



Starcross  
Parish Council

# STARCROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Starcross Parish Council held in Starcross Pavilion on Tuesday 11 April 2023 at 7.30pm

**Present:**

Cllrs Hopper (Chairman), Allen, Cadbury, Chase, Eyre, Lovell, Pegg and Rastall

**Also present:**

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

## RESIDENTS' QUESTION TIME

The Chairman invited questions/comments from residents.

A resident advised that the recent proposal to build 5 x 4 bedroom houses at Westlake Farm (22/01979/FUL) has been withdrawn.

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**110423.01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from:

- Cllr McNally
- Cllr Williamson

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**110423.02 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.

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**110423.03 RATIFICATION OF MINUTES**

Members present received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14 March 2023.

**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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**110423.04 ACTION REPORT**

The Chairman listed the items on the action report:

Starcross Garage

Cllr Connett addressed this in his report at item 6.

Cycle Path and Pavements

To be discussed later in the meeting.

Swan Road Steps

The Chairman continues to discuss with a resident the clearing of a space to help improve the visibility in this area.

Playpark bench

Councillors continue to explore whether the bench can be repaired.

Levelling up

Council continue to look at this.

### Certificate

It was agreed to defer discussion about this.

### Bus Shelter

The Chairman has received an email from the Commordore of the Starcross Fishing and Cruising Club and that, in principle, they are happy with the siting of the new shelter. However, they are still concerned about visibility coming out of the car park and therefore the siting of the new shelter would be conditional on the advertising panel being at the south end of the shelter, not the north end so it does not obscure their view when exiting the car park. The problem with this is that you can't see the bus coming. The Chairman has written to Fernbank and it is now in their hands to resolve. It would also need planning permission.

### Community Speedwatch

To be discussed later at item 5.

### Unity Bank

The Chairman has not progressed this yet.

### Memorial bench

Suggest that the request for a memorial bench is put to TDC as they already have a process for this.

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## **110423.05 CRIME & SPEEDWATCH REPORT**

No crime report.

Community Speedwatch – the issue of insurance of the volunteers has still not been resolved. Whilst agreeing to be a conduit for the grant so that the VAS sign could be purchased (as the speedwatch group does not have a bank account), the Parish Council has never agreed to be responsible for the speedwatch volunteers.

In Cllr Connett's view, the responsibility for insurance of the volunteers should be the Police and Crime Commissioner and Vision Zero South West. He didn't think individual Parish Councils should be responsible and agreed to pursue it with the relevant authorities.

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## **110423.06 DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Teign Housing has agreed to replace the 'no cycling sign' on Sercombes Gardens.

Cllr Connett advised that he contacted the lead Devon County Councillor for Highways regarding the pooling of water on the A379 outside the hairdressers. This has now been resolved.

He has also responded to concerns about delays to the resurfacing program through Starcross. He has contacted DCC to find out when it will be scheduled and he will let the Council know.

Cllr Connett continues to pursue Enforcement about Starcross Garage. The action they are taking, however, is confidential and he is therefore unable to discuss this with the Council. He suggested that the clerk writes to Enforcement asking for an update.

This being his last meeting as a District Councillor, the Chairman thanked Cllr Connett for all the work he has done as a District Councillor which has been very much appreciated. Cllr Connett responded that he has always enjoyed attending Starcross Parish Council meetings and wished everyone every continued success; the Parish Council has achieved so much over the years and has undoubtedly improved the lives of everyone who lives in this village.

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## **110423.07 FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE (Cllrs Hopper, Chase, Pegg and Rastall)**

- 7.1 **Financial Report** – members received and noted the financial report 14 March – 11 April 2023 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 **General Report/Question & Answers**  
None

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**110423.08 PARKS, GARDENS AND FLOOD DEFENCE**  
(Cllrs Chase, Williamson, McNally and Allen)

**Committee Chair Report (Cllr Chase)**

Cllr Chase reported following a meeting with the wildlife group, the Committee would like to propose the following (8.1-8.4):

- 8.1 Proposal: To create a hedge boundary to define the proposed wildlife area, using native plants from the Woodland Trust, via SAFT.  
*Proposer: Cllr Chase; Seconder: Cllr Allen*
- 8.2 Proposal: To amend the mowing programme in the park to create a wilded area, with a mown pathway through  
*Proposer: Cllr Chase; Seconder: Cllr Allen*
- 8.3 Proposal: To organise an event in the Pavilion during half term (last week in May) to raise community awareness and involvement  
*Proposer: Cllr Chase; Seconder: Cllr Allen*
- 8.4 Proposal: To use donations of shrubs to add to areas such as the Millennium gardens  
*Proposer: Cllr Chase; Seconder: Cllr Allen*

**The above proposals (8.1-8.4) were AGREED UNANIMOUSLY en bloc.**

- 8.5 Proposal: To receive the ROSPA report and note actions taken  
*Proposer: Cllr Chase; Seconder: Cllr Allen*

Members received and noted the ROSPA report. An email has been sent to Rhino Play regarding the basket swing. Cllr Chase will follow up.

- 8.6 **General Report/Question & Answers**  
It was noted that the fence belonging to Weston Care is leaning and needs attention. The Chairman has been trying to get in touch with them.
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**110423.09 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**  
(Cllrs Pegg, Cadbury, Lovell & Zawadzka)

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

- 9.1 **New applications/appeals**  
9.1.1 23/00339/HOU – 7 Brunel Road, Starcross  
Proposed first floor side extension

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to support this application.

- 9.2 **Decisions:**  
9.2.1 23/00229/HOU – 23 Counties Crescent, Starcross  
First floor side extension and conversion of garage to additional accommodation

Members noted that TDC has refused to grant planning permission.

- 9.3 **General Report/Question & Answers**  
None
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**110423.10 PAVILION & SPORTS FIELD**  
(Cllrs Rastall, Hopper, McNally and Williamson)

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

- 10.1 Proposal: To accept a quote from Plant-Tech to power wash the external walls of the Pavilion at a cost of £100 + VAT

*Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr Lovell*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept a quote from Plant-Tech to power wash the external wall of the Pavilion as proposed.

10.2 **General Report/Questions & Answers**

Cllr Rastall advised that the Easter event was well attended. Thanks to all who contributed to the organisation of this event.

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**110423.11 WORKING PARTY REPORTS**

None

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**110423.12 NON-COMMITTEE ITEMS**

- 12.1 Proposal: To discuss signage for the cycle route through Starcross

*Proposer: Cllr Pegg; Seconder: Cllr Allen*

Cllr Pegg circulated a report highlighting the areas which are hazardous to pedestrians and cyclists where the signage is confusing or doesn't exist. Some clarification is needed as to the correct route to follow if travelling above 17mph. (The Road Traffic Act states that if you wish to travel above 17mph you are to use the main carriageway and not a cycle path.)

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to present the report (including a map), when finalised, to the relevant body.

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**110423.13 COUNCILLORS' PROJECTS**

The Chairman sought the opinion of members regarding improvements to the Pavilion Terrace project. Members were supportive of pursuing this.

Cllr Eyre advised that £480 has been granted through the Tidy Teignbridge scheme. It was intended to use the money to clear the circle at the end of Bonhay Road and fill it with something. She sought the opinions of members as to what it should be filled with. After brief discussion, members suggested a horse sculpture.

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**110423.14 CORRESPONDENCE**

None

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**110423.15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Annual Meeting of the Council (following the elections) will be held on Tuesday 16 May 2023 in the Pavilion commencing at 7.30pm.

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SIGNED:  
Chairman of the Parish Council

DATE: 16 May 2023

## Starcross Parish Council Finance Report – 11 April 2023

<b>Summary of Bank Balances at 11 April 2023</b>	
Current (C)	£25,324.85
Pavilion Trading (P)	£7,695.51
Allocated Reserves (A) (at 28 Feb)	£38,083.02
<b>Total</b>	<b>£71,103.38</b>

<b>Income: 14 March – 11 April 2023</b>		
Dinghy rack	£520	C
Pavilion café	£198.71	P
Pavilion hire	£52	P

<b>Payments for approval</b>			
Clerk	Salary & disbursements (March)	£564.30	C
HMRC (PAYE)	PAYE	£8.60	C
DALC	Annual subscription (taken from first instalment of precept)	£432.25	C
Playsafety Ltd	Annual inspection of play park	£226.20	C
T Greenslade	Grass cutting (Oct-March)	£270	C
T Greenslade	Pavilion - cleaning, fobbing and supplies (£221.25)	£221.25	P
Tamar Security	New back up battery in control panel	£95.47	P

<b>Direct Debits: 14 March – 11 April 2023</b>			
Natwest (15/3)	Bankline fees	£22.00	C
Octopus (15/3)	Gas and electricity	£82.33	C
Shell Energy Broadband (17/3)	Pavilion telephone and broadband	£19.10	P
Biffa (27/3)	Waste bin at Pavilion (rental & collection)	£35.04	P
Pennon Water Services	Pavilion water	£96.43	P

<b>Clerk (March)</b>	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	-	-	-	£16.80
Stamps (Dinghy rack stickers)	-	-	-	£10.88
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>£564.30</b>