SOUTH STOKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th September 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Present: **Mr. G. Davis (Clerk)** **Miss. R. Harvey**
Mr. M. Devenish (Chairman) **Mr. R. Hellard (Vice Chair)**
Mrs. S. Dustin **Mrs. J. John**
Mr. T. Geake

1. 618 Apologies for Absence – None

2. 619 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 2nd July 2012 – Approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. 620 Minutes of Planning Meeting held on 3rd September 2012 – Approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. Clerk's Report – The Clerk presented his report. Each item was discussed under the agenda items below.

5. Parish Council Matters

621 Parish Councillor Vacancy – Councillors will identify and approach possible candidates and inform the clerk if the person is willing to stand. The process of co-option will then take place at the next Parish Council meeting.

622 Code of Conduct – As no recommended Code of Conduct and form for the Registration of Discloseable pecuniary interests had been received from B&NES Democratic services this matter is postponed until the next meeting.

623 Allotments – Consequent upon the discussion between Jenny John and Michael Harris it was agreed that the tree at the end of plot 7B is to be left as it is.
It was reported that there is now a waiting list for allotments, and that Robert Williams had won 1st prize for the best kept allotment.

624 Parish Sweepers – Hours of Work The requirement for a sweeper to sweep the road to Clearbrook Farm was discussed. However, it was reported that neither sweeper wished to take on such a small amount of extra work. The Clerk was asked to see if either would take the work on the basis of 4 hours every two months, and if so discuss this with Hinton Charterhouse Parish Council.

6. General Parish Matters

625 Village Hall Improvements – It was agreed that the Village Hall Management Committee should now Invoice the Parish Council for the curtain tracks and playground fencing.

626 Parish Council Website – Peter Wheelhouse presented the website as it currently exists, and its structure, content and various changes were agreed.

Footpaths and Open Spaces

627 Wansdyke Interpretation Board – Funding and Progress Report – The clerk reported that the boards had been ordered and that all necessary notices of their impending installation had been issued. It was agreed that the boards should be delivered to Jenny John who would then arrange their installation with all the relevant parties.

628 Footpaths Survey – Not all councillors had submitted their surveys. These will be completed shortly and passed to Jenny John for onward reporting to B&NES Council.

629 Churchyard – It was reported that some remedial works are needed in respect of Ivy on grave stones, long grass, and a tree that has become too large. The Parochial Church Council should make a request to Councillor Jenny John who can then obtain quotes for the work. The cost of the work will be covered by the ring-fenced budget for the churchyard, providing there are sufficient funds.

630 Village Green – Further improvements – The Forsythia bush has now been removed.

631 Request for Reserved / Disabled Parking Space outside Churchyard. The clerk was asked to further pursue the matter of the signage and bay markings with B&NES parking services.

632 Millennium Wood – Tom Geake presented his recommended seat to the council. The clerk was instructed to order the seat and a can of furniture oil.

7. Planning Matters

633 Conservation Area Appraisal – The clerk was asked to reply to Tony Crouch stressing the importance of the document as the Parish's alternative to a Neighbourhood Plan and to request that it is not linked to the Hinton Blewett appraisal, as that appears to be holding up the process adoption.

634 Core Strategy – Local Development Framework – Examination process – The Inspectors preliminary conclusions are that the plan should be amended to facilitate more housing than currently planned and/or for some of the planned housing to be delivered sooner. B&NES has requested a suspension of the examination process in order to make an objective assessment of housing needs and demands as required by the NPPF.

635 Neighbourhood Planning Protocol - At the Cabinet Meeting 12th September B&NES Council took the decision to ADOPT the My Neighbourhood: A Neighbourhood Planning Protocol.

636 Applications Received - None

637 Planning Decisions by B&NES

12/02248/VAR – Longthorne, Old Midford Road, Midford, Bath Variation of condition 8 (plans list) of application 10/04185/FUL (Alterations and extensions to existing dwelling (Resubmission)) **Withdrawn**

638 Decisions Pending

12/02548/REG04 - St Gregory's Catholic College, Combe Hay Lane, Odd Down, Bath, BA2 8PA - Erection of a sixth form building linked to St Gregory's Catholic College with associated highway works and landscaping at Combe Hay Lane. The Council Objects in principle.

12/03410/FUL – Street Record, Tucking Mill Lane, Midford, Bath Creation of a shared use path along former railway line, to form part of the Bath Two Tunnels Greenway (National Cycle Network). Path designed for public access by pedestrians, wheelchair users and cyclists. The Parish Council Objects unless the issues of fencing and landscaping are addressed.

12/03395/FUL – Longthorne, Old Midford Road, Midford, Bath - Erection of replacement dwelling. The Council OBJECTS in Principle.

12/03530/LBA - **Midford Castle, Access Road To Midford Castle, Midford, Bath -** External alterations to replace painted timber front doors, frame and glazed fanlight over with new doors, frame and glazed fanlight detailed to match existing (Regularisation). The Council comments that correct procedure should be followed.

12/03529/LBA - **Midford Castle, Access Road To Midford Castle, Midford, Bath –** Internal and external alterations for the refurbishment of existing lower ground vaults to include replacement timber windows, replacement tanking system and plaster boarding, flooring and services and replacement link roof timbers, roof lights and roof tiles. The Council comments that correct procedure should be followed.

639 Planning Appeals

12/00072/RF– Castle Farm Barn, Midford Road, Midford, Bath - Erection of a temporary agricultural dwelling and an extension to cattle shed.

640 Enforcement Update

Fullers Earth Site – B&NES Council made a joint application to the Planning Inspectorate that the appeals be held in abeyance pending the Council's consideration of the planning application for the Residual Waste Facility. The Inspector rejected this application and the appeal will take place on 29th January 2013.

641 Other Planning Matters To Report

The Burial site was brought into use before the parking area had been constructed. Condition 9 expressly prohibited this. Janet Cross wrote to the Parish Council objecting to this minute stating, that she was given special permission to proceed with a burial prior to the construction of the parking area. The Parish Council has no evidence of any special permission being granted. The clerk was asked to write to Janet Cross stating this position and asking for sight of any special permission given.

8. Highway Matters

642 Midford Footway – The footway is under construction.

643 Maintenance Update – The chairman did a maintenance inspection with B&NES Highways Inspector and the outstanding potholes were identified for repair.

644 Road Safety Issues – Rhona Harvey will continue her contact B&NES Highways, Wessex Water, and Sustrans in order to alleviate the inappropriate access to the sites and the damage caused by their vehicles. The Parish Council expressed its frustration at the reduction in verge cutting as part of B&NES cost cutting measures.

9. B&NES Matters

645 Bath Preservation Trust – Robert Hellard reported on the meeting with B&NES planners and the Parish Councils. There were some positive responses from B&NES Council however, they acknowledged that they were delivering only the statutory minimum service. The Parish Council will nonetheless continue to draw attention to continuing breaches of planning law.

The Bath Preservation Trust will be party to the meeting on the Bath Transport Plan.

10. Other Matters to Report

646 Repair of Potholes near Church Lychgate – This has been attended to under the Maintenance Update.

11. 647 Correspondence Received

Appointment of Grant Thornton UK LLP as Auditors - Noted

B&NES Council Chairman's Support Fund – The PC does not wish to participate.

St. John Ambulance First Aid Courses – The PC does not wish to participate.

Connecting Devon & Somerset – Broadband progress update. - Noted

Temporary Closure of Bath Recycling Centre - Noted

Avon & Somerset Police Commissioner Candidate Questionnaire – The PC does not consider it appropriate to respond.

B&NES Home to School Transport Consultation – The clerk was asked to respond for the PC.

12. Financial Matters

648 RFO Report – Received and Noted.

649 Payments for Approval

The following payments have been made as standing payments or were approved at the previous meeting.

1188	E.ON Electricity Bill dated 1-7-2012	£23.14
1189	Mr. M. Bambury – Road sweeping 1/7 – 28/7/2012	£131.84
1190	Mr. D. Brown – Road sweeping 1/7 – 28/7/2012	£82.32
1191	Mr. G. Davis – Parish Clerk 1/7 – 28/7/2012	£187.03
1192	Mr. G. Davis – Expenses New Broom Head SS Sweeper	£6.25
1193	E.ON Electricity Bill dated 1-8-2012	£23.91
1194	English Landscapes Ltd – Churchyard & Footpath Maint	651.86
1195	Mr. M. Bambury – Road sweeping 29/7 – 25/8/2012	£131.64
1196	Mr. D. Brown – Road sweeping 29/7 – 25/8/2012	£82.32
1197	Mr. G. Davis – Parish Clerk 29/7 – 25/8/2012	£187.03
1198	Mazars – Audit Fee	£162.00

Approvals requested for expenditure before next meeting.

Expenses R. Hellard – Materials for re-painting village railings	
English Landscapes – Removal of Forsythia Bush	£93.12

13. Dates for Future Meetings

The dates for future meetings were confirmed:-

19th November 2012, 14th January 2013, 11th March 2013

15th April 2013 – Annual Parish Meeting, 6th May 2013 – Annual Parish Council Meeting

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