

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT SOMERFORD  
(INCORPORATING STARTLEY) PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM AT SOMERFORDS WALTER POWELL SCHOOL ON  
WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017 THAT COMMENCED AT 7.30pm.**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs S Mansfield-Chairman, H Cole, A Scott, S Binstead, F Hyde, A Gravell, M Hourigan, Wiltshire Cllr T Sturgis and 1 member of the public

**Public Participation** – Mrs McEwen raised three points :-

1 - Trees on the grass border in West Street at the corner of Manor Park. The lower branches obscure the view left and right when turning out of Manor Park.

This was discussed and agreed that for safety reasons the lower branches should be removed. Permission for tree work will be applied for

2 - The back page of Signpost listing Area Contacts still includes Sue Webb as the Parish Clerk plus a phone number

Cllr Mansfield reported that the Signpost editorial team has been informed

3 - Little and Great Somerford seem to have seen a collection of abandoned cars over the past few months. Is it possible that we could have a representative from one or other Parish Council who would co-ordinate the response to this ongoing nuisance? Wiltshire Council has to be contacted in order to ensure that any action is taken about each car.

WCC treats a vehicle as abandoned if the vehicle has been left without lawful authority on any land in the open air in such circumstances or for a period that it may be reasonably assumed to be abandoned, or, if the vehicle had been brought to the piece of land for the purpose of abandonment.

Any vehicle that is causing an obstruction is a police matter, not WCC

It was agreed that Cllr Mansfield contact the chair of Little Somerford PC to discuss co-operation on this matter.

1.9.17	<b>Apologies for Absence.</b> Received from Cllr. Butcher
2.9.17	<b>Minutes</b> The Minutes of the Great Somerford Parish Council meeting held on 12 <sup>th</sup> July were signed by the chairman and adopted as a true record
3.9.17	<b>Declarations of Interest - None</b> <b>Review of Members Register of Interests</b> – Up to date
4.9.17	<b>Co-Option of new Council Member.</b> There being only one candidate, it was unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr Christopher Blount onto the Parish Council. Mr Blount being unavoidably absent from the meeting, he will sign the necessary declaration at the next meeting.
5.9.17	<b>Wiltshire Council update</b> – Cllr Sturgis informed the council that planning consent for the traveller site in Startley (Ref 17/02371/FUL) had been rejected by WCC

6.9.17	<p><b>Planning Matters</b></p> <p>Cllr Cole reported on the following applications :-</p> <p>17/07518/TCA – Fell one Acer, 5 Paddock Close. <b>Passed</b></p> <p>17/03545/FUL – 2 dwellings in Frog Lane. <b>Passed</b></p> <p>17/04601/FUL – Single Storey Extension at 3 Paddock Close. <b>Passed</b></p> <p>17/06660/TCA - Mount House. Tree work. <b>Passed</b></p> <p>17/08254/TCA – Fell one Cherry Tree, 5 Paddock Close. <b>Awaiting Decision</b></p> <p>17/02820/OUT – 8 dwellings at Brook Farm. <b>Awaiting Decision</b></p> <p>17/08446/TCA – Volunteer Inn. Tree work. <b>Awaiting Decision</b></p> <p>17/02371/FUL - Change of use of land to a residential Gypsy and Traveller caravan site. <b>Rejected</b> (See 5.9.17 above)</p>
7.9.17	<p><b>Highway Matters</b></p> <p>a) <b>White Lining / Potholes</b> – Cllrs Mansfield and Butcher took Martin Rose (WCC Highways) on a guided tour of the village to look at the state of the white lining and roads. Mr Rose took note of the areas of white lining that need renewing but could give no definite date of when repair might occur. Cllr Mansfield subsequently photographed numerous potholes and drain covers that need repairing and submitted 23 incidents to the Wiltshire ‘App’. Thus far, two have been mended and one rejected. A works order has been placed for the repair of potholes in Winkins Lane that meet safety intervention levels. The Malmesbury area engineer has been made aware of the condition of the carriageway so it can be considered for future works</p> <p>b) <b>Parish Steward/Priority Log</b> – Cllr Scott stated that he no longer receives any information and that, as the reporting mechanism now preferred is the Wiltshire ‘App’, another member, perhaps Cllr Mansfield, should take it up. Cllr Mansfield agreed to do so and contact the Parish Steward (David Catley) and Matt Perrot (WCC).</p>
8.9.17	<p><b>Litter Bins</b> – Bin now relocated from Winkins Lane to Hollow Street. <b>Action Complete</b></p>
9.9.17	<p><b>Community Room</b></p> <p>Cllr Hyde reported that she had made several unsuccessful attempts to contact the school regarding the distribution of keys to the Community Room but would continue to do so until she received a satisfactory response.</p> <p>Cllr Scott reported that, since a change in leader of the school breakfast club, there have been no further incidents of the Community Room remaining unlocked</p>
10.9.17	<p><b>Play Area</b></p> <p>Cllr Mansfield reported that he had received no suggestions from the older children in the village as to how the play area might be improved</p> <p>Cllr Cole reported that he has replaced two bolts on the see-saw and that one further needs replacing. It then needs a coat of paint, as do other items in the area – maybe some parents could volunteer to do this?</p> <p>Cllr Cole also reported that the slide appears to have a pool of standing water near the end – will be investigated</p> <p>Some parents have complained about pigeon exhaust on the swing seats – a deterrent will be investigated</p>

11.9.17	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p>Cllr Mansfield reported that a notice had been displayed on the Parish Notice Board, in the shop, on the GSNP web-site and on Twitter to report the basic findings of the examiners report.</p> <p>It appears that concern has been expressed amongst some parishioners that Mr Slaters report will NOT be acted upon and that the NP will carry on 'as was'.</p> <p>WCC are generating a Decision Statement that incorporates Mr Slaters recommendation – this should be available around 25<sup>th</sup> September. It was agreed that a last mail-shot be made to parishioners at this point demonstrating that Mr Slaters recommendation has been included and explaining what happens next.</p>
12.9.17	<b>Best-Kept Village Competition</b> – Unfortunately we didn't win. <b>Item Closed</b>
13.9.17	<b>Cemetery Matters</b> – No issues at present
14.9.17	<p><b>Walking the Parish Footpaths</b></p> <p>Cllr Binstead has walked all but two of the footpaths in GS, there are some problems with stiles and gates . Cllr Hourigan will be walking the footpaths in Startley.</p> <p>Cllr Binstead will issue a report once she and Cllr Hourigan have completed their perambulations</p>
15.9.17	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>Receipts since 12<sup>th</sup> July 2017 - £779.61</p> <p>Payments since 12<sup>th</sup> July - £715.17</p> <p>Bank Account balances as at 25<sup>th</sup> August 2017 – Current account - £19,148.33, Deposit account - £3,716.35 total £22,864.68</p> <p>Agreed to accept Finance Report with no changes</p> <p>Mr Frost has accepted the post of internal auditor for 2017-18</p>
16.9.17	<p><b>Correspondence as received</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Anonymous Complaint re. Milk Tankers. As it is not in GS and is anonymous it was agreed we should take no action unless asked for assistance by the Parish of St Paul Without.</li> <li>b) Waste Services Updates (WCC Briefing Notes) – <b>No Action</b></li> <li>c) Disabled Parking Bays (WCC Briefing Note) – <b>No Action</b></li> <li>d) General Data Protection Regulation (Briefing in November) – <b>No Action</b></li> <li>e) Community First: AGM &amp; Awards Celebration 2017 (11<sup>th</sup> October, Devizes) – <b>No Action</b></li> </ul>
17.9.17	<p><b>Councillors Reports and items for the next agenda.</b> – Next meeting is 11<sup>th</sup> October 2017 commencing at 7.30pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Review of annual budget</li> </ul>

**MEETING CLOSED AT 20.30 Hrs.**