

Minutes of a meeting of the Fivehead Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Stowey Road Fivehead on Monday 4th December 2006 at 8pm.

Present Mr M Cavill (Chairman) Mr M Tennant Mr K Summers Dist.. Cllr. S Steele and Mrs M Knox (Clerk)

PUBLIC SESSION

Insp. Neil Pitman did not attend. His apologies had been tendered by Sergeant Andy Marsh, also not available, who had delivered the crime figures to the Clerk.

1178. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr G Balmer (unwell), Mrs N Cameron, Mrs H Clarke and C. Cllr. D Nelson. Mr M Tennant signed the register of interests for item 7b (min 1185b).

1179. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 6th November 2006 having been circulated were taken as a true record of what took place and duly signed by the Chairman with the alteration of “meeting“ to “workshop” in min1177c.

1180. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES AND RAISED BY MEMBERS.

a) Progress report on the Parish Plan and to consider the impact of the report on setting the budget. KS gave a short report on work to date. The PP committee have a working party currently considering which projects have the most support to carry forward. They are not yet in a position to make recommendations. An email to council and documentation on this subject had been received from the data analyst. Council will await a report from the PP committee which will highlight which projects are to be considered for action before debating the matter further. Therefore there is only a notional effect on the budget.

b) Condition of notice board. MC has not yet taken action and requests Clerk to issue reminders.

c) To address concerns over development at Glendale Butchers Hill as reported at November meeting. Letters from and replies to concerned parishioners were read out. (MC had replied during the month.) SS reported on the action she had taken with Social Services. The Clerk had contacted the relevant planner regarding the change of position and destruction of the woodland. SS said the head of the Planning dept. is investigating the procedures re this application. Clerk to write to the planning dept. stating Council’s concerns that this application was not judged on planning grounds. Council questions the lack of sensitivity in handling this central site and would like an explanation as to the manner in which these negotiations have been conducted as they have not been in the public domain and there appears to be a lack of information re this application on the planning website. SS reported that one evening the door to the mobile home was flapping open.

d) The threat to rural Post Offices. MC, NC. SS DN and the Clerk had attended a public meeting in Curry Mallet. Response letters had been received from the DTI and David Heath MP. These were put into circulation. Parishioners had been advised via the magazine to use/support the shop and PO.

e) To consider request from the Village Hall Management Committee for a £100 grant towards the cost of providing vandal proof external lighting for the village hall car cark. SS had fought hard on behalf of the VHMC resulting in an external grant from SSDC. Council **resolved** unanimously to grant £100, which together with £100 from the Parish Plan Fund (as approved by Gerard Tucker), provides the required local backing grant. KS clarified that the Parish Plan had funds for this as the printing of the results booklet had been paid for by SSDC.

f) Friendly Society Banner. To decide whether to authorise restoration/repair as permission has been granted to hang it in the Church. (See min.1152ii).Clerk to write to Mr Page asking for a firm quote and /or ceiling figure. Council **resolved** (prop. MC sec MT) to **authorise** the work if the ceiling figure is under £500.

g) To consider changing the date of the meeting in February. It was resolved to change it to the second Monday being Feb. 12th,

h) To receive the details of the speed surveys taken by Somerset Highways. These showed the average speeds to be well in excess of what was acceptable. A letter from Somerset Highways stated that the police would have to be the authority to take enforcement action.

1182. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED.

a) From Age Concern re request for donation. Unanimously resolved not to donate.

b) From Langport Area Development Trust re information on their work and request for donation.

Unanimously resolved not to donate (donation/grant budget already spent). Letter into circulation.

- c) From Somerset Playing Fields Association re invitation to subscribe (£10 annually). Unanimously resolved not to subscribe as the PFMC does.
- d) From SALC re attendance at area meeting on Dec. 11th at Queen Camel Village Hall. KS & MT would attend.
- e) From St Margaret's Hospice re request for donation. Unanimously resolved not to donate.
- f) From SCC Somerset. Local Authorities Civil Contingencies Unit re Parish Emergency Plans & invitation to join a working group at Hestercombe House on Dec. 8th. 10-13.00. There was nobody available to attend.
- g) From South Somerset Links re Request for donation. Clerk to investigate whether this is the body that funds the surgery bus. Item for next agenda.
- h) From Mr M Drury re misuse of bridleway network by motorcyclists. The letter was read out. It voiced concerns over the safety of legitimate users and stated the Wessex water pipeline was also being used. All councillors had also witnessed motor cyclists using the tracks. The clerk's horse had been badly upset by same. Clerk to contact Paul Attwell of ROW dept. for advice and log concerns with police. She was also to log her own incident and ask Mr Drury to report his sightings to the police. SS advised that all such sightings be logged to enable the police to detect a pattern and take action.

1183. CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS. response sought.

- i) Statement of Community Involvement for SSDC. Resolved not to comment.
- ii) Taunton Town Centre Area Action Plan. This impressive scheme was discussed but no response given.

1184. REPORTS.

- a) Playing Field MT reported. d) Cemetery Sub Committee Clerk had removed two bin bags of non biodegradable rubbish. Item for next agenda. Disposal of cemetery waste. Clerk to check with authorities for advice. HC wanted to know who would check the cemetery during Dec. Matter not resolved. e) Highways Wessex Water need to repair roads at crossing points. MC to speak to site manager. f) Rights of Way. Chicken wire has been requested on stile steps at Silver St. MC would speak to George Montague. g) Clerk She had sent off Council's response to the Planning Enforcement Review as compiled during the month. MC would investigate the request from a parishioner to establish who is responsible for clearing vegetation from the Fivehead stream. Clerk had had an initial exploratory walk.

1185. PLANNING.

- a) applications 06/04193/FUL Land OS8410 Top Road Curry Mallet. Construction of Gabion basket retaining wall. Reprofile land to cover pipe together with associated screen landscape planting. Response - Council are well aware this a retrospective application and therefore have no constructive comments to make.
- b) Correspondence re 06/03893/AGN Stillbrook Farm Fivehead. Proposed access track way. MC explained the background to the letter.

1186. TO SET THE HONARARIUM FOR THE PRODUCTION OF THE NEWSLETTER

It was **resolved** (prop. MC sec. KS) to set the figure at £90. A cheque was raised. Clerk to thank Mrs Price for her hard work.

1187. TO SET THE CEMETERY RATES FOR 2006

It was **resolved** (prop. MC sec. MT) to increase the charges by 7% (rounded up) as no increase had been made since January 2005 (= 3½% per annum) .

1188. TO SET DATE AND TIME FOR THE APM AND CONSIDER A SPEAKER

It was agreed to set the date of the 16th April 2007. A "light hearted" speaker to be sought. Clerk to email councillors and ask them to bring their ideas to the next meeting.

1189. TO CONSIDER THE BUDGET FOR 2007-8

Having considered that notional budget set by the clerk Council resolved to set the budget at £14,200. (prop. MC sec. unanimous). This figure was reached in conjunction with a letter requesting ongoing funding from the VHMC, a percentage increase of 3% had been recommended by SALC and the received advice that the reserve held by Council should be approximately equal to the annual precept. Council felt it prudent to increase the reserves which are currently around £7000 via the precept as an ever increasing burden of financial responsibility is being passed to parishes from the higher tiers of government and the policy is for this to continue.

1190 FINANCE

The financial position of the Council was received.

a) Payments authorised during the previous month		
i) A & M Garden Services	maint. Oct. Nov.	£257
b) Payments to be authorised:		
ii) Mrs M Knox	salary	£160.29
iii) Mrs M Knox	expenses	£3.38
iv) South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau	donation	£50
v) Fivehead Village MC	rent for hall July/Nov.	£49
vi) Fivehead Village Plan	release of funds to cover expenditure	£200
c) Income received during the month		
vii) G Woodland & Sons Ltd	newsletter advert	£30
viii) GP Plumbing	newsletter advert	£15

1191. MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING.

- a) Chairman. Reminded councillors that the webmaster has requested members to provide profiles for the website. This is not obligatory but is common practice.
- b) Clerk. Had received thanks from Somerset Air Ambulance for the donation. She is holding the Sports & Leisure directory which has useful contact numbers.
- c) Councillors. SS has negotiated for planning application 06/03230/cou to go before Area North Committee. KS has seen a job advertisement with SSDC which clearly implies that parish councils will be delivering more local services.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.05pm

Chairman

Dated