

# STON EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council  
*Fiona Lyons*

Chairman  
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## MINUTES

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held at Ston Easton Village Hall on  
Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014 commencing at 7.30pm

### Present:

Tom Osborne, Martin Carver, Steve Huckle, David Watts, Rob Winkworth

### 1. Apologies and declarations of interest

Apologies had been received from Tom Killen, Mark Long, SCCllr Harvey Siggs and Jacky Smith

TO declared an interest in item 7b(i) and MC declared an interest in item 7a(iii)

### 2. Public participation

Ian Stafford, the new Manager of Ston Easton Park introduced himself and offered to host a Parish Council meeting at the hotel. He explained that work will be starting shortly to repair the wall that had recently been damaged by a lorry. It was noted that traffic restrictions will be in place whilst the work is carried out.

### 3. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2014 were agreed with no amendments.

### 4. Matters arising

SH clarified that the amount he had mentioned for cutting back trees in Clapton was only an estimate of what the costs could potentially be rather than a firm quotation. However, he stated that the trees around the war memorial do require sensitive treatment to ensure that that area remains a focal point for the village. He felt strongly that the work should be carried out by a professional tree surgeon.

**Action:** SH to obtain quotes for the work and come back to next meeting.

SH confirmed that he was happy to continue cutting the grass around the war memorial.

### 5. Highways matters

- a. Highway safety on A37 – pavements between Easton Court and the main entrance for Ston Easton Park. Complaints had been received from several residents. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Highways again and ask that this is dealt with as a priority as it is a danger to pedestrians.
- b. Drains in Green Street – DW said that an area of drain is totally blocked at the moment and is causing flooding.
- c. Resurfacing of A37 between Home Farm and the junction with the A39. This work was originally carried out in 2012 and the bad state of the tarmac was reported last year but the problem has not been rectified by the original contractor as promised.
- d. Timetable for cutting of grass verges. It was noted that the verges have been cut but not the hedges which is the responsibility of the landowner. There had been complaints about the grass cutting –which was carried out too fast and consequently was not a good job.
- e. RW reported that there are several potholes along Langleys Lane and the drain across the road outside Langleys cottages is breaking down on rhs.
- f. One resident has asked about the possibility of a mobile speed camera in Ston Easton to address the speeding traffic through the village.
- g. Speed restrictions – no response had been received from Dave Grabham. Clerk to contact again.

**Action:** Clerk to report the issues above to the relevant Highways departments

## Reports from District / County Councillors, Village Agent and PCSO

The Village Agent submitted the following report:

The first taster session for the youth event "Get Active", saw 13 young people between the ages of 10-13 in Ston Easton Village Hall. Table tennis, snooker, skittles and chess were on offer and then youngsters rounded the time off with an impromptu kick about on the field as well as playing boules. A second session is arranged for 17<sup>th</sup> July comprising of an outdoor team event and then table tennis, snooker and board games. We will then assess if we have enough volunteers to set up a rota for a regular event in the autumn. This will mean getting "Rural Youth", a specialist county agency to come and advise us of the correct procedures we will need to put in place for working with young people. The annual fee for this advice is £40. We do not have access to any funds at the moment and wonder if the Parish Council will donate this as a one off payment?

**Action:** Parish Council agrees to fund the £40 payment to Rural Youth

The point raised at the last meeting re pavement between Easton Court and the main entrance to Ston Easton Park has been compounded by a vehicle mounting the pavement and part demolishing the wall. The state of the pavement remains in a very poor condition.

Renovation of the tennis court and play area at Ston Easton Village Hall requires us to know who we need to approach to get permission to start the procedure for fundraising.

It was also suggested that the possibility of Somerset County Council funding should be explored.

**Action:** Clerk to e-mail Cllr Harvey Siggs

## Planning

### a. Applications

- i. 2014/1005/OTS – Former Builders Yard, Ston Easton – Erection of single dwelling  
**No objection**
- ii. 2014/1141/HSE – 70 Green Street, Ston Easton – Vehicular access, demolition of outhouse, formation of drive and parking, build two storey and single storey rear extension as annexe for elderly relative.  
**No objection**
- iii. 2014/0738/VRC – Manor Farm, Clapton – Variation of condition re holiday letting.  
**Application withdrawn**

### b. Approvals/Rejections

- i. 2014/0533/FUL – Whitchurch Farm, Ston Easton - Removal of pond and reinstatement of land to agriculture. **Approved with conditions**
- ii. 2013/2175/TPO – Underhill Wood, Underhill Lane, Ston Easton – Proposed felling of trees.  
**Partial approval.**
- iii. 2013/2317/LBC – Orchard View, Midsomer Norton – Replace timber casement windows with replicated windows and replace all plastic rainwater goods with cast aluminium.  
**Approved**

TO reminded members that the application for the gypsy/traveller site at Old Gore Wood, Emborough was being considered at the MDC Planning Board at Kilver Court on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July. RW is speaking on behalf of the Parish Council

## 6. Financial matters

- a. Funding for Clapton defibrillator – next agenda
- b. Request for donation – Somerset Wildlife Trust – defer to May
- c. Bank Balances – The Clerk reported that, following the receipt of the precept, the balance of the current account was now £7340.91. The Business Reserve account stands at £2626.55.
- d. Clerk's expenses - £37.75 agreed

## 7. Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were noted:

Letter of thanks from Mendip CAB  
Mendip Gypsy and Traveller Count  
Community Council for Somerset Newsletter  
Police Newsletter

**8. Matters for report and items for next meeting**

Funding for Clapton defibrillator.

SH reported that there had recently been issues with refuse and recycling bins not being emptied.

DW reported that the PCC has to pay £6500 pa for one service a month as the vicar covers 3 or 4 parishes, this is based on ability of residents to pay. There are worries that the church may close.

**9. Date of next meeting** (Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014, Clapton Village Hall)