

**Minutes of the Stawley Parish Council Meeting held at Appley Pavilion at
6:30 pm on the 9th July 2024**

Parish Councillors present: Chairman, Paul Musgrove (PM)
Pat Sweet (PS)
Sarah Jones (SJ);

Others present:- Dave Mansell (DM) (Somerset Councillor); 9 parishioners

Item	Action
<p>1. Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Matt Vellacott (MV); Gwil Wren (Somerset Councillor)</p>	
<p>2. Declarations of Interest – None</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of Last meeting</p> <p>These were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
<p>4. Matters Arising not Covered Elsewhere</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. 	
<p>5. WhatsApp Group – the Chairman reported that only two parishioners had responded to the advertisement in the Parish News with regard to the establishment of a Parish WhatsApp group so this idea would seem to be a non-starter.</p>	
<p>6. Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current bank balance is £13,611.63 • Savings. PS reported that the National Association of Local Councils had recommended the Unity Bank as being suitable for Council savings. The present interest rate is 2 ¾ %. It was agreed in principle that £10,000 of the Council's balance should be saved in a Unity Bank account. PS will provide electronic copies of the account conditions to the other Councillors. 	PS
<p>7. Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35/24/0004 - Change of use of land and buildings to sui generis comprising a wellness retreat, with erection of 3 No. glamping pods, yoga studio and treatment room and cooking and washing facilities at Scarlet Elf, Tracebridge, Stawley (retention of part works already undertaken) <p>The meeting was closed so that the members of the public present could present their views on the application. DM explained that the decision by the Planning Officer or Committee would be based on national and local planning policies. Planning Officers take most decisions. If either the Somerset Councillor or Parish Council object to an application it may be passed to the Planning Committee for a decision if the Committee Chair so decides.</p>	

<p>After the resumption of the meeting the three Councillors present discussed the effects the application would have on the Parish as a whole should it be approved. It was agreed that the most serious ramifications would be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the intrusion to neighbours in the steep valley of Tracebridge • the increase in vehicle movements along the single track road to get to the site • the disturbance to local wildlife, especially to the bats and peregrine falcons that are known to be present and reproducing on the site. <p>It was agreed that the Council should object to the application for these reasons and that a draft comment would be approved by Councillors before it is sent to the Planning Officer.</p>	PM
<p>8. Reports from Members</p> <p>Roads – None.</p> <p>Footpaths – It was noted that the growing season has brought about the usual problem of crops being planted across the line of footpaths. The meeting was reminded that passage along footpaths could continue despite the presence of crops.</p>	
<p>9. Any Other Business – None</p>	
<p>10. Date of Next Meeting – not known</p>	

Meeting closed at 19:35