



STARCROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Starcross Parish Council held in Starcross Pavilion on Monday 11 July 2022 at 7.40pm

Present:

Cllr Hopper (Chairman), Allen, Cadbury, Lovell, McNally, Pegg, Rastall, Redmond and Williamson

Also present:

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk) and 5 members of the public.

RESIDENTS' QUESTION TIME

(20 minutes)

Residents are invited to make representations to the Council or to ask questions.

A resident asked whether there had been any feedback on the Strand trial. The Chairman advised that no feedback has yet been received from DCC.

A resident commented on how well the play park looks and how much it has improved. The Chairman thanked Cllrs Williamson, Chase and Allen for their work on this.

110722.01 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

- Cllr Chase
- District/County Cllr Connett

110722.02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Members were reminded of their responsibility to continually update their Notice of Registerable Interests and invited to state whether they have any interest in the items to be discussed during this meeting in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct.

Unforeseen requests for a Dispensation to be considered at this point only if there was no way a Councillor would have been aware of such before the meeting.

Cllr Rastall declared an interest in item 10.6.

110722.03 RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

Members present received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 13 June 2022.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY by those members present that these minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of that meeting.

110722.04 ACTION REPORT

The Chairman circulated the action report and items would be addressed by Committee Chairmen in their reports. He advised that information is awaited on Starcross Garage and the Swan Road entrance and he would follow this up with Cllr Connett. A link to the new website design has been circulated to members for their comments and the Working Party will continue to work on this.

110722.05 CRIME & SPEEDWATCH REPORT

PC Orchard provided a crime report for the period June 2022 for Starcross and Kenton. 6 crimes were reported and 10 incidents.

Members also received the latest edition of the gazette and community speedwatch report.

Cllr McNally advised that the VAS sign has still not arrived and the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office will be chasing DCC. The speedwatch volunteers are being supplied with bodycams and a member of the No Excuses team be working alongside them issuing fines to speeding motorists.

110722.06 DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Connett was unable to attend the meeting.

110722.07 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

(Cllrs Hopper, Chase, Zawadzka and Williamson)

7.1 **Financial Report** – members received and noted the financial report 14 June – 11 July 2022 and were asked to approve the payments listed (copy attached).

Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Cadbury

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY that the payments listed are made.

7.2 **Action List Report**

There were no outstanding actions.

7.3 **General Report/Question & Answers**

None

110722.08 PARKS, GARDENS AND FLOOD DEFENCE

(Cllrs Chase, Williamson, Allen, McNally and Rastall)

Committee Chair Report (Cllr Chase)

8.1 **Action Report**

There were no outstanding matters requiring action.

8.2 **General Report/Question & Answers**

Members received the following written report from the Committee:

The area around the railway steps and cenotaph is, as always, well cared for. The Strand area is neat and tidy, grass well cut, paths clear, and shrubs growing well. The area opposite Rothsay needs to be cleared and replanted with flowering shrubs as there is very little variation in the colour and appearance of those already planted there. The planters are now planted for the summer and are beginning to look very colourful. The lack of a water supply close by makes the watering of plants hard work with having to frequently carry watering cans quite a distance. The area looking north is not under our control and looks untidy and uncared for by comparison. The millennium garden is tidy but again there is very little colour there and quite dark making it an unattractive area to sit. We plan to develop these areas now that the major effort of developing the Bonhay Play Park is so successful.

The boat park is very busy with many people using Bishops Arch to enter the water. We need to monitor the demand for more boat storage and if there is an increase in the general use of the car park.

Schemes for developing other areas and for planting more trees are underway for later this year.

The area opposite Anchorage has a bramble patch to be removed, also between Chandler Cottage and Riverside and at Exe Bank. Opposite Rothsay is the worst patch to be cleared and replanted. Between Anchorage and Sea View the brambles need cutting at the base. They have been cut at the top of the shrub and this causes them to spread sideways and fill the shrub. This applies also at Exe View. The hedges behind the 2 benches nearest the station are covered by brambles and nettles which need removing or cutting at the base.

Action plans

Proposals for the Strand

- sections of the Strand hedge to be cleared and replanted
- choice and purchase of shrubs
- sections to have the brambles removed to allow the shrubs to grow

New flowering shrubs to be planted in the millennium garden for all year round colour
Proposal for more storage in the boat park and discussion on the possibility of charging for parking .

Letter to TDC about the untidy state of the area by the car park and the overgrown ivy and brambles on the fence

Next steps /future plans

Cllr's Chase and Alan will lead the nature area project and will prepare a plan for the September meeting, we will work alongside the community to utilise local knowledge and skills, The wildlife area will be mapped out as a series of features we would like to see incorporated, from there we will look at how each can be achieved while ensuring there is a continuity to the overall layout. Initially we feel work is most likely to start with the bank adjoining Bakers Yard which is a good starting point to see what already exists.

We plan to allocate some of the funding we received from the Devon community foundation to support this project and we will be applying for £400 funding from the Warburtons community fund to create funds both for this project and also a new project we are keen to look into called Incredible Edibles, this will focus more on the Strand and Millennium garden, as these areas are more adult spaces, although we would like to expand this into Bonhay Park in a child safe way, we decided to look at the incredible edibles project to see if there are ideas we could use for community benefit. This, we feel, could be supported by a smaller sub-group, involving the allotment community we hope, and others who have more experience in this direction

As discussed in the May meeting, the need for fencing in the play park remains a priority and we have various ideas to discuss and we plan to bring a plan and proposal for funding from reserves to meet costs at the September meeting.

The funding we received from the community foundation will be used to purchase another bench, although we will go for a frame bench as these are more affordable and the existing bench meets the inclusivity goal we had set.

We are also very keen to use some of this funding to purchase seating for the nature area, this still needs to be discussed as a whole committee as the original mushroom seats we had planned for may not be suitable as a long term solution, we will however be following the 'natural landscaping and child friendly plan' when making decisions.

As you can see we have a lot of work to do between now and September to prepare for the next stages and we are all really looking forward to seeing what we can achieve as a new bigger committee.

Cuttings have been thrown into the stream and need to be removed. The Committee will be looking into ownership and access.

110722.09

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

(Cllrs Cadbury, Lovell, Zawadzka & McNally)

Whole Council to Debate (accompanying documents)

9.1 New applications/appeals

- 9.1.1 21/02891/HOU - Green Pastures, Staplake Lane, Starcross
Front/side extension, raise roof, 4 dormer windows

Proposal: To accept the Planning Committee's recommendation to object to this application

AGREED BY A MAJORITY OF MEMBERS to object to this application on the grounds of loss of privacy and overlooking neighbouring properties.

- 9.1.2 22/01037/FUL - Hunters Lodge, Stracross
Erection of agricultural building to house machinery

Proposal: To accept the Planning Committee's recommendation that no objections are raised

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY that no objections are raised.

- 9.1.3 22/00923/LBC - Cofford Farm, Starcross
Additional building work to include plant room enclosure (ref original plan 19/00972/LBC)

Proposal: To accept the Planning Committee's recommendation that no objections are raised

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY that no objections are raised.

- 9.1.4 22/00040/ENFA - 1 Exeleigh Bungalow, Starcross
Appeal against ground c against Listed Building Enforcement Notice 21/00213/ENF "The unauthorised demolition of a section of boundary stone wall"

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY that no further action is required.

- 9.1.5 22/00003/ENFA – Beach Farm, Starcross
Appeal against enforcement notice has been dismissed by TDC

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY that no further action is required.

9.2 **Decisions:**

- 9.2.1 The Sail Loft, The Strand, Starcross
Appeal against the refusal of 21/01428/VAR: Removal of clause b on planning permission 5/5/1417/33/3 to enable the flat to be let on a short term holiday let basis

Members noted that this appeal has been dismissed.

9.3 **Other planning matters**

Cllr Pegg advised that works to Brunel Tower will include scaffolding being erected on the Strand from 13 July – 3 August. He is attempting to find out from DCC Highways how this will be managed.

9.4 **Action List Report**

There were no outstanding actions requiring action.

9.5 **General Report/Question & Answers**

- 9.5.1 Members received correspondence from the owner of Higher Cofford regarding their recent planning application and the impact of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Liability Notice of almost £76,000 which has been issued.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY that the Chairman will respond to advise that such matters are not within the Parish Council's power and that the matter should be pursued with the District Council as the Planning Authority.

- 9.5.2 Cllr Lovell questioned the overgrown and deliberate blocking off of a footpath running from Staplake Lane. The Chairman advised that there were a lot of paths in the parish which had been closed and it might be something that the Parish Council looks into in the future.
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Committee Chair Report (Cllrs Rastall & Hopper)

- 10.1 Proposal: To accept the quote from Plant Tech for installation of two concrete stands for benches on the sports field. 2 x £300 = £600 + VAT
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Rastall

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the quote from Plant Tech for the installation of two concrete stands for benches, as proposed.

FUNDING: Reserves

ACTION: Clerk to raise PO

- 10.2 Proposal: To accept the quote from Plant Tech to trim the yew tree currently overlapping the church wall. £100 + VAT
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Rastall

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the quote from Plant Tech to trim the yew tree, as proposed.

FUNDING: Reserves

ACTION: Clerk to raise PO but hold pending negotiations with Church Officers

- 10.3 Proposal: To purchase 2 x 90cm tanalised wooden patio planters for the Pavilion @ £25 each including VAT plus £ 50 for soil, plants etc.
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Rastall

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to purchase 2 x wooden patio planters, soil and plants, as proposed.

FUNDING: Reserves

ACTION: Chair to organise purchase

- 10.4 Proposal: To site a memorial bench on the sports field £300 + VAT
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Cadbury

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to site a memorial bench on the sports field, as proposed.

FUNDING: No cost to PC

ACTION: Order base from Plant Tech (cost £360 to be collected from S Diaper)

- 10.5 Proposal: To accept quote from Rob May to paint the exterior of the sports field store £550
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr McNally

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the quote from Rob May to paint the exterior of the sports field store, as proposed.

FUNDING: Precept Maintenance

ACTION: Cllr Hopper to finalise detail and organise PO

- 10.6 Proposal: To approve retrospectively expenses incurred by Cllr Rastall:
 £10 - fuel for a truck to collect benches for sports field from Newton Abbot
 £14.50 - new Henry vacuum head for Pavilion
 £5.20 - set of 10 safety stickers for the glass doors and window surrounds in the Pavilion

Having declared an interest, Cllr Rastall left the meeting for this item.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to approve retrospective expenses incurred by Cllr Rastall, as listed.

10.7 **Action List Report**

There were no actions requiring action.

10.8 **General Report/Questions & Answers**

Cllr Rastall advised that she is looking at tidying things up in the Pavilion. Safety decals have been purchased for the long windows in the main hall and quotes are being obtained to repair the patio slabs etc.

110722.11 WORKING PARTY REPORTS

None

110722.12 NON-COMMITTEE ITEMS

12.1 Proposal: To purchase a defibrillator and bleed kit from Turtle defibrillators to be installed on the outside of Boots Pharmacy in Starcross. Total cost £1200 + VAT
Proposer: Cllr Williamson; Seconder: Cllr Cadbury

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to purchase a defibrillator and bleed kit from Turtle defibrillators to be installed on the outside of Boots Pharmacy in Starcross, as proposed.

FUNDING: £1000 Cllr Connett locality budget + £200 Precept (as agreed in July 2021)
ACTION:

12.2 Proposal: To discuss suggestions for the Route 2 cycle path improvements through Starcross and adjoining areas

Cllr Pegg outlined some possible ideas to improve the cycle path. It was agreed that the Chairman, Cllr McNally and Cllr Cadbury would look into this further.

110722.13 COUNCILLORS' PROJECTS

None

110722.14 CORRESPONDENCE

None

110722.15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Monday 12 September 2022 in the Pavilion commencing at 7.40pm.

SIGNED:
Chairman of the Parish Council

DATE: 12 September 2022

Note: Where a document or paper is referred to on the Agenda, this document will be available on request from the Clerk by emailing starcrosspcclerk@gmail.com

Starcross Parish Council Finance Report – 11 July 2022

Summary of Bank Balances at 11 July 2022	
Current (C)	£27,323.54
Pavilion Trading (P)	£9,771.41
Allocated Reserves (A)	£37,957.55
Total	£75,052.50

Income: 14 June – 11 July 2022		
Pavilion hire	£394	P
Devon Community Foundation Grant (Playpark)	£1,705	C
Interest - Allocated Reserves account (May & June)	£6.45	A

Payments for approval			
Clerk	Salary & disbursements	£556	C
HMRC (PAYE)	PAYE	£1.60	C
Exe Estuary Management Partnership	Contribution	£258	C
S Rastall	Fuel, vacuum bags, stickers for Pavilion glass	£29.70	P
T Greenslade	Pavilion cleaning, fobbing and cleaning materials (June)	£170	P
R Grave	Fire alarm testing	£44	P
PPL PRS	Pavilion music licence	£152.46	P

Direct Debits: 14 June – 11 July 2022			
Natwest (15/6/22)	Bankline fees	£23.20	C
Opus (21/6/22)	Pavilion electricity	£54.29	P
Biffa (20/6/22)	Waste bin at Pavilion (rental & collection)	£53.52	P
Opus (26/6/22)	Pavilion gas	£20.99	P

Clerk (June)	Salary	Tax	Net	Disbursements
Salary	£481.25	£1.60	£479.65	
Telephone and Internet	-	-	-	£5.00
Using home as an office	-	-	-	£8.67
Mileage @ 45p per mile				£15.30
Printer (1/5 share)				£47.38
TOTAL				£556.00