



# **STARCROSS PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting of Starcross Parish Council held in Starcross Pavilion on Monday 13 June 2022 at 7.40pm**

**Present:**

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

**Also present:**

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk), District/County Cllr Connett and 28 members of the public.

## **RESIDENTS' QUESTION TIME**

**(20 minutes)**

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

A number of residents were present at the meeting to raise concerns about the trial scheme on the Strand which they thought was a test of the proposed scheme. However, the trial layout is not the same as the original scheme which is supposed to have been tested.

The Chairman advised that DCC plans for the trial had been put on DCC's website following a Committee meeting in June and they do differ from the plans which were put out to the public in the original consultation. He emphasised that the criticism of the trial layout was correct but it wasn't what was actually planned. He confirmed that the final proposal is per the plans and not the test scheme.

What happens next? Will the trial run again? Cllr Connett advised that DCC is planning a resurfacing scheme through Starcross in the Autumn. They wanted to trial the impact of widening the pavement. Cameras are in place to record traffic movements along the Strand and this will be reviewed. If they decide to go ahead with this, they will carry it out during the resurfacing scheme. However, they will evaluate the traffic data they have collected from the trial and they may decide against it.

A resident asked what will constitute success. Cllr Connett advised that in broad terms, the scheme is agreed but he was unable to answer how DCC will determine whether or not to go ahead with widening the pavement/narrowing the road.

A resident advised that in 2016, the Parish Council had a site meeting with DCC and backed a scheme for putting traffic lights in. The resident stated that In Kenton, the traffic system works really well: the pavement is no wider than the pavement in Starcross and in relation to emissions, the houses are much closer to the road than they are in Starcross. The Chairman explained that DCC proposed traffic lights in 2002 a scheme which required demolition of the SFCC car park wall. The scheme was later dropped by the Jacobs Report and in particular by the discovery of the Brunel Chambers. A subsequent suggestion for lights was dismissed by DCC due to the distance between lights having to be extended to 300 yards from Courtenay Mews to the Spa Shop which SPC supported and instead pursued the safety aspects of the original 2002 plan.

A resident asked about the monitoring which has been done and how far back it has gone. On some occasions, traffic has been queueing as far back as Cockwood.

A resident asked whether DCC has considered any alternatives to traffic lights.

A resident asked whether the study has considered the impact on other streets with people diverting to avoid the traffic. A noticeable increase in traffic on other streets has been noticed.

Is now the time to consider a by-pass?

A resident pointed out that motorists avoid driving too close to the wall near the Fishing and Cruising and Club. Narrowing this section will bring motorists further out into the road creating a single file. If there are too many bollards on the pavement, there will be less room for cars to manoeuvre.

The scheme is creating a series mini-traffic jams and more obstacles further down the road. The Chairman advised that the actual scheme is very graduated so motorists would probably not event notice it happening.

Cllr Connett advised that the uncontroversial elements of the scheme have been agreed. The trial over the last couple of weeks will be reviewed and a decision needs to be made about whether the narrowing of the road/widening of the pavement happens as part of the resurfacing or not. If residents want to write in about their experiences over the last two weeks they should write to [transportplanning@devon.gov.uk](mailto:transportplanning@devon.gov.uk), subject 'Starcross Trial'.

A resident pointed out that much of the discussion has been about the impact on vehicles but what about pedestrians/disability/pushchair. Cllr Connett advised that the proposed widening of the pavement helps but the Parish Council has been campaigning for assistance for pedestrians with minimal impact to vehicles.

A resident suggested that signage is increased sending pedestrians down the cycle route.

A resident stated that lorries mounting the pavement is not acceptable. Traffic lights would help with this.

A resident asked the Parish Council to review the way it communicates with the village. The Chairman advised that a new website is currently being established and that Facebook is used to advertise meetings.

A resident asked whether the Parish Council has considered the impact of parking in the Pavilion car park once the new pay and display is installed.

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#### 130622.01 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

- Cllr Zawadzka
- Cllr Williamson

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#### 130622.02 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.

There were no other declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

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#### 130622.03 RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Members present received the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Monday 16 May 2022.

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

3.2 Members present received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 16 May 2022.

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

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#### 130622.04 ACTION REPORT

The Chairman circulated the action report and items would be addressed by Committee Chairmen in their reports.

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#### 130622.05 CRIME & SPEEDWATCH REPORT

PC Orchard provided a crime report for the period 1-31 May 2022 for Starcross and Kenton. 7 crimes were reported and 18 incidents.

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

Cllr McNally advised that the Vehicle Activated Speedwatch Sign has been received. DCC has ordered the posts on which the sign can be fixed and these are awaited.

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**160522.06 DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Connett reported that the planned closure of Mamhead Road for the drainage works, concerns have been expressed about caravans. He has emailed Highways to check that signs are put at the top on the A380 to ensure caravans do not use the road during this time. Cllr Connett has contacted Highways about the potholes in Well Street and these have now been filled. Cllr Rastall advised that there is also an issue with crumbling tarmac in the same location.

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**160522.07 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

(Cllrs Hopper, Chase and Zawadzka)

- 7.1 **Financial Report** – members received and noted the financial report 17 May – 13 June 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 Proposal: To approve Committee re-organisation, as distributed  
*Proposer: Cllr Hoper; Seconder: Cllr Chase*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to approve the Committee reorganisation, as distributed.

- 7.3 Proposal: To reimburse Cllr Hopper for expenses incurred:  
- Bolts for new swings - £4.29  
- Spare keys for play park - £13.20  
- A3 copies - £10.20  
- Hot water urn - £68.39

Total £96.08

*Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr Pegg*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to reimburse Cllr Hopper for expenses incurred above.

- 7.4 Proposal: To purchase commercial software to enable the Parish Council to comply with the government's rules for 'Making Tax Digital' for VAT

*Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Chase*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to purchase commercial software to enable the Parish Council to comply with the government's rules for 'Making Tax Digital' for VAT. Clerk to source most appropriate software in consultation with the Chairman.

- 7.5 **Action List Report**  
There were no outstanding actions.

- 7.6 **General Report/Question & Answers**  
None
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**130622.08 PARKS, GARDENS AND FLOOD DEFENCE**

(Cllrs Chase, Williamson and Allen)

**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:

**Boat Park** – the boat park is well used for boats, but the car parking area had many empty spaces on the day of our inspection. Cllr Allen

**Memorial Garden and Strand** – the part of the Strand maintained by SPC is looking very neat and tidy. However the section opposite Rothsay needs clearing out and replanting with shrubs. We will work on putting together a proposal for this in time for the July meeting. The grass has been recently cut and the whole area is looking well cared for. The spring flowers in the planters are fading and will need replanting soon. Work has been done to tidy the station bank. The northern area from the shaped holly bush to the car park and along the verge needs work to bring it up to the standard of the rest. This area is maintained by Teignbridge DC. The Memorial garden is kept in good order and the Millennium park is tidy but lacking colour except for the magnolias.

**Playing Field** – We will continue to monitor the issues raised by ROSPA that have not yet been solved and working towards rectifying them in stages through the year. The grass has been cut and the area is looking really well kept. The volunteers did some amazing work and really got the park up to standard, Plant tech also trimmed the hedge carpet from the concrete area which looks a lot better and opens up the space.

**Funding** – We are very excited to let you know that we have been successful in the funding application we made to the Devon Community Foundation. We have been awarded £1705 and although we specified a new picnic bench and some toadstool seat on the application we have been awarded the money with no restrictions, this mean we will have more flexibility as plans continue to grow.

### **Jubilee**

The Jubilee celebrations were a fantastic success with over 40 children taking part in the crabbing event, a sell out on the church cakes and savory stall and the Tombola. I also had over 50 children take part in my 'rock hide and find' and a good uptake on the scavenger hunt. Thank you to everyone that helped prepare and on the day for making it such a success. As you are all aware the park is now officially named The Bonhay Big Park and Sally gave a brief speech regarding the new name and the ongoing work by the Parks and Gardens committee at the Jubilee celebrations.

### **Next Steps / Future plans**

We are really starting to plan out the nature area now and really looking forward to starting work on this phase, there are many ideas in circulation at present including, willow arches, toadstool seats, bug house, and even a marshy area to encourage more wildlife. In order to create a safe distinct space we are also looking at the possibility of re-sighting the football goal (and basket ball hoop) further toward the centre of the playing field, this would still leave a large open play space but reduce the risk of balls etc going into the nature area.

The plan is also to include one or two more picnic tables as the current one has proved extremely popular.

We will also be putting a couple of proposals together for the next full council meeting to bid for some money from the precept, we would like to explore the idea of moving the posts mentioned above and also providing some form of hard surface in that area so that the Basketball hoop can be used for its correct purpose. The other big item we are currently looking at is fencing alongside the pathway, this will help provide a safe boundary for the play area and also act as a deterrent to dogs from entering the space.

A new sign will be designed and a proposal added to a future agenda once we are certain on the exact plans, we did not wish to get a new sign to early and miss off any important information, for example restrictions on Dogs entering the play space. However we are planning on having the new name plus a sentence advising that the name was announced on the date of the Queens Jubilee.

Feedback so far has been overwhelmingly popular and this was reflected in the members of the community that showed up to help us prepare the area for the Jubilee celebrations, we also hope that now we have got the hedges trimmed back etc it will be easier to maintain and the new found love for the space will reduce the amount of littering and graffiti previously experienced.

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**130622.09 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**  
(Cllrs Cadbury, Lovell, Zawadzka & McNally)

*The Chairman wished to record his thanks to Cllr Cadbury for his many years as Planning Committee Chairman. Cllr Cadbury will be standing down and Cllr Pegg will be taking over as Chair.*

**Whole Council to Debate (accompanying documents)**

**9.1 New applications/appeals**

9.1.1 22/00880/HOU – 9 Swan Road, Starcross

Replace existing flat roof with mono pitch roof and enlarge existing window

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

*Proposer: Cllr Cadbury; Seconder: Cllr Lovell*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the Planning Committee's recommendation that no objections are raised.

9.1.2 22/00867/LBC – Starcross Fishing and Cruising Club, Brunel Tower, Starcross  
Repairs and rendering of stonework to the external walls

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

*Proposer: Cllr Cadbury; Seconder: Cllr McNally*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the Planning Committee's recommendation that no objections are raised.

**9.2 Decisions:**

None

**9.3 Action List Report**

There were no outstanding actions requiring action.

**9.4 General Report/Question & Answers**

None.

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**130622.10 PAVILION & SPORTS FIELD**  
(Cllrs Rastall, Hopper, Allen and Redmond)

**Committee Chair Report (Cllrs Rastall & Hopper)**

**10.1 Action List Report**

There were no actions requiring action.

**10.2 General Report/Questions & Answers**

None

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**130622.11 WORKING PARTY REPORTS**  
None

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**130622.12 NON-COMMITTEE ITEMS**  
Members discussed the recent trial on The Strand following the representations made in 'Residents Questions'. No further action was agreed.

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**130622.13 COUNCILLORS' PROJECTS**  
None

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**130622.14 CORRESPONDENCE**

None

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**130622.15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Monday 11 July 2022 in the Pavilion commencing at 7.40pm.

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SIGNED:  
Chairman of the Parish Council

DATE: 11 July 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](mailto:starcrosspcclerk@gmail.com)*

## Starcross Parish Council Finance Report – 13 June 2022

<b>Summary of Bank Balances at 13 June 2022</b>	
Current (C)	£35,237.14
Pavilion Trading (P)	£9,788.35
Allocated Reserves (A)	£37,951.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>£82,976.59</b>

<b>Income: 17 May – 13 June 2022</b>		
Pavilion hire	£1,198.40	P
VAT reclaim (Oct 21-Mar 22)	£3,527.87	C

<b>Payments for approval</b>			
Clerk	Salary & disbursements	£508.62	C
HMRC (PAYE)	PAYE	£1.60	C
TDC	Emptying of dog/litter bins and litter picking for 2022-23	£4,487.76	C
JKE Web Design (David Playford)	Design & development of new website (25% deposit)	£237.50	C
Plant Tech Grounds Maintenance Ltd	Strand, sports field and play park maintenance (May & June, invoices 38-43)	£1,866.24	C
J Hopper	Reimbursement of expenses as listed at item 7.3	£96.08	C
T Greenslade	Pavilion cleaning, fobbing and cleaning materials (April)	£201.50	P
Source for Business	Pavilion water	£80.64	P

<b>Direct Debits: 17 May – 13 June 2022</b>			
Natwest (16/5/22)	Bankline fees	£26.80	C
Opus (23/5/22)	Pavilion electricity	£62.26	P
Biffa (23/5/22)	Waste bin at Pavilion (rental & collection)	£42.82	P
Opus (26/5/22)	Pavilion gas	£27.95	P
Shell Energy Broadband (10/6/22)	Pavilion telephone & broadband	£18	P

<b>Clerk (May)</b>	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
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>£508.62</b>