

DRAFT MINUTES – STRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Held at 7pm at Greetham Community Centre on Wednesday 15th September 2025, commencing at 7:00 pm

Cllr Hawkes (Chair) opened the meeting at 7pm.

Public Forum: There were no questions from the public.

2025-51	All Parish Councillors were present at the meeting (Cllr Allan, Cllr Hawkes (Chair), Cllr Stokes). One member of the public attended the meeting. One officer from East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) attended for contribution to agenda item 2025-56; two officers from Rutland County Council attended to make a presentation at agenda item 2025-57.
2025-52	There were no apologies for absence.
2025-53	Cllr Hawkes declared a pecuniary interest with respect to agenda items 2025-61i and 2025-61j. Under such circumstances, the Council therefore RESOLVED not to give consideration to agenda items 2025-61i and 2025-61j, as the Council would be inquorate if Cllr Hawkes left the room.
2025-54	The Council RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Annual Stretton Parish Council Meeting dated 7 th May 2025 as drafted.
2025-55	The Council RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the 25 th June 2025 Stretton Parish Council Meeting as drafted.
2025-56	The Chair and all councillors thanked Ms J Burgess Ray (EMAS – Rutland First Responders) who ran an excellent defibrillator training session for Stretton residents on 25th June 2025. The Chair confirmed the number of defibrillator guardians had grown to 5 (4 in Stretton village, 1 at Stretton Wood Estate) and a further volunteer was potentially interested, subject to the future of the defibrillator currently sited at Stretton Wood Estate. The Chair reported that the Emergency '999' phone call button in the village phone box had been disconnected and dismantled; the '999' service had been discontinued some time ago – perhaps weeks / months, despite Stretton Parish Council having an up-to-date paid subscription. The button/equipment to call '999' has now been uninstalled. Users requiring access to the defibrillator who do not have the access code will instead need to dial '999' on their landline/mobile phone to gain access to it.

	The Chair confirmed that both defibrillators (Stretton village phone box and Stretton Wood Estate) are now checked/maintained weekly. A WhatsApp group for the guardians has been set up to ensure weekly maintenance checks of the both defibrillators. Given the participation and interest in further defibrillator training, the Council RESOLVED to arrange a further training session on 27th October, 18:30 – 20:30 at GCC. It was further agreed to invite Cottesmore Parish Council and Greetham Parish Council so as to encourage greater participation in the upcoming training event. CPC and GPC would be invited to share any costs. Action: Clerk to write to GCC to reserve the room and write to CPC and GPC extending the invitation.
2025-57	Rutland County Council, Waste & Recycling Officer provided an excellent brief on the services provided to residents; where waste goes; that contaminated waste cannot be recycled; drawing attention to further information on the RCC website regarding what can and cannot be recycled; what can and cannot go into a green bin; that food waste bins (23l and 5l) will be distributed to all residents for weekly collections from next year; outlining the function of the two recycling centres in Rutland.
2025-58	The Council reviewed several 2025/26 regulatory documents and RESOLVED to: a) Revise the draft Safeguarding Policy and review at the next PC meeting; b) Revise the draft Reserves Policy at a meeting of councillors at Brightside date TBD, to review a revised policy at the next PC meeting; c) Adopt the SPC Grievance Policy 2025; d) Adopt the SPC Disciplinary Policy 2025; e) Adopt the SPC Health & Safety Policy 2025; f) Adopt the SPC Training & Development Policy 2025; g) Adopt the SPC Policy Review Timetable 2025-2026; h) Adopt the Armed Forces Covenant 2025.
2025-59	The Council RESOLVED to approve the appointment of the LRALC Internal Auditor for the 2025-26 SPC audit.
2025-60	Cllr Stokes informed that he met with some of the Pickworth residents who were facing the potential impact of the Kilnside Energy Park proposal, if approved. Ward Cllr Begy informed that he would meet with members of the potentially affected Pickworth community in the following days. Cllr Hawkes reminded that Kilnside's next engagement would be in Autumn when the stakeholder document was scheduled to be published.

2025-61	The Council noted the status of planning applications received and noted the decisions of RCC upon the following validated applications: a) 2025/0419/FUL – Deer Valley, 10 Stocken Hall (RCC granted permission); b) 2025/0695/FUL – The Shires (SPC objection: RCC – no decision); c) 2025/0789/FUL – Training Facility, New Road Stretton (SPC has no objection: RCC – no decision); d) 2025/0840/CAT – The Manor – Fell Larch (SPC has no objection: RCC – no decision); e) 2025/0862/FUL – Stone House (SPC has no objection); f) 2025/0911/FUL – 2 Walnut Close (SPC has no objection); g) 2025/0853/CAT – Manor Bungalow Farm (SPC has no objection: RCC serves provisional TPO); h) 2025/0957/LBA – The Manor – Insert Bathroom Vent (SPC has no objection: RCC - no decision);
2025-62	The Council RESOLVED to note the: a) Payment of Greetham Community Centre Invoice 064/2526 in the sum of £68 for hire of facilities on 25th June 2025 for 2hrs defibrillator training and 2.25hrs SPC meeting; b) Receipt of Bank Interest in the sum of £69.91 on 30th June 2025.
2025-63	The Council RESOLVED to approve the: a) Bank reconciliation for the period 1 April to 8 September 2025; b) Table of transactions for the period 1 April to 8 September 2025; c) List of Unity Bank Transactions – current account; d) List of Unity Bank Transactions – savings account; e) Bank Statements – Unity Bank (Savings & Current) 1 Apr to 31 Aug 2025.
2025-64	Ward Cllr Begy confirmed the need for the cycle path between Stretton and Greetham remained clear, however there was a lack of money to facilitate the build. It should remain a priority going forward should money become available.
2025-65	Cllr Allan informed that the Community Speed Watch was cancelled for 2025, and hoped that SPC could join the programme in the future, subject to more councillors joining the Council.
2025-66	Cllr Hawkes confirmed that he would pursue: a) Following up with RCC (Stuart Crookes) regarding the cost to decommission / dim street lights. b) Discussion with Governor HMP Stocken re the possibility to review taking over the cost of HMP street lights.

2025-67	Ward Cllr Begy confirmed that RCC had simply 'forgotten' to install the Speed Indicator Device (SID) per the RCC CEO's letter to SPC, promising to install by March 2025 the replacement for the SID removed in January 2024. He hoped for installation later in 2025, but related a 2026 date was more likely realistic.
2025-68	Ward Cllr Begy confirmed that the replacement for the ancient lilac tree removed by RCC would be replaced in November 2025.
2025-69	The Council noted correspondence as follows: a) 01 July 2025 – Email from Dr Sarah Furness, Lord Lieutenant – Thanking SPC for participation in the VE Day, VJ Day and Armed Forces Day Parade; b) 9 July / 4 August – Emails from J Pattison, Churchwarden – PCC declines to make St. Nicholas Church available as a meeting venue for SPC; c) 23 July 2025 - Letter from Gov. Truman, HMP Stocken; d) 29 July 2025 – Email from Gill Harker – Defibrillator Handover; e) 3 August 2025 – Email from Greg Harker – Defibrillator background/handover;
2025-50	The chair closed the meeting at 9:00pm and confirmed the next scheduled meeting will take place on Monday, 17 th November 2025, 7pm, at Greetham Community Centre.

Cllr John Stokes,
Acting Clerk to the Council,
18th September 2025