the Highway as collected by the Chairman. Fivehead holds ten bags which have a small volume. Problems of waste have arisen elsewhere where the salt has been made freely available. Clerk to ask GB if he would be prepared to store half the sacks as he lives near the steepest part of Butchers Hill. MC to hold remainder.
- h) Excessive number of **distracting road signs**. Clerk to write to David Heath MP stating that Councillors feel that the volume of signage on the country's roads cause drivers to switch off completely and asking if he could raise the issue of reducing signage to a more reasonable level.
- i) **Parking on Stowey Road**. The issue appears to have been resolved thanks to the Police and Neighbourhood Watch representative.
- j) **Telephone Kiosk**. To receive a letter / emails from SSDC & BT. Noted.

1591. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED.

- a) From SSDC re **Ethical Standards Self Assessment Survey**, one for each councillor. Distributed to those present. Clerk to distribute remainder.
- b) From SCC re **financial constraints**. Taken in conjunction with item 8 (min 1595).
- c) From Steve Shaw of Local Works re request to write to MP's regarding **Sustainable Communities**. Resolved not to respond.
- d) From Mrs P English re **Flooding** during last winter. Her thanks for Council's help were appreciated and the report put in circulation. The ditch to the west of Somerfield has been well dug out which should help prevent further flooding .
- e) From Mr Fletcher of SCC re **slow bars on the western approach to Mullion Cottage** corner on the A378. These should be installed soon.
- f) From Fivehead **Playing Field MC re financial information for budget**. The PFMC are requesting a grant of £2130.76 which includes £500 for Capital Projects. It was unanimously **resolved**, given the current level of commitment to the MUGA, that it is too soon to give financial commitment to other projects. Clerk to write accordingly stating than a grant of £1635 would be forthcoming in May/June.

1592. CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS. response sought.

NHS Foundation Trust as put forward by South Western Ambulance Service NHS Trust. (In circulation.)

Not returned so unable to comment.

1593. REPORTS.

- d) **Cemetery Sub Committee**. Book still with KM.
- e) **Highways**. Pothole outside Stonehill has become a hazard. It has been reported twice already. A nine inch pipe installed by Highways outside MC's gateway at southern end of Iberry Lane cannot cope with volume of water. Clerk to report both.

- f) **Rights of Way.** South Drove was lost as a bridleway at the Regulation Committee meeting. Volunteers have achieved much during the month.
- g) **David Heath M.P. Surgery** Sat. Dec. 12th 11.15 - 12 noon Ridgeway Hall Langport.
- h) **Police.** The crime stats were received.

1594. PLANNING.

Decisions granted (s.t.c.) 09/03736/FUL Spring Grove, Silver St. Fivehead. The erection of a two storey rear extension to dwelling house. (Subject to slight alteration from original plan.)

1595. TO CONSIDER THE BUDGET FOR 2009-2010

Having considered the notional budget set by the Clerk Council resolved to set the budget at £13,620 (prop. MC sec HC). The Chairman signed the Precept Forms. The figure was reached with regard to letters from the VHMC and the PFMC. (See mins 1585 & 1591f.) The MUGA has now been built. Council will have to provide £4500 in this financial year therefore £1500 is to be precepted in 2010/11 to replenish reserves. Contributing to the MUGA sinking fund is now an ongoing commitment. A SALC advisory note recommends that General Unearmarked reserves should be suitable for working in the trying circumstances likely to arise from “Cost Shunting” from District and County due “capping” of these authorities. Reserves should be held at up to the annual anticipated expenditure. An increase of 5% for general expenditure has been recommended

1596 FINANCE

The financial position of the Council was received.

a) Payments authorised during the previous month:

i) Fivehead Village Hall MC	rent October	£11
ii) M W Pettitt	maint. Sept & 7th Oct.	£517

b) Payments authorised at the meeting:

iii) Mrs M Knox	salary	£208.47
iv) South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau	donation sec.137	£50

c) Income received during the month:

v) NATWEST	int. to 1 st Oct.	£3. 49
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1597. MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING.

- b) **Clerk.** Financial advice from SALC.
- c). **Councillors.** Mr G Clarke has rodded the Cathanger Lane, Rock Road junction drain. Mr Burge to be thanked for his care of the grass triangle at the top of Mile Hill. There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm

Chairman

Dated