



Starcross
Parish Council

STARCROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Starcross Parish Council held in Starcross Pavilion on Tuesday 14 March 2023 at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllrs Hopper (Chairman), Allen, Chase, McNally, Pegg, Rastall and Zawadzka

Also present:

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

RESIDENTS' QUESTION TIME

The Chairman invited questions/comments from residents.

There were no comments.

140323.01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from:

- Cllr Eyre
- Cllr Williamson
- Cllr Lovell
- Cllr Cadbury

140323.02 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 McNally declared an interest in item 7.4 (as a member of the Starcross Royal British Legion Committee).

Cllr Rastall declared interests in item 7.4 (as a member of SSCA) and items 10.4 and 10.5.

140323.03 RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

Members present received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 6 February 2023.

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

140323.04 ACTION REPORT

The Chairman listed the items on the action report:

Starcross Garage

Nothing further to report.

Cycle Path and Pavements

Working Parties are being amalgamated to tackle these issues.

Swan Road Steps

The Chairman has discussed improving the visibility in this area with a resident.

Playpark bench

Councillors continue to explore whether the graffiti can be removed.

Bus Shelter

The Chairman has been in touch with Starcross Fishing and Cruising Club about moving the bus shelter and they will discuss this as a Committee.

140323.05 **CRIME & SPEEDWATCH REPORT**

No crime report. A copy of the monthly gazette was circulated to members.

Cllr McNally advised that Speedwatch has restarted and temporary insurance has been arranged while they arrange for it to be insured under the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. There was a brief discussion about future insurance arrangements; DCC has been approached but no response has yet been received.

140323.06 **DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Connett was not present.

140323.07 **FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE** (Cllrs Hopper, Chase, Pegg and Rastall)

7.1 **Financial Report** – members received and noted the financial report 7 February – 13 March 2023 and were asked to approve the payments listed (copy attached).
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr McNally

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY that the payments listed are made.

7.2 Proposal: To adopt the Public Participation proposals
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr McNally

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to adopt the Public Participation proposals

ACTION: Cllr Hopper to update website etc

7.3 Proposal: To deposit £30,000 from Reserves into new Savings Account at Unity Bank. The amount to cover medium-term ring-fenced items
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr McNally

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to deposit £30,000 from Reserves into new Savings Account at Unity Bank. The amount to cover medium-term ring-fenced items.

7.4 Proposal: To agree the allocation of section 137 grants for 2023/24 (applications circulated to Councillors)
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr McNally

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to allocate funds as follows:

- RBL Poppy Appeal (purchase of poppy wreath) - £25
- St Paul's Church (upkeep of village clock) - £195
- Starcross in Bloom (public liability insurance) - £75
- SSCA (Easter Celebration for the Thursday morning club) - £150
- Starcross Royal British Legion (purchase of weatherproof notice boards and A-frame) - £179.80

ACTION: Clerk to notify applicants of outcome

FUNDING: Precept

7.5 Proposal: To maintain the storage fees for the dinghy storage at the current rates: £80 for a flat space and £40 for a rack space
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr McNally

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to maintain the storage fees for the dinghy storage for 2023/24.

140323.08 **PARKS, GARDENS AND FLOOD DEFENCE**
(Cllrs Chase, Williamson, McNally and Allen)
Committee Chair Report (Cllr Chase)

8.1 General Report/Question & Answers

Bonhay Big Park:

Interest has been expressed by residents in being involved in the wildlife project. A brief meeting was held in February, looking at the bank adjoining Baker's Boatyard as a starting point for the proposed wild area. The idea is to remove as little of the undergrowth as possible, to preserve a 'wildlife corridor' and possibly add appropriate donated seeds and plants to brighten the area up and make it look less of a wasteland.

It was considered feasible to grow some of the existing plants towards the boundary fence and add a few others which may deter youngsters from travelling between the yard and the park; it is assumed that the fence is not our responsibility.

Moving out from the bank, we have the promise of some willows which should help with the water level and some donated shrubs with which the bank itself can be shaped to give more colour and definition. As some point we will possibly approach SAFT for hedging to further shape the area.

There is the possibility of obtaining some sleepers from Teign Housing which we will pursue.

We will reconvene when the weather is more clement and Alison (leader of the wildlife project) can attend to provide a steer.

Cllr Hopper has asked Steve Swift to advise on the state of the middle oak tree as it appears to have died. The other seems to be producing some strange growth so, if he hasn't responded to this request, it would be worth asking him to inspect both.

Cllr Williamson is selecting options for more seating in the picnic area using the grant monies received and will put these forward for a decision.

Sercombe Gardens Ditch.

There has been a meeting with the new inspectors Teign Housing have appointed to this area and who will be the first point of contact for any problems. They will ensure the grille is checked more frequently (when the workmen come to Sercombe Gardens each fortnight) and are looking into: (a) ways to reduce overgrowth along the banks (b) possibly dredging the length to remove excess weed and grass and a build-up of silt.

It was noted that the overflow outlet from the car park is unable to open because of this and they intended to clear that as a priority.

Also discussed was the problem of garden waste and other items being thrown into the ditch by residents. It was agreed that it would be useful to send a joint letter as this is an unacceptable and ongoing nuisance.

It was also mentioned that access to the gate was hampered by the overgrown shrubs in the triangle planting area. This would be reported back to the manager, as it's not part of routine maintenance and, I believe, owned by Teignbridge, not Teign Housing.

Strand Gardens

A member of the public has written to ask whether they could have a memorial bench in memory of a family members along the front of Starcross. Cllr Allen has written back advising that the easiest course would be to apply through Teignbridge as they have a system in place. This raises the point as to whether the PC could adopt something similar as there are a number of spots where something of this nature would enhance the village.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
(Cllrs Pegg, Cadbury, Lovell & Zawadzka)

Whole Council to Debate (accompanying documents)

9.1 **New applications/appeals**

- 9.1.1 23/00229/HOU – 23 Counties Crescent, Starcross
First floor side extension and conversion of garage to additional accommodation

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY that members have no objections.

- 9.1.2 23/00007/FUL & 23/00008/LBC – Brickhouse Farm Barn, Mamhead
Conversion of storage barn and horse engine house to wedding/function venue including new access track, associated parking and landscaping

Cllr Pegg reported that the application is in the hands of English Heritage because the horse engine pump building is Grade 2 listed. Alterations can only be effected on the interior. Since the application calls for access and landscaping, the exterior may be compromised. A response from English Heritage is awaited.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY that the Parish Council would not comment on this application.

9.2 **Decisions:**

- 9.2.1 21/02891/HOU – Green Pastures, Staplake Lane, Starcross
Front and side extensions, raising of roof including four dormer windows and new windows to side and rear elevations to replace existing

It was noted that TDC has refused to grant planning permission.

9.3 **General Report/Question & Answers**

None

140323.10 PAVILION & SPORTS FIELD
(Cllrs Rastall, Hopper, McNally and Williamson)

Committee Chair Report (Cllrs Rastall & Hopper)

- 10.1 Proposal: To refund Cllr Hopper £251.40 for purchases of stock for the Pavilion Café – invoices supplied
(Sainsburys £36.15, Macro £65.36, Tablecloths £149.89)
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Rastall

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to refund Cllr Hopper £251.40 for the purchases of stock for the Pavilion Café, as proposed.

- 10.2 Proposal: To accept a quote from Colin Maclellan to replace the Pavilion outside tap including labour at a cost of £50
Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr Allen

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to accept a quote from Colin Maclellan to replace the Pavilion outside tap including labour at a cost of £50

- 10.4 Proposal: To reimburse Cllr Rastall £34 for the purchase of a toaster for the Pavilion kitchen
Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr Allen

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to reimburse Cllr Rastall £34 for the purchase of a toaster for the Pavilion kitchen.

- 10.5 Proposal: To reimburse Cllr Rastall £19.99 for the purchase of 12 blue centre feed rolls for the Pavilion
Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr McNally

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to reimburse Cllr Rastall £19.99 for the purchase of 12 blue centre feed rolls for the Pavilion.

10.6 **General Report/Questions & Answers**

Cllr Rastall advised that the first Thursday Café was well attended and an Easter Celebration is being planned.

A meeting has been arranged with M&D to discuss a project for smartening up the Pavilion terrace.

140323.11 WORKING PARTY REPORTS

A new working party has been formed to discuss Paths and Pavements.

140123.12 NON-COMMITTEE ITEMS

12.1 The resignation of Roger Crane from Starcross Growers Committee was noted. He was thanked for all he has done for the Allotments over the years.

12.2 To contribute £270 towards the Exe Estuary Management.

Proposer: Cllr Zawadzka; Seconder: Cllr Rastall

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to contribute £270 towards the Exe Estuary Management.

12.3 Annual Parish Meeting

A provisional date of 16 May was agreed.

140323.13 COUNCILLORS' PROJECTS

Cllr McNally circulated a certificate for members' approval. There was a brief discussion about how residents might qualify for one. This will need further consideration.

140323.14 CORRESPONDENCE

Members received details of the Off-Street Parking Order for Starcross which has recently been published. The proposals for Starcross are a 10p increase on each tariff but the Sunday £1.00 is staying the same.

140323.15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Tuesday 11 April 2023 in the Pavilion commencing at 7.30pm.

SIGNED:
Chairman of the Parish Council

DATE: 11 April 2023

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

Starcross Parish Council Finance Report – 14 March 2023

Summary of Bank Balances at 13 March 2023	
Current (C)	£28,280.03
Pavilion Trading (P)	£8,408.36
Allocated Reserves (A)	£38,083.02
Total	£74,771.41

Income: 7 February – 13 March 2023		
Donation (Over 60s Club)	£200	P
Pavilion hire	£65.60	P
Allocated Reserves Interest (Jan & Feb)	£52.94	A

Payments for approval			
Clerk	Salary & disbursements (February)	£551.02	C
HMRC (PAYE)	PAYE	£8.60	C
DALC	Training	£18	C
Powderham Estate	Half yearly allotments rental	£105	C
Arthur J Gallagher Insurance Brokers Ltd	Insurance renewal	£2088.43	C
Plant Tech	February - £311.04 (1 visit) March - £622.08 (2 visits)	£933.12	C
T Greenslade	Pavilion - cleaning, fobbing and supplies (February)	£183.60	P
All Doors SW Ltd	Servicing of Pavilion doors	£324	P
S Rastall	Toaster and blue feed rolls	£53.99	P
J Hopper	Stock for Pavilion café	£251.40	P

Direct Debits 7 February – 13 March 2023			
Natwest (15/2)	Bankline fees	£22.40	C
Octopus (15/2)	Gas and electricity	£1,004.15	C
Biffa (20/2)	Waste bin at Pavilion (rental & collection)	£44.92	P
Shell Energy Broadband (13/2)	Pavilion telephone and broadband	£19.10	P
PWLB (22/2)	Loan repayment	£1640.13	C

Clerk (February)	Salary	Tax	Net	Disbursements
Salary	£516.25	£8.60	£507.65	
Telephone and Internet	-	-	-	£5.00
Using home as an office	-	-	-	£8.67
Mileage @ 45p per mile	-	-	-	£15.30
Quickbooks	-	-	-	£14.40
TOTAL				£551.02