



Brief notes from the parish council 22nd Feb 2018

Public session: There were discussions around the Cookswood application to change the conditions for types of housing and the running costs of the pavilion and soccer pitch. These topics will be investigated further.

The minutes for the planning meeting on 1/2/18 were adopted. The planning applications, with the advisory notes, for the two proposed properties behind The Old Post Office have been forwarded to MDC planning committee. There were concerns that the parish council's comments are not always appearing on the MDC website. It is important for the village to be up to date with the p.c's appraisal of each application. Letters from residents are on screen regarding this development.

New parish councillor. The p.c. welcomed Kim Gibson as our new parish councillor.

The proposed budget for the new year has been sent through to Mendip District Council. This is in the region of £23,000.

The Frog Lane car park is a problem with considerable litter left most days. It is used by dog walkers, haulage drivers and as a rendezvous for some youngsters. The PCSO is aware of anti social behaviour and the use of legal highs. The parish council is looking at ways of controlling access.

The football pavilion requires new windows in the changing rooms.

Quotes for such a project were discussed and the choice of glass versus acrylic is to be followed up. Costs will be close to £600.

The millennium woodland: it is hoped that grants can be secured for hedge laying on the boundaries of the wood. Amanda Taylor is looking at the complex forms required by government funding agencies.

The Defibrillator: the group organising the bid have raised enough for the main unit. The parish council will pay installation costs for it to be sited in the entrance to the village hall. Fund raising continues to cover the cost of the cabinet housing the defibrillator itself.

The village stream: water quality appears to be better although it is acknowledged that the recent heavy rains may have clouded the water.

Mill Lane: the problems with access remain. Traffic is still attempting to use this road. Traffic is still getting stuck, is damaging walls and is

destroying the verge. Somerset Highway's notices are inadequate both by the church and on Partman's Hill. The parish council will consider erecting their own notices, making it plain that this lane is not wide enough for any vehicles in any direction.

Correspondence: parishioners have contacted the clerk regarding the state of the footpaths and Red Lane in particular. Fallen branches and the excessive mud are making paths impossible to use. Somerset County council and landowners have a degree of responsibility for surfaces underfoot and hedgerows either side.

There are concerns about the vigorous flow of the stream undercutting the bank in the centre of the village. It may be the Environment Agency will advise us on this and the of the two conduits under the road.

Litter sweep day: This is Sunday 25th March, at 10am. Volunteers will help clear roadsides and paths during the morning sweep. Meet at the Memorial Hall. Sarah Stewart (sarahstewart1488@hotmail.co.uk) is organising this again, and it is hoped that as before, lots of people will join in.

Finance: Cheques were authorised for - the parish website, The Community Council for Somerset's annual fees, the Stoke St Michael events group insurance and the cost of the two new gates for the children's playground. The cost of the grass cutting for the parish, including the community field, was discussed. The quotation from Primrose Garden Maintenance was chosen.

St. Michael and All Angels Church Services: The service for Mothering Sunday will be held on 29th March at 7pm. Maundy Thursday service will be at 7pm on 29th March and the Easter Day Service will be celebrated on 1st April at 6pm.

Stoke Memorial Hall will host Lenten Lunch from 12 noon to 2pm on both 16th March and again on 23rd March.

There will be a hot cross bun event on 31st March at the Memorial Hall from 10am to 12.30pm.

The Knatchbull Arms: delicious pizza from the van in the Car Park every week on Thursday or Friday's from 5 till 8. Fish n chip van every Tuesday from 5 till 8. DJ tunes on Friday 2nd March from 8pm. Sunday lunch from 1.30 till 3.30 is still ongoing. Please check Knatchbull facebook page for details. **Ooh la la!** Thursday 8th March French tasting evening: snails, frog legs, onion soup and baked camembert. **C'est magnifique!**