

**Minutes of the Stawley Parish Council Meeting held at Appley Pavilion at  
7:30 pm on the 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

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

**Others present:-** None

Item	Action
<p><b>1. Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>Matt Vellacott (MV); Dave Mansell (DM) (Somerset Councillor), Gwil Wren (Somerset Councillor)</p>	
<p><b>2. Declarations of Interest –</b> None</p>	
<p><b>3. Minutes of Last meeting</b></p> <p>It was noted that Parish Councils in the UK are required to make their meeting minutes available to the public, but they are not specifically required to keep hard copies. According to the Local Government Act 1972, minutes must be available for public inspection at any reasonable time. It was agreed that as the Minutes of our meetings are posted on the stash.org.uk website this requirement was met. In order to save paper and ink the minutes would no longer be printed out but would still be recorded as correct by the Council at the following meeting.</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> August were accepted as a true record.</p>	
<p><b>4. Matters Arising not Covered Elsewhere</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>5. Business Plan</b></p> <p>The new Stawley Parish Council Plan was presented to the meeting. Discussion on the effect of the plan on future precepts took place. PS pointed out that the Parish Council would continue to budget for churchyard maintenance grants and the grant for maintenance of the Pavilion as this would no longer be coming from Somerset Council. There may also be a need in the future to carry out more works on our local roads and gullies.</p> <p>The Plan will be published on the stash.org.uk website.</p>	
<p><b>6. Finance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The current bank balance is £3,526.51.</li> <li>• Savings. PS had successfully opened a savings account with the Unity Trust Bank that had been recommended by the National Association of Local Councils. The balance in this account is now £10,015.07</li> <li>• PS was thanked for undertaking the task of opening the new savings account.</li> </ul>	PM

<p><b>7. Planning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hedges – the appeal against the decision by Somerset Council to reinstate the hedge removed in Kittisford is outstanding.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>8. Reports from Members</b></p> <p><b>Roads</b> – The suggestion to put a mirror up on the turning at Greenham Barton to enable a safer turn towards Cothay has been investigated and found to be unworkable as the wall is set too far back and the sight line from any mirror would still not give a sight line down the road. The use of a new sign to warn drivers of walkers, cyclists and horse riders would be investigated.</p> <p><b>Footpaths</b> – A folder with the definitive map of footpaths in the Parish put together in the 1950s has been discovered and was shown to the meeting. It was decided that the folder should be sent to Somerset Archives for safe keeping.</p> <p>A new footpath warden is being recruited and hopefully John Melrose will return to our area.</p>	
<p><b>9. Any Other Business – None</b></p>	
<p><b>10. Date of Next Meeting – not known</b></p>	

**Meeting closed at 7:58pm**