



Starcross
Parish Council

STARCROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Starcross Parish Council held in Starcross Pavilion on Monday 12 September 2022 at 7.40pm

Present:

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

Also present:

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

The Chairman opened the meeting with a short statement:

Council is saddened by the death of Her Majesty the Queen and offers its condolences to all members of the Royal family. He asked all those present to stand for a minute of respectful silence.

RESIDENTS' QUESTION TIME

The Chairman invited questions/comments from residents.

A resident asked the Parish Council to write to Teignbridge District Council about the displaced parking in Royal Way, Elm Court and Western Drive following its decision to introduce charges in the New Road car park. He also expressed concern about the speed some vehicles are travelling along Western Drive which is a 20mph, residential area. The Chairman advised that he would refer the concern about parking to Cllr Connett. Cllr Zawadzka also suggested that the resident takes photographs as evidence to support his concerns. Cllr Allen added that, although yellow lines have been painted on Staplake Road, vehicles are parking there regardless. It was noted that there was currently no signage at the entrance to New Road car park advising that it is pay and display.

A resident asked about communication. She believed that some residents had not been aware of the proposed pavement widening scheme. Going forward, she asked the Parish Council to commit to communicating important decisions, which affect all of the residents, more effectively. She suggested that the most effective vehicle for this is the Starcross Newsletter as the whole parish is given the opportunity to read it as a copy is delivered to every household in Starcross. The Chairman advised that, going forward, the Parish Council's prime method of distributing information will be via its website which is currently being redesigned. Other methods of distributing information will be used to compliment this when appropriate. With regard to the Strand enhancement scheme, the resident was informed that the Parish Council is very mindful that this is not a safe stretch of road and will continue to propose ideas and work with DCC to make appropriate safety measures.

A resident asked what happens to the government grant money which was allocated for the improvement on the Strand which have now not been spent. The Chairman advised that the money will return to DCC's general funds.

A resident commented that the ferry has had a frequently cancelled service over the last couple of weeks. Cllr Zawadzka explained that the channel is changing dramatically. This year a lot of money has been spent employing professionals to investigate what is happening. The sandbanks are getting bigger and there is a lot of pressure in the water. Tide, pressure and wind are the three ingredients which dictate whether the ferry service can operate. For some reason, the tides are taking longer to go out and come back in again. Natural England are the body who are ultimately responsible for the estuary and who other authorities (Exeter City Council, Harbour Master etc) must consult before any works/changes are carried out.

120922.01 RESIGNATION AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1.1 Members received the resignation of Cllr Redmond. She was thanked for her contribution during her tenure.
 - 1.2 Apologies were received from:
 - Cllr Rastall
 - Cllr Williamson
 - District/County Cllr Connett
-

120922.02 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 declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

120922.03 RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

Members present received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 11 July 2022.

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

120922.04 ACTION REPORT

The Chairman had circulated the action report to members and asked Committee Chairs to comment on outstanding actions in their reports.

120922.05 CRIME & SPEEDWATCH REPORT

PC Orchard provided a crime report for the period August 2022 for Starcross and Kenton. 11 crimes were reported and 22 incidents.

In his report, PC Orchard asked if information regarding Avian Flu could be disseminated as this is on the rise.

Cllr McNally advised that they are still waiting for the posts for the VAS signs and the matter of insurance was being discussed.

120922.06 DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Connett was unable to attend the meeting.

120922.07 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

(Cllrs Hopper, Chase, Zawadzka and Williamson)

7.1 **Financial Report** – members received and noted the financial report 12 July – 11 September 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 register that the Starcross Enhancement Scheme will go ahead but without the improvements to pavements. Council will formulate new proposals for safety of pedestrians and traffic flow in the village
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Cadbury

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to register that the Starcross Enhancement Scheme will go ahead but without the improvements to pavements. Council will consider and formulate new proposals for safety of pedestrians and traffic flow in the village.

7.3 **Action List Report**

There were no outstanding actions.

7.4 **General Report/Question & Answers**

None

Committee Chair Report (Cllr Chase)

- 8.1 Proposal: Strand Gardens - For Plant Tech to replant gaps in the hedging with a selection of shrubs and bulbs supplied by Jack's Patch for an estimated maximum sum of £300. Detail outlined in the monthly report.
Proposer: Cllr Chase; Seconder: Cllr Allen

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to commission Plant Tech to replant gaps in the hedging with a selection of shrubs and bulbs supplied by Jack's Patch for an estimated maximum sum of £300.

ACTION: Cllrs Chase and Allen to liaise with the Clerk and Chris Seymour (Plant Tech)

FUNDING: Reserves

8.2 **Action Report**

There were no outstanding matters requiring action.

8.3 **General Report/Question & Answers**

Members received the following written report from the Committee:

The maintenance checks have been completed for the month (details circulated to members).

Overall the park was looking good with the grass nice and green after some rain and is still well used. Unfortunately, we continue to be targeted by vandals who seem especially intent on damaging the rainbow benches on the concreted area. The incident was reported to the police and we are working with them on this matter. We had hoped to purchase another picnic bench with some of the money we have from the grant but will put this on hold until the vandalism issue has been resolved.

Next steps /future plans:

Cllr's Chase and Allen will lead the nature area project and will prepare a plan in due course. 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 would like to hold a community event where there will be bird boxes, bat boxes etc to build and decorate which will be a great opportunity to discuss the future plans with the community and also engage some volunteers for when the manual work begins, this will be funded with money already received from the grant and we hope that this will take place sometime in October / November.

The need for fencing alongside the path is still high on our list and we are actively looking into possibilities.

The funding we received from the community foundation will be used to purchase another bench, although we will go for an '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.

Strand Gardens:

The area is generally well-maintained although the shrubs are beginning to look a bit untidy at this particular point. The next trim is due in Autumn. Cllrs Allen and Chase have identified a selection of shrubs to fill in the gaps where brambles have been cut

back to improve the overall appearance and provide year-round interest (see agenda item below). This proposal includes spring bulbs for under planting.

Memorial garden:

In good order. It has been suggested a rose be planted here, with a plaque, to commemorate the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Millennium Garden:

Again, in good order, although the shrubbery needs thorough weeding, which is not part of the existing contract.

The group has a variety of ideas for further development of the green spaces and for the wildlife area in the park and is working on drawing these into a cohesive plan. Work has been delayed for various reasons including the recent spate of vandalism in Bonhay Big Park.

Boat yard:

11 dinghies stored. Area generally tidy. Plant needs trimming back from car park sign. 4/6 vehicles noted on checks during the week, majority were commercial plus the large white van that was in New Road.

Other matters:

Teign Housing have had to be contacted again about rubbish and weed build-up in the drain/dyke between Sercombe Gardens and the park. The PC is responsible to the mid-point of the dyke and Teign Housing maintain it. The frequency with which this is done and the need for prompt action when the grille blocks up is a matter of debate and steps have been taken to renegotiate the current arrangement.

Shrubs along Strand Gardens roadside:

These have been cut back to the boundary fence since Plant Tech were given the maintenance contract. Not only does this give greater road width but also keeps to the legal requirement for the road signs to be visible. This work has however been done by hand to date i.e. not with a driven machine, which is more hazardous for the workman and may need to be discussed further with Plant Tech.

Addition of a water butt by public toilets:

This has been suggested to aid Starcross in Bloom volunteers who water planters along the Strand. It was agreed to discuss this with Megan Debenham as she has been trying to pursue this with the owner of the toilets.

120922.09 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
(Cllrs Cadbury, Lovell, Zawadzka & McNally)

Whole Council to Debate (accompanying documents)

9.1 New applications/appeals

None

9.2 Decisions:

9.2.1 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"

Members noted that the Enforcement Appeal is allowed.

9.2.2 22/01060/HOU – Cove Cottage, Starcross
Extension and conversion of second floor above existing garage/workshop and
kitchen area into habitable bedrooms

Members noted that TDC has refused to grant permission.

- 9.2.3 22/00742/FUL – The Croft, Starcross
Change of use from a bed and breakfast (Use Class C1) to a single residential dwellinghouse (Use Class C3)

Members noted that TDC has granted conditional planning permission.

9.3 **Action List Report**

There were no outstanding actions requiring action.

9.4 **General Report/Question & Answers**

None

120922.10 PAVILION & SPORTS FIELD
(Cllrs Rastall, Hopper, Allen and Redmond)

Committee Chair Report (Cllrs Rastall & Hopper)

- 10.1 Proposal: to accept the quotation from Bramshaw Heating and Plumbing for repairs to the heating system in the Pavilion - £665.00:
- Drain down system partially
 - Remove undersized expansion vessel
 - Replace vessel with 50 litre floor standing vessel, new PRV and replace filling loop link
 - Reconfigure pipework
 - Replace leaking air vent within boiler
 - Refill and add corrosion inhibitor
- Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Zawadzka*

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the quotation from Bramshaw Heating and Plumbing as proposed.

ACTION: Clerk to raise PO

FUNDING: Precept Maintenance

- 10.2 Proposal: To accept the quote from Rob May to install 2 x metal benches to concrete screeds on football field: £35.00 each, including 10mm rawl bolts and washers x 8
- Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr McNally*

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the quotation from Rob May to install metal benches as proposed.

ACTION: Clerk to raise PO

FUNDING: Reserves

- 10.3 Proposal: To agree use of an allocated area for the use of a village Food Bank to be run by the Parish Council, Westbank and St Pauls. To be reviewed 31.03.23.
- Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr McNally*

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to agree use of an allocated area for the use of a village Food Bank, as proposed.

ACTION: Cllrs Hopper and Rastall to liaise

- 10.4 Proposal: To agree revised hire rate for Westbank use of the Pavilion to £13.20 per hour inc VAT (nett £11.00) from 1st October 2022 to exclude continued free use by the Memory Café
- Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr McNally*

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to agree revised hire rate for Westbank use of the Pavilion to £13.20 per hour inc VAT (nett £11.00) from 1st October 2022 to exclude continued free use by the Memory Café to be reviewed 31 March 2023

ACTION: Cllr Rastall to advise Westbank

- 10.5 Proposal: To approve a retrospective cost of £9.89 to Cllr Rastall for a 'Keep Access Clear' safety sign
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr McNally

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to approve a retrospective cost of £9.89 to Cllr Rastall for a 'Keep Access Clear' safety sign

- 10.6 Proposal: To accept a quotation to clean the carpet in the main hall of the Pavilion (quotes to be circulated)
Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr Hopper

The Chairman advised that there was no need to proceed with this quotation as Megan Debenham has volunteered to do this for no charge.

- 10.7 **Action List Report**
There were no actions requiring action.
- 10.8 **General Report/Questions & Answers**
None

120922.11 WORKING PARTY REPORTS

The Chairman reported that it is hoped that the new website will go live in a couple of weeks after the period of mourning has ended.

120922.12 NON-COMMITTEE ITEMS

None

120922.13 COUNCILLORS' PROJECTS

None

120922.14 CORRESPONDENCE

None

120922.15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Monday 10 October 2022 in the Pavilion commencing at 7.40pm.

SIGNED:
Chairman of the Parish Council

DATE: 10 October 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 – 12 September 2022

Summary of Bank Balances at 12 September 2022	
Current (C)	£19,337.93
Pavilion Trading (P)	£9,257.07
Allocated Reserves (A)	£37,957.55
Total	£66,552.55

Income: 12 July – 11 September 2022		
Pavilion hire	£60	P
HMRC (VAT)	£125.38	P
Interest - Allocated Reserves account (July)	£3.02	A

Payments for approval			
Clerk	Salary & disbursements (July & August)	£508.62 + £515.82	C
HMRC (PAYE)	PAYE	£3.20	C
HT Dons	S137 grant	£1000	C
R May	Painting of football store	£550	C
Plant Tech	Grass cutting, concrete pads, yew tree (July & August)	£3066.24	C
JKE Webdesign	2 nd instalment of website development	£237.50	C
Pennon Water Services	Pavilion water	£57.11	P
T Greenslade	Grass cutting – 6 months (Strand & War Memorial)	£270	C
Powderham Estate	Half yearly rental for allotments	£105	C
Plant Tech	Grass cutting (September)	£933.12	C
PKF Littlejohn	Limited assurance review of accounts	£360	C
Turtle Engineering Ltd	Defibrillator	£1440	C
S Rastall	Safety sign	£9.89	P
T Greenslade	Pavilion cleaning, fobbing, window cleaning & cleaning materials (July & August)	£484.14	P
MAT Electrics	New timers for external lighting, Pavilion	£213.13	P

Direct Debits: 12 July - 11 September 2022			
Natwest (15/7, 15/8)	Bankline fees	£46.80	C
PWLB	Pavilion loan	£1,660.85	C
Opus (22/7, 21/8)	Pavilion electricity	£84.60	P
Biffa (25/7, 22/8)	Waste bin at Pavilion (rental & collection)	£148.22	P
Opus (26/7, 26/8)	Pavilion gas	£43.63	P
Shell Energy (18/7, 11/8, 9/9/)	Broadband	£54.00	P

Clerk (July & August)	Salary	Tax	Net	Disbursements
Salary	£962.50	£3.20	£959.30	
Telephone and Internet	-	-	-	£10.00
Using home as an office	-	-	-	£17.34
Mileage @ 45p per mile	-	-	-	£30.60
Quickbooks	-	-	-	£7.20
TOTAL				£1024.44