



# STARCROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Starcross Parish Council held in Starcross Pavilion on Tuesday 10 February 2026 at 7.30pm

**Present:**

Cllrs Hopper (Chairman), Allen, Cadbury, Chase, Coupe, Lovell, McNally, Pegg, Phillips, Rastall & Williamson

**Also present:**

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk), County Cllr Connett, PCSO Bunce and two members of the public

## RESIDENTS' QUESTION TIME

The Chairman invited questions/comments from residents.

There were no questions/comments.

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**100226.01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- District Cllr Taylor

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**100226.02 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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**100226.03 RATIFICATION OF MINUTES**

Members present received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 13 January 2026.

**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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**100226.04 CRIME REPORT**

In the period 1 – 31 January, PCSO Bunce reported that there were 2 recorded offences in the Starcross area:

- Violence less serious x 2

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**1002256.05 COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

County Cllr Connett reported that that the County Council is under enormous pressure to repair the roads following a sustained period of heavy rain. They are prioritising the worst cases. The new Highways Officer, Rhys Andrews, is keen to meet with the Parish Council soon to discuss local issues.

District Cllr Taylor sent a written report as follows:

Other than steady progress on the budget (further to public survey and Overview and Scrutiny comments and late amendments to funding from Government) the only other item to report upon is last week's response from MHCLG regarding the start of the statutory consultation period on the 5 proposals for LGR from DCC, Torbay, Exeter and Plymouth - and the 2 proposals from the remaining Districts/Boroughs (4/5/1 & 4/5/1+).

This consultation is open to all those interested in the proposals, including local residents, town and parish councils, businesses, and the voluntary sector. As also noted at Annex C, principle authorities (such as Teignbridge DC) are not being called upon to comment on their own proposals, but they can comment on other proposals that affect their area.

[Proposals for local government reorganisation in Devon, Plymouth and Torbay - GOV.UK](#)

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**100226.06 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE**  
(Cllrs Hopper, Chase, Rastall, Coupe & Phillips)

- 6.1 **Financial Report** – members received and noted the financial report 14 January – 9 February 2026 and were asked to approve the payments listed (copy attached).  
*Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Cadbury*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that the payments listed are made.

- 6.2 Data and Digital Compliance update (Assertion 10 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return)
- To adopt an IT policy which incorporates a 'Bring Your Own Device' policy
  - To adopt a Data Protection Policy which incorporates a Data Retention Schedule
  - To receive and note the data audit

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to defer this item until next month to give all members an opportunity to digest the information.

**NOTED** that all members have each been issued with a new email address to be used for Starcross Parish Council business.

- 6.3 Committee Chair & Action Report  
None
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**100226.07 PLANNING**  
(Cllrs Pegg, Cadbury & McNally)

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

- 7.1 **New applications/appeals**  
None

7.2 **Decisions:**

7.2.1 [25/02120/HOU – The Croft, Starcross](#)

Alterations and improvements to existing dwelling including replacement of the existing single-storey extension roof, replacement windows and doors, installation of solar panels and associated works

Members noted that TDC has granted conditional consent.

7.2.2 [25/01921/TPO – The Croft, Starcross](#)

Rear garden: G1. 3x Holm oak coppiced stools - Fell to near ground level. Unmanaged coppice of holm oak, approx. 45mm in diameter, within close contact to the adjacent property. T2. 1x Dying pittosporum - Fell to ground level. Small suppressed tree, under 4m in height. T3. 1x Mature Holm Oak - Dismantle and fell to near ground level. Mature tree with low aesthetic value. situated within woodland area of site. G4. 3x Dead macrocarpa adjacent to mature Holm oak - Fell to near ground level. Front garden: G5. 1x Confier - Fell to near ground level 1x Holm Oak - Crown lift to achieve 3.5 m clearance above ground level.

Members noted that TDC has approved these works.

- 7.3 Committee Chair and Action Report  
None
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**100226.08 PAVILION, SPORTSFIELD AND BOATPARK  
(Cllrs Rastall, Hopper & Pegg)**

- 8.1 Proposal: To reimburse Cllr Hopper a total of £29.40 for items purchased for the Pavilion Café  
*Proposer: Cllr Rastall Seconder: Cllr Williamson*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to reimburse Cllr Hopper, as proposed.

ACTION: Clerk to refund  
FUNDING: Pavilion Café

- 8.2 Proposal: To reimburse Cllr Hopper £21 for Shanty Festival Event Licence  
*Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr McNally*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to reimburse Cllr Hopper, as proposed.

ACTION: Clerk to refund  
FUNDING: Shanty Festival

- 8.3 Proposal: To approve the retrospective purchase of a circular table and two doormats in a sale from ADEXA - £131 + VAT  
*Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr Cadbury*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to reimburse the retrospective purchase of table and doormats, as proposed.

ACTION: Clerk to refund Cllr Hopper  
FUNDING: Pavilion improvements

- 8.4 Committee Chair & Action Report  
Cllr Rastall gave an update on the Cockwood Shanty which is being hosted at Starcross Pavilion on 21 March.

There was a discussion about carrying out the fire alarm checks. It was agreed that, as a minimum, a group of members would carry these out monthly on rotation on the same evenings as the Parish Council meeting.

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**100226.09 PARKS AND GARDENS  
(Cllrs Chase, Lovell & Allen)**

- 9.1 Committee Chair & Action Report

The Parks & Gardens Committee met earlier this month and notes have been circulated to the full council for information. The main areas of focus at present remain the need to complete the planter project and to develop a proposal to improve the hard standing area just inside the park. It is hoped this would then stand ready to be submitted for any future community grant funding opportunities.

**Bonhay Park**

In good order. Safety checks were carried out and a small list of repairs passed to Sally for Paul Lappin. Of these, movement to the benches, which has damaged the brackets fixing them to the ground, is the most concerning. There are also some more cosmetic issues with the play equipment (a protruding bolt and missing end caps) which we will have to speak to the manufacturers about as they should ideally be addressed before the next RoSPA inspection in the Spring. The dyke was clear of obstacles on last check.

**Wildlife area**

SAFT have planted two new fruit trees to replace ones that did not thrive and will maintain them while they are establishing themselves. Bulb planting will be done more delicately than was intended as there are reports of solitary bees emerging from the longer grass. The sub-committee met last night to discuss the production of a formal strategy - establishing goals and a maintenance programme to ensure the

sustainability of the area. There has been a suggestion that a newly-formed community group aiming to tackle litter should link with this committee, but (while a welcome activity) it was felt more appropriate to work with the larger wildlife group that is planned by the local warden.

### **Strand Gardens**

Plant Tech have been contacted about the shrubbery but no response received as yet. Otherwise the area is as tidy as would be expected for the time of year if rather lacking in colour (we are wondering if the Spring bulbs were actually ever planted!!).

### **Millennium and Memorial Gardens**

Both areas look neat and tidy although there is still a wish to tidy the Millenium planter further as the shrubs look very overcrowded. No feedback from Teignbridge regarding the path. Further thought to be given as to ways of improving the benches.

### **Planter/ Sercombe's corner**

As mentioned previously, the committee has been looking at various ways to finish off the circular planter and to make use of the other and we aim to produce costed proposals by the next meeting.

### **Other issues**

Still no feedback from TDC regarding the land at the end of the village.

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## **100226.10 WORKING PARTIES, EXTERNAL PROJECTS & NON-COMMITTEE ITEMS (Updates and Action Reports)**

### **10.1 Traffic & Speedwatch (Cllr McNally)**

The first session of the year will be on Saturday 14 February.

### **10.2 The Chair reported that a planned meeting with the new Highways Officer, Rhys Andrews, had to be postponed but will be rearranged for March. Highways concerns will be discussed, including pavement defects, signage and potholes.**

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## **100226.11 RESIDENTS' CORRESPONDENCE**

None

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## **100226.12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday 10 March 2026** in the Pavilion commencing at 7.30pm.

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SIGNED:  
Chairman of the Parish Council

DATE: 10 March 2026

*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](mailto:starcrossp for cclerk@gmail.com)*

## **Starcross Parish Council Finance Report – 10 February 2026**

<b>Summary of Bank Balances at 9 February 2026</b>	
Current (C)	£38,527.46
Pavilion Trading (P)	£8,190.53
Allocated Reserves (A)	£71,956.19
<b>Total</b>	<b>£118,674.18</b>

<b>Income: 14 January – 9 February 2026</b>		
Starcross Growers	£210	C
Pavilion hire	£180	P
Pavilion café	£154.15	P
HMRC VAT	£27.91	P
Bank interest (30 Jan)	£56.14	A

<b>Payments for approval</b>			
Clerk	Salary & disbursements (January)	£635.87	C
Plant Tech	Grass cutting & maintenance (January)	£622.08	C
J Hopper	Items purchased for Pavilion & Café (8.1 Feb) TEN for Shanty Festival (8.2 Feb) Table & doormats (8.3 Feb)	£29.40	P
		£21	
		<u>£157.20</u>	
		<u>£207.60</u>	
T Greenslade	Pavilion - cleaning, fobbing, supplies (Jan)	£221.84	P
Tamar Security	Annual maintenance of intruder alarm (inv 132603)	£153.02	P
Tamar Security	Engineer visit to investigate and clear earth fault (inv 133541)	£99	P

<b>Direct Debit: 14 January – 9 February 2026</b>			
Bankline (15/1)	Banking fees	£24.05	C
HMRC	PAYE + NI (Q3)	£89.51	C
Talk Talk (16/1)	Pavilion telephone & broadband	£31.92	P
Biffa (26/1)	Waste bin at Pavilion (rental & collection)	£45.46	P

<b>Clerk (January)</b>	Salary	Tax	Net	Disbursements
Salary	£591.50	£3.80	£587.70	
Telephone and Internet	-	-	-	£5.00
Using home as an office	-	-	-	£8.67
Mileage @ 45p per mile	-	-	-	£15.30
Quickbooks	-	-	-	£19.20
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>£635.87</b>