

STON EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council
Fiona Lyons

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AGENDA

For PARISH COUNCIL MEETING to be held at **Ston Easton Village Hall**
Tuesday 13th November 2012 commencing at 7.30pm

1. Apologies and declarations of interest

2. Public participation

3. Minutes of last meeting

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11th September 2012

4. Matters arising

- a. Wessex Water - Manor Farm-Pipe Leak (RW)
- b. Highways issues – response from SCC Highways
- c. Decision following the public enquiry relating to the footpath across the golf course – notification has been received that the Inspector has decided not to confirm the Modification Order
- d. Planning issues at Home Farm, Ston Easton – update from MDC

5. Report from District / County Councillor

6. Planning

- a. 2012/0691 – Grant of permission for access track at the sewage treatment works, Zion Hill, Clapton
- b. 2012/1274 - Manor Farm, Clapton - Barn conversion,
- c. 2012/2289 - The Paddock, Hay Street, Ston Easton - Single story rear extension
- d. 2012/2154 - Elm View, Langley's Lane, Clapton - Lawful development cert
- e. 2012/2117 - Fairfield House, Hay Street, Ston Easton - Extension and replacement garage

7. Financial matters

- a. Request for funding for Ston Easton Village Hall
- b. Return of £133.00 surplus funding from Jubilee celebrations at Chewton Mendip
- c. MDC - Parish precept 2013-2014
- d. Bank accounts balances
- e. Clerk's expenses

8. Correspondence

- a. 2012-2013 Recycling dates
- b. Notes from SALC
- c. Somerset Waste Core Strategy Consultation
- d. FWAG Press Release
- e. SCC – Local Choices and Phase Two of the Somerset Youth Innovation Zone Project
- f. SCC – Community Warden Scheme Proposal
- g. MDC – Rough Sleeper Reporting Line
- h. MDC – Draft Homelessness Strategy
- i. MDC – Parish Council Bulletin

9. Matters for report and items for next meeting

10. Date of next meeting (Tuesday 9 January 2013)

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Item 3

Minutes of PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held at **Clapton Village Hall**
Tuesday 11th September 2012 commencing at 7.30pm

Present:

Tom Osborne (Chairman), Steve Huckle, Tom Killen, Mark Long, Hope Salvidge, David Watts
Harvey Siggs – Somerset County Councillor
Nicky Housley - PCSO
Fiona Lyons - Clerk

1. Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Rob Winkworth had sent his apologies for the meeting

SH declared an interest in item 6b as the applicants are personal friends.

Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

3. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10th July 2012 were approved with no amendments.

4. Matters arising

- a. Emborough notice board - painting and security (D Watts)

This has not yet been completed but the matter is in hand

- b. Highways issues –

The response from SCC Highways was noted but FL was asked to contact them again about the blocked drain on the A37 which is still causing problems with flooding during periods of heavy rain. Also a temporary 40mph sign has been installed following the accidents in July but the Ston Easton name plate has not.

TK reported that MDC have cleared the pavements of weeds in Ston Easton

RW had asked that a pothole left by Wessex water in Hay Street should be reported. DW confirmed that Wessex Water is replacing pipework into a field and there is clear signage to alert road users.

HS asked that the damaged fence over the river at Whitebridge in Langleys Lane should be reported. FL to contact Highways.

TK gave an update on the drains in Green Street. Highways has confirmed that too much water is going into drains including all the surface water from the houses. They are working on a scheme to alleviate the problem.

ML reported that the telephone box in Clapton has been cleaned by BT but not repainted.

5. Report from Police and District / County Councillors

PCSO Nicky Housley gave a report on recent incidents which included a dumper truck stolen on 16th August, cows on road on 18th August and 2 September and an alarm at explosives store, Strap Lane on 8 September. There was a rave at Hollow Marsh which had caused disturbance to local residents and was raided by the police. The policy is that such events are tolerated but there was concern that there are not enough measures in place to protect people living nearby.

HS gave an update on various SCC initiatives including:

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- Community Warden Scheme which offers parishes the opportunity to employ a 'handyman' for grass cutting etc.
- Sprayer project which trains people to clear weeds within their parishes
- Health related initiatives such as the installation of a defibrillator at Chilcompton village hall. SCC is happy to consider requests for any health related projects such as health walks etc.
- Trial schemes are in place at Ashwick and Oakhill whereby the Parish Council have been given handheld units and measuring sticks for potholes

HS reported that a great deal of resurfacing work is going on and SCC is preparing for winter gritting. Parishes will be able to collect 20kg bags of salt from the depot as last year. It was noted that each gritting run costs £10,000 and the budget continues to be challenging.

DW asked what MDC's reaction to relaxation of planning laws had been. HS said that this is still being considered although there is a concern that it will reduce stock of affordable/starter houses.

TK gave an update from MDC including the following:

The Core Services contract is biggest up for renewal and a very competitive tendering process has been undertaken. The contract will be awarded to new company and although the service level will be maintained there will be a cost saving of 20%.

The Legal Services arrangement with West Somerset has been renewed

More letters of praise than complaints have been received in the last quarter.

The Rural Lettings Policy has been introduced and priority will now be given to local applicants A New Homes Bonus has been received from Central Government 30% of which has been allocated to district wide legacy projects. PCs and community groups will be able to apply for funding for such projects.

Neighbourhood Plans are being introduced and Frome and Rode Parish Councils are currently putting their plans through consultation.

Local Council Tax support is changing as central Government funding has been cut by £750,000. Pensioners will continue to benefit but those of working age will be means tested and will have to pay at least 20% of their Council Tax in the future.

6. Planning

- a. 122047/001 - Former explosives store, Underhill Lane, Midsomer Norton BA3 2RX Application for outline planning permission for change of use from Class B1 and B8 and redevelopment to residential dwelling. The general feeling was that the Parish Council had no objections but HS said that some local people are against the application.

TK confirmed that he had considered the information before him at this meeting but had not predetermined the application.

- b. 2012/1620 – Windy Ridge, Clapton, BA3 4ED - Grant of planning permission for triple garage and conversion of existing garage into accommodation
- c. Planning issues at Home Farm, Ston Easton. DW said that MDC Enforcement Officer had visited and made the owners aware of the situation. FL to contact Dave Woodridge to see if any progress has been made

TO advised that another planning application for the conversion of a barn to a residential dwelling at Manor Farm, Clapton had been received since the agenda was published and would potentially

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require a special meeting to discuss. It was noted that TK and TO would need to declare interests.

7. Financial matters

- a. Request for funding for Ston Easton Village Hall
It was agreed that this matter should be deferred to next meeting and Phil Clements Smith asked to attend meeting to confirm what money will be used for.
- b. Payment for use of Clapton and Ston Easton Village Halls
An increase in annual funding from £300 to £325 to cover increase in electricity costs was Proposed by ML, seconded by TK and carried.
TK commented that it is unusual for Parish Councils to support their halls to this extent. SH confirmed that Clapton village hall now has to improve disabled access to the toilets but the Hall Committee will fund this.
- c. Annual Audit update
FL said that the Annual Audit had been completed and the invoice for £204.00 received from Moore Stephens. ML proposed that the invoice be accepted and paid, this was seconded by DW and carried.
- d. Clerk's expenses
Payment of the Clerk's expenses of £53.90 was proposed by DW seconded by ML and agreed.

8. Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were noted:

- a. Mendip District Council Parish Council Information Bulletin
- b. Appointment of external auditors – Grant Thornton UK LLP has been appointed as external auditor for five years from 2012/2013
- c. Somerset Waste Partnership conference
- d. SALC AGM and training dates
- e. Somerset Community Oil Scheme
- f. Thatch Summer Newsletter
- g. Somerset Health and Wellbeing Strategy consultation

9. Matters for report and items for next meeting

- DW had attended the recent public enquiry relating to the footpath across the golf course and had found it very thorough and very interesting. It was noted that the Inspector will make decision by end of this week
- Ston Easton VH – Phil Clements Smith to be asked to attend the next meeting.
- Jim Shuttleworth has been asked to cut back trees as agreed at the July meeting.
- HS to organise the Remembrance Day wreaths.

10. Date of next meeting (Tues November 13th 2012)

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Item 5b

Subject: RE: The Piggeries, Thickthorn Lane, Chilcompton
Date: Thu, 1 Nov 2012 12:19:22 +0000
From: countyroads-mendip@somerset.gov.uk
To: fionajlyons@hotmail.co.uk

Thank you for your email regarding various highway related items.

40 mph

I have asked the area superintendent to check the 40mph sign and to take any necessary action.
(ref 274931)

Bridge

An inspection of Whitebridge has been arranged and any safety defects identified will be actioned as necessary.(ref 274933)

Drainage

It would appear there may be a partial blockage in the system which causes a problem during the unusually heavy storms we have been experiencing.

We are currently waiting for the drainage system to be pressure jetted I have asked the area superintendent to update you as soon as possible.(ref 274932)

With regard to the village name plate the details have been forwarded to the traffic engineer for action .

Should you require any further details please do not hesitate to contact us.

Neil Corp
Assistant Area Highway Manager
Somerset County Council
Highways Group
Mendip Area Office
Wells Road
Glastonbury
Somerset
BA6 9AS Tel:0845 345 9155 Fax:01458 837149

Item 5d

Subject: RE: Planning issues at Home Farm, Ston Easton
Date: Mon, 29 Oct 2012 11:51:33 +0000
From: [MDC Enforcement](#)
To: fionajlyons@hotmail.co.uk

A reminder letter was sent to the landowner on 26th October, referring to previous correspondence which he hadn't responded to. We have asked for the landowner's intentions with regard to the barn in order that the Council can consider its position, giving him 14 days in which to respond.

Household Recycling & Refuse Collections Bank Holiday Day Changes for 2012/13

Christmas and New Year 2012/13

Usual collection day

Monday 24 December 2012
Tuesday 25 December 2012
Wednesday 26 December 2012
Thursday 27 December 2012
Friday 28 December 2012
Monday 31 December 2012
Tuesday 1 January 2013
Wednesday 2 January 2013
Thursday 3 January 2013
Friday 4 January 2013

Revised collection day

No change, usual collections
Thursday 27 December 2012
Friday 28 December 2012
Saturday 29 December 2012
Sunday 30 December 2012
No change, usual collections
Wednesday 2 January 2013
Thursday 3 January 2013
Friday 4 January 2013
Saturday 5 January 2013

No change to subsequent dates, all collections resume on usual days.

Garden waste collections are suspended from Monday 24 December 2012 and resume from Monday 7 January 2013 on usual days.

Revised collection days above also apply to **clinical waste** collections.

In **severe weather**, check our website or local radio for information.

Natural Christmas trees under 6ft can be collected. If you pay for garden waste collections you can put them out on normal garden waste collection days for composting. Otherwise, take to Recycling Centre or put out the tree on your normal refuse collection day between 7 and 18 January 2013 for disposal. Place the tree next to your bin or sack. **Remove all decorations.**

Recycling Centres and Community Recycling Sites

See our website or call Somerset Direct on 0845 345 9188 for recycling site opening times. All sites are closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day, and, this year (2012), will close at 4pm on Monday 24 December and Monday 31 December.

Easter, May and August Bank Holidays 2013

Usual collection day

Good Friday 29 March
Easter Monday 1 April – Friday 5 April

May Day 6 May – Friday 10 May

Spring Bank Holiday 27 May – Fri 31 May

Summer 26 August – 30 August

Revised collection day

Saturday 30 March
All collections one day later, including Friday pick-ups on Saturday 6 April
All collections one day later, including Friday pick-ups on Saturday 11 May
All collections one day later, including Friday pick-ups on Saturday 1 June
All collections one day later, including Friday pick-ups on Saturday 31 August

www.somersetwaste.gov.uk – to subscribe to our newsletter

Somerset Waste Partnership manages waste and recycling services on behalf of Mendip, South Somerset, Sedgemoor and West Somerset District Councils, Taunton Deane Borough Council and Somerset County Council

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Item 8b

NOTES from SALC

1. Council Tax Support Proposals

I set out the current thinking of Government and reported that I will be visiting the Department on 5th November to meet senior officials with the Chief Executive of NALC. Details will follow when Government Policy is clear.

2. Budgets 2013-14– Precept setting

Due to the uncertainty surrounding proposal for “capping” of Parishes and the Support Scheme I strongly recommend that no Precept or Council Tax Rate is finally set until January 2013. The detailed work can be done, discussion had, and “minded to” proposals agreed but the formal Precept should wait until January. This will require a meeting of the Full Council. There is talk of an increase in pay scales of 1% during the next financial year. Your Council may wish to bear this in mind when setting the Budget.

3. **Election of Police and Crime Commissioner** will start soon. Parishes are recommended not to be seen to support any one particular candidate. The Poll will be held on 15th November

4. “Bringing into disrepute” and “respect for others”.

A member raised a recent High Court and Standards Tribunal Case in Wales [R (Calver) v Adjudication Panel for Wales and Public Services Ombudsman for Wales 2012 EWHC1172] in which the “heat of debate” and “level of political debate” were discussed. This arose from the SLCC Clerks’ Forum. The Judgement is of interest as being persuasive but in based on legislation from the Welsh Assembly. The Case is also of interest as the Councillor controlled website on which various statements had been published.

5. Rural Pharmacies

Coleford PC drew members attention and asked for support on to the current Petition regarding Surgery Pharmacies and restriction on supply to Patients the link = www.direct.gov.uk/e-petitions and then in search box “rural dispensing of medicine”.

6. Quality Parishes

The Quality Scheme is now suspended for a full revision.

7. **Next Area Meetings** are scheduled for late November and early December

- North Thursday 29th - Burnham on Sea & Highbridge TC
- East Monday 3rd - Offer to host needed (hire of room & coffee on arrival)
- West Thursday 6th - West Buckland Village Hall
- South Monday 10th - Offer to host needed (hire of room & coffee on arrival)

Peter W. Lacey
SALC

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Item 8c

Somerset Waste Core Strategy

The Somerset Waste Core Strategy (WCS) was submitted to the Secretary of State on 14 March 2012. Hearings sessions on the Strategy were held on 17, 18 and 31 July chaired by the appointed Inspector. Proposed changes to the Strategy were identified that would be needed to make the Strategy one that satisfies certain statutory requirements and is sound. These are termed "main modifications". Somerset County Council has published a schedule of main modifications for consultation (document ref: SD6f) available for download via:

<http://www.somerset.gov.uk/irj/public/services/directory/service?rid=/guid/1007f859-76a1-2e10-94a4-dbe534b91758>

Any written representations received on these main modifications will be passed by the County Council unedited to the Inspector for his consideration. Comments should focus on the main modifications only. Please present any comments with reference to the modification number in the schedule below e.g. MM1, MM2 etc. See the Schedule of Main Modifications (document SD6f) for more information.

The consultation period on main modifications runs from 25 October to **5pm on 06 December 2012**. It is important that you reply with any comments before the consultation ends. Late representations will not be forwarded to the Inspector.

Please email your comments to mineralsandwaste@somerset.gov.uk or send them in writing to Somerset County Council, Minerals and Waste Policy Team, PP C601c County Hall, Taunton, TA1 4DY.

All documents relating to the Waste Core Strategy are available on the Council's website www.somerset.gov.uk/mineralsandwaste. Internet access is available during normal opening hours in all Somerset libraries, and a full set of documentation is available to view at County Hall in Taunton. Please call 0845 345 9188 to speak to the Minerals and Waste Policy team for more details.

Kind regards

Heather Brown

Waste Policy Officer
Somerset County Council,
PP C601C,
County Hall,
Taunton,
TA1 4DY
01823 355518
hjbrown@somerset.gov.uk

PRESS RELEASE
FWAG SouthWest Opens Membership to the Public

The Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) SouthWest is a UK registered charity (No. 1146071) aiming to support, enthuse & inspire farmers and landowners to value the environmental assets on their land & use them to secure sustainable & profitable businesses for the future.

Set up in the 1960's by a group of forward thinking farmers, FWAG has worked across the UK to protect our countryside, wildlife and natural resources. FWAG SouthWest continues to use this experience to influence policy decisions and contribute to research for the benefit of farmland wildlife. The charity also takes an educational role, providing farm days for school children, inspiring them to engage with the natural world and understand where their food comes from.

As a charity FWAG SouthWest relies on the support of its members, until now this has been exclusively farmers and landowners. By extending the membership to the wider community FWAG SouthWest can showcase the regions wildlife and the environment that farming provides.

As a friend of FWAG SouthWest you will be supporting our work promoting sustainable agriculture to farmers and the wider community. You will receive our quarterly newsletter and be invited to Friends events, these will include a guided tour of a farm to see how the needs of wildlife and environmental protection have been successfully integrated into modern, productive farming systems.

To find out more about FWAG SouthWest, our work, projects and how to support us (for as little as £20 per year) visit our website: www.fwagsw.org.uk email: info@fwagsw.org.uk or call: 01823 355427.

Press Contact

Michelle Easton – Membership Development Officer FWAG SouthWest
michelle.easton@fwagsw.org.uk
01823 355427

Somerset County Council Local Choices and Phase Two of the Somerset Youth Innovation Zone Project

Supporting local youth work: engaging parish, town and district councils

Somerset County Council is working in partnership with the Regional Youth Work Unit and Bath & NE Somerset Council on a project to identify and share examples of parish, town and district councils supporting and commissioning youth work.

The overall aim is to help young people have access to good quality, creative and challenging youth work activities and projects, by increasing parish, town and district councils' involvement.

The project will:

- Identify where parish, town and district councils actively support youth provision and youth work, highlight things that help and things that get in the way
- Work with parish, town and district councils to find out what types of support they need from the county council or other sources
- Provide training for staff, elected members and local voluntary sector providers to help them understand each other, and understand the expectations of good youth work provision
- Provide appropriate on-going guidance, support and networking opportunities once the project funding ends

Phase one of the project was a survey of parish and town councils, and phase two explores the survey's findings in more detail through a series of workshop sessions. The workshops will pose four key questions:

1. What helps parish and town councils succeed in developing and supporting work with young people?
2. What gets in the way of parish and town councils developing and supporting work with young people?
3. What could Somerset County Council and other organisations do to enable parish and town councils to develop and support work with young people?
4. Are there particular products/packages/services that could be developed to help?

These workshops will form the youth services-focussed part of the Local Choices events taking place across Somerset during November.

The YIZ project takes place in the context of Somerset County Council's decision to withdraw from direct delivery of youth work by April 2014. There have been significant changes in recent months, with the focus now being on supporting local communities – through voluntary groups and parishes – to develop and maintain their own youth provision.

There are many examples of successful local support for youth provision across Somerset. Dulverton, Wells, Coleford, Martock and Ansford were among the first communities to take responsibility for their youth provision, and others have followed. There are many different routes to success, and examples will be discussed during the workshops.

The workshops will be led by SCC's Youth & Community Service staff, who will follow-up any specific questions.

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Item 8f

Somerset County Council Community Warden Scheme Proposal

Introduction

This document sets out the proposal to initiate Community Warden Schemes in Somerset. This comprises an agreement between local Councils to fund the provision of a person to undertake amenity need of the local community.

Objectives

To engage a local handyman to undertake work on behalf of the scheme partners. Whilst the costs of the contract would be prohibitive for any of the individual partners, by coming together benefits can be achieved for all.

The Community Warden Scheme is expected to provide an enhanced and more responsive level of service than SCC can currently provide which should result in improvement to the environment within the local communities and an increase in the satisfaction of local communities. It is not intended that the functions listed under the Scope of the Work are transferred to the Community Wardens since SCC will still retain responsibility and accountability for its functions. The Community Warden will carry out the functions as an extra service that is prioritised by the local councils. Functions not carried out by the Warden will still be undertaken by the relevant Council where applicable, but at a time based on the prioritization needs of the Council as a whole. The highway will still be the responsibility of the County Council who will continue to carry out its statutory duties.

This scheme does not require the involvement of the relevant District Council, however Parish, Town and City Councils may wish to talk to their district council about the services that the District Council provides in their area and are encouraged to do so.

Scope of the Work

The table below provides examples of work areas which could be covered by the Community Warden Scheme. New work can be undertaken as appropriate and with the full agreement of the Community Warden Scheme Partners.

PARISH COUNCILS	SOMERSET CC
<p>Community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public open spaces• Play areas• Playing fields• Associated fences, styles etc.• Seats (painting & cleaning)• Bus shelter cleaning and minor repairs• Acting as eyes and ears for the community having regard to vulnerable parishioners and anti social behaviour such as noise, car crime etc.• Reporting (This could be reporting to seek clarification or to report something outside the scope of the Warden's duties)	<p>Drainage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grips (cleaning existing)• Outfalls• Easements• Localised ditching• Cleaning gullies/channels• Rodding of pipes <p>Signs (including reflector posts):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cleaning• Painting• Minor repairs <p>Highway Minor Works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Removal of soil/detritus• Pulling/cutting noxious weeds• Cutting of vegetation overhanging the road or pavement (liaising with hedge owner as appropriate)• Removing growth from parapets or fences and minor repairs• Reporting safety defects e.g. pothole etc.• Public rights of way

MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL

Rough Sleeper Reporting Line

Dear Members & Parish Clerks

We are pleased to announce the new Rough Sleeper reporting line which has been recently launched. The Government's No Second Night Out (NSNO) agenda is being rolled out across England and is a key focus for the authorities involved in the launch of the reporting line. It is imperative

Local Authorities and specialist agencies offer advice and assistance to individuals who find the need to sleep rough as early as possible. They often do not have the confidence / skills to enable them to do this themselves and as such the reporting line is an opportunity for Local Authorities to receive information about these individuals to enable early intervention to assist them. The No Second Night Out agenda is aimed at engaging rough sleepers at the earliest opportunity to prevent them having to spend a second night out on the streets.

We would therefore be grateful if you would publicise this service as widely as possible to support the work we are currently undertaking to reduce rough sleeping in the district.

The line is being operated across Avon, Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire authorities to enable members of the public to alert local authorities to those who are sleeping rough in our districts. Rough Sleepers may also self refer into this service. We have attached PDF's of the information card which has and is currently being distributed across the districts in as many locations as possible. We will be forwarding hard copies of these to you over the coming weeks. Copies of the poster are also attached, but will also be sent in hard format to you in the coming weeks.

There is also a website – link below – where further information / mechanisms to report a rough sleeper can be found: www.roughsleeperhelp.co.uk

If you have any queries please feel free to contact either myself or Jai Vick.

Wendy Winter, Strategic Housing Officer

Wendy.winter@mendip.gov.uk

Jai.vick@mendip.gov.uk