

STON EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Summary of Parish Council Meeting 11th January 2011

Five members of the public were present. Sue Emery and Martin Reed explained the traffic implications for Ston Easton of the new Equestrian Centre, which has just been recommended for planning approval by Chewton Mendip PC. Apparently Green Street may suffer congestion as a route to the A37, although it was felt by councillors that much better access was available via the A39. T Killen was unable to comment as he would be involved in the final decision at Mendip DC.

Linda Williams and new Ston Easton Park General Manager Denis Verrier introduced themselves and invited all members of the parish to drinks or coffee. It was hoped that this would help to develop closer relationships and continued support for the local community.

PC Darren Pearson, our new Mendip Rural Beat Manager introduced himself and assured David Watts that a new team dealing with thefts of scrap metal could be vital in stopping the frequent thefts of lead from the church roof. He explained that the front office of Shepton Mallet police station would probably close in June.

Rob Winkworth, now suitably recovered from illness, bravely agreed to move the old Ston Easton notice board to Emborough as soon as possible.

Tom Osborne, after trying hard to adopt the two phone boxes in the parish, with little help from BT, has concluded that we should take no further action.

David Watts is currently seeing architects about repairs to the church roof and is seeking a third quotation for work on the refurbishment of the bus shelter. The British Legion thanked us for our donation of £60 for Remembrance Day wreaths and we should be grateful to Hope Salvidge for all her liaison work.

We set the new precept at £4600, the same amount as in the last three years, as we had no wish to increase the burden on parishioners in these troubled times. Tom Osborne volunteered to collect free salt from Somerset Highways, to be stored at three farms in the parish and Martin Carver agreed to spread it on the roads, if and when it was required. The clerk was instructed to purchase six salt bins for use at strategic points in the parish, these bins to be installed, filled and refilled by Somerset Highways.

Approval for planning permission was noted for proposed tree felling at Hramsa House SE (Mr G Jones) and for alterations and extensions at Farrington Golf and Country Club.

Harvey Siggs announced that Somerset Highways would be concentrating on top dressing and re-surfacing, which he felt was better in the long run than just filling in pot-holes and Tom Killen alerted councillors to the imminent Parish Council elections in May.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 8th March 2011 at 7.30pm at Ston Easton Parish Church. David Kendrick (clerk)