

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF STAPLEGROVE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2017 AT 5PM, STAPLEGROVE VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT:

Parish Councillors: Joan Bird, Michael Clark (in the chair), Alan Debenham, Ian Talbot,
District Councillors: Nick Townsend, Caroline Tucker
Clerk: Helen McInnes

Three members of the public were also in attendance.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Ros Went.

2. Code of Conduct - Declaration of interests

All the Parish Councillors have a personal interest with respect to the North Taunton Development, as does Cllr Tucker.

3. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 21st September 2017

Having been circulated, the minutes were then taken as read and signed as a correct record of proceedings.

4. Police Matters

No Police officers were present and no report had been received.

5. Questions from Members of the public re items not on the agenda

A Parishioner noted that the road drain in front of the Post Office was blocked and obscured by leaves. The Clerk agreed to report this to Somerset County Council's (SCC) Highways Department on-line.

6. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

7. Parking in Showell Park

A Parishioner has been in touch with the Parish Council raising continuing concerns about the level of inconsiderate and illegal parking in Showell Park. Cllr Clark had been to visit the Parishioner, who had canvassed the opinion of other residents. The majority of those canvassed did not want a parking permit scheme, but were in favour of the addition of double yellow lines opposite the junctions. To this end, a meeting had been arranged with Cllr Williams, Cllr Clark, the Parishioner and the Somerset County Council officer responsible for parking. This meeting will take place on Friday 17th November 2017.

It was reported that 22 additional car parking spaces have been made available at the Nuffield Hospital and that there has been an improvement in the parking situation in Showell Park. Cllr Bird reported that at an earlier meeting at the Nuffield Hospital it was stated that the mobile scanner unit was going to be moved to a semi-permanent site which did not occlude any parking spaces.

It was suggested that if cars parked inconsiderately or illegally had Nuffield Hospital stickers in them, residents could ring the Hospital with the car's registration number. It was understood that the Hospital held a list of registration numbers, and that the owner could be contacted and asked to move their car.

8. Update on North Taunton Development

It was noted that Taunton Deane Borough Council's (TDBC) Planning Committee had approved both applications, subject to the resolution of legal issues, at the meeting on Tuesday 24th October 2017. Cllr Clark noted that almost no changes had been made to the plans, and little additional information had been forthcoming in response to the issues raised in the deferral. It was also felt to be disappointing that no-one had spoken in favour of the development.

All Councillors present expressed their continuing concern that the spine road might never be completed, as has been the case in other developments.

Cllr Townsend reported that the development in Trull and Comeytrowe was approved in January 2015, but has stalled due to a failure to settle the section 106 agreement. He noted that this was unlikely to happen in the case of the North Taunton Development as the site promoters had already done much of this work. It was felt that construction could begin next year.

9. Casual Vacancy – co-opting a new Councillor

Mr Simon Moon was thanked for his application to join the Parish Council and was felt to be a most suitable candidate. His co-option to the Parish Council was unanimously agreed.

10. Somerset County Council – salt bag collection day

SCC's Highway department had emailed the Clerk with regard to the opportunity to collect salt bags in advance of the winter season. Cllr Talbot agreed to collect some to be used at the 'pinch point' on Manor Road. It was also recorded that there were no grit bins in the Parish, so no request would be made to refill these.

11. Tree works – report of meeting with TDBC Tree Officer

Cllr Clark reported that he and the Clerk had met with TDBC's Tree Officer, David Galley, on 30th October 2017. Mr Galley had agreed that the trees along the Duckpond footpath would benefit from some of the lower branches being removed. The provision of Tree Preservation Orders for these trees was discussed.

The meeting continued in the Grove. It was noted that a thinning of small trees and undergrowth on the west side of Manor Road would be acceptable and would open up the area. On the east side of the Grove, there was a discussion about felling or thinning a number of trees around the Old Post Office House, which was agreed in principle by Mr Galley.

The Clerk will arrange for quotes for the proposed work.

12. Renewal of membership of the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)

The Clerk reported that membership of the SLCC was felt to be a useful resource, and the cost had been budgeted for. The expenditure was agreed.

13. Request to undertake Introduction to Local Council Administration (ILCA) course

The Clerk had circulated details of the course, and it was felt to be useful Continuing Professional Development. The expenditure was agreed.

14. Planning applications

i. Discussion of planning application

[25/17/0026](#) - Application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval [25/12/0032](#) for the erection of 227 No. dwellings, greenways, the western LEAP, landscaping, infrastructure, highways, parking and road access on land parcels H1, H1A, H2 and H3 at Langford Mead, Norton Fitzwarren

This application had been sent to Staplegrove Parish Council as it is close to the Parish boundary. However, the Parish Council felt that they had no comments to make.

ii. Report from Planning Sub-committee meeting, 17th October 2017

The Council noted the minutes of the Planning Sub-committee meeting held on 17th October 2017. The meeting had been advertised on the Parish website and noticeboards.

iii. Decisions since last meeting to be noted

The Chairman talked through a paper giving details of planning application received and decisions made since the last meeting.

15. Financial matters

i. Bank reconciliations – September and October 2017

The Clerk circulated the details of the bank reconciliation for September and October 2017, which had been checked and certified by an independent person.

ii. Receipts and payments since last meeting

		£
Receipts:	Santander – bank interest (September)	6.49
	Santander – bank interest (October)	6.05
	TDBC – CIL payment re 281 Staplegrove Road	4604.09
	Website entry – David Collard & Co	5.00
	Website entry – Cook Way Auto Centre	5.00
	Website entry – Gadd Properties	5.00
	Website entry – Welch & Co	5.00
	Website entry – Howard Garden Machinery	5.00
Payments:	Charlie Saville – September footpath maintenance and playground strimming	202.50
	Helen McInnes – September salary and expenses	314.11
	HMRC – September PAYE	58.00
	Helen McInnes – October salary and expenses	295.95
	HMRC – October PAYE	59.80

iii. Budget Statement as at 31st October 2017

The Clerk circulated the Budget statement as at the 31st October 2017.

iv. Payment of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

The Clerk reported that a payment of £4604.09 had been received from TDBC as full payment of the Meaningful Proportion CIL in respect of the development at 281 Staplegrove Road. The Clerk had taken advice from TDBC's CIL Officer as to how this can be spent can be spent. Any spending must meet the criteria outlined in CIL Regulation 59C.

That is, 'a Parish Council must use its CIL receipts to support the development of the Parish Council's area, or any part of that area by funding the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure or anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area.'

It was also reported that the CIL money must be spent within 5 years. It was agreed that the Parish Councillors would consider ways that the money could be used, and put these forward for discussion at a forthcoming meeting.

13. Correspondence

- i. The Clerk noted that an email had been received from Heather Williams thanking members of the Parish Council for all their input and effort into the North Taunton Development application. She also extended her thanks RoSAG and Cllr Williams.
- ii. Thanks had also been received from Janet Darby who had been nominated, and received a Chairman's Award at a recent ceremony.

14. Any other Business

Cllr Clark reported that he had been approached about a request for funding. The Clerk noted that this had to be made formally, and then added to the agenda for discussion at a Parish Council meeting. Cllr Clark agreed to pass this information on.

15. Date of next meetings

The next meeting of the Parish Council, Thursday 18th January 2018 at 5pm. The subsequent Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 15th March 2018.

A meeting of the Staplegrove Children's playground Trust will follow both these meetings. All meetings will be held at Staplegrove Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 6.00pm

These minutes are approved as a correct record _____

Date _____