

**DRAFT**

**STRETTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Stretton Parish Council Annual and Quarterly  
meeting held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022 commencing at 7pm at  
Stretton Church Community Hub**

**Members Present:** Cllr. Paul Finlay (PF), Cllr. Michael Arnold (MA), Cllr. Richard Foster (RF), Cllr. Greg Harker (GH), Cllr. John Cooch (JC), Cllr. Shani Storrie (SS), Cllr Nick Begy (NB) (Ward member), Jayne Isaac (Clerk)

6 members of the public attended

Ref	Item
<b>029/22</b>	<b>Election of Chair</b>
	<p>Cllr. Paul Finlay the current Chair explained that he did not wish to be re-elected as Chair for the forthcoming year due to health problems and work commitments. The rest of the Council had received notification prior to the meeting that he wanted to stand down from the position, but would stay on the Parish Council. No other members wished to put themselves forward for the role. It was noted that in the event of not electing a Chair, the meeting would have to adjourn. It is a statutory requirement that a Chair has to be in place to be properly convened as a Council.</p> <p>After further discussion Cllr. Michael Arnold put himself forward for nomination as Chair. Proposed by RF, seconded by JC All voted in favour.</p> <p>Cllr. Michael Arnold then took the Chair and presided over the remainder of the meeting.</p>
<b>030/22</b>	<b>To receive Apologies</b>
	<p>There were none.</p>
<b>031/22</b>	<b>Election of Vice Chair</b>
	<p>Cllr. Paul Finlay was nominated as Vice Chair. Proposed by JC, seconded by GH. All voted in favour</p>
<b>032/22</b>	<b>Comments received from members of the public</b>
	<p>A member of the public raised the issue of Manor Road needing a thorough road clean, in particular mud needs clearing at verges which is causing blocked drains. This has been entered on Fix my Street at least twice, but there has been no response to the request. <i>Cllr. N. Begy said he would raise this directly with RCC Highways</i></p> <p>Another member of the public raised a complaint regarding a planning application at 4 Spinney Lane for tree pruning to make the tree safe. This has</p>

	<p>been rejected by RCC. The tree officer had visited and he feels the tree is reasonably safe and will only allow its lower branches to be taken off. This is not the first issue SPC have had with a tree in the village and will be discussed later on in the agenda with the other official tree complaint. (Ref: 038/22)</p>
<b>033/22</b>	<b>To approve and sign the minutes from previous meetings</b>
	<p>The minutes of the meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> March were unanimously approved and signed as a true record. Proposed by RF, seconded by GH.</p>
<b>034/22</b>	<b>Matters arising from previous minutes</b>
	<p>There were none that are not already covered in the agenda.</p>
<b>035/22</b>	<b>Financial Matters</b>
035.1	<p><b>Receipt and Payments for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022</b> The Finance Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 (<i>circulated in advance of the meeting</i>) were considered and approved unanimously.</p>
035.2	<p><b>Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021/22 (AGAR)</b> The completed Section 2 AGAR Part 1 &amp; Part 2 with accompanying paperwork was circulated to members in advance of the meeting. There was unanimous approval.</p> <p><i>Clerk to send off signed Certificate of Exemption to PLK Littlejohn (External Auditors)</i></p> <p><i>Clerk to arrange for signed AGAR and accompanying paperwork to be made public on the SPC website.</i></p>
035.3	<p><b>Commencement date for the exercise of public rights</b> Dates proposed and agreed: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July</p> <p>The accounting records for the financial year to which the audit relates and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers, receipts and other documents relating to those records must be made available for inspection by any person interested, during a period of 30 working days set by the smaller authority and including the first 10 working days of July.</p> <p><i>Notice of Public Rights to be issued on SPC Website and the village noticeboards on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June</i></p>
035.4	<p><b>Bank Reconciliation at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022</b> This was noted as an accurate record at the year end.</p>
035.5	<p><b>Internal Auditor's Report</b> The auditor's report was noted. The report has shown that the website has been improved considerably since the previous year. It is now functional and provides comprehensive detail of minutes, agenda and other necessary documents.</p>
035.6	<p><b>Approval of invoices for payment:</b></p> <p>LRALC – Membership Fee for 2022-23 - £177.57 GPC – Yearly invoice for share of laptop - £171.00 S. Storrie – Platinum Jubilee Flag - £72.44 S. Armstrong-Brookes – Order with Amazon for QJ bunting - £14.99 J. Stokes – Order with Amazon for Time Capsule for QJ - £35.99 Unity Insurance Services – Insurance for Queen's Jubilee event - £241.76</p>

	<p>Stretton Church – Hire of Community Hub 12<sup>th</sup> May - £40.00</p> <p>The above payments were proposed by RF seconded by GH. All approved</p> <p><b>Queen's Jubilee Celebration Finances</b>  Cllr. Shani Storrie gave an update on the expenditure for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations. There is currently £375.40 left out of the earmarked funds allocated in the budget.  A donation from Hambleton's bakery of £500 is being paid as income to the SPC bank account which will be used towards payment of the band.</p> <p>The Clerk pointed out that any invoices for expenditure should be made out to Stretton Parish Council rather than individuals, so that VAT could be claimed back.</p> <p>After discussion with Stocken Hall Farm owners about access for parishioners to the walnut tree planted at the pond on the farm, it has been requested that the farm pay for the tree so that there will be no further issues with the tree and access to their land. Payment from SPC for the walnut has already been paid, so it was suggested that Stocken Hall Farm donate the tree cost of £57 to SPC towards the QJ celebrations.  <i>SS to speak to Stocken Hall Farm to make a donation</i></p> <p>It was suggested that the insurance cover for the event be increased from 150 people to 250.  <i>SS to speak to the person in contact with the insurance company to increase the insurance to 250 people.</i></p> <p>Charges for the Hire of the Church for the event needs to be added to the list of expenditure.  <i>GH to speak to Treasurer to arrange an invoice.</i></p> <p>Cllr. Richard Foster thanked the QJ committee for all their hard work in organising the QJ events.</p>
<b>036/22</b>	<b>Approval of Regulatory Documents for 2021/22</b>
	<p>The updated assets register was approved at the meeting held in March.  Risk Assessment – updated and approved.  Standing Orders – These were updated in July 2021. There are no further revisions - adopted and approved.</p>
<b>037/22</b>	<b>Planning</b>
<b>023.1</b>	<p>Consideration of the following:  <b>Planning Application: 2022/0401/CAT</b>  G1-Ash – Reduce boundary trees along side the stables by 3m.  Wytchley House, Hawthorn Close, Stretton, Rutland LE15 7QG  Response submitted (deadline 23<sup>rd</sup> April)  SPC had no objections and a notice of decision by RCC has been issued since the agenda.  RCC has decided not to exercise its powers to make a provisional Tree Preservation Order in this instance.</p> <p>The following Decision Notice was noted:  <b>Application: 2022 0269 CAT</b>  (T1) 1 no. Hawthorn - Fell (T2) 1 no. Hawthorn – Fell. (T3) 1 no. Hawthorn – Fell.</p>

	<p>(T4) 1 no. Hawthorn – Fell. (T5) 1 no. Hawthorn – Fell. (T6) 1 no. Hawthorn – Fell. (T7) 1 no. Holly – Fell.  7 Spinney Lane, Stretton, Rutland LE15 7RB  RCC has decided not to exercise its powers to make a provisional Tree Preservation Order in this instance.</p>
<b>038/22</b>	<p><b>Request for removal of sycamore tree in Manor Road</b></p> <p>Cllr. Paul Finlay reported on the response received to the Stage 2 formal complaint. The response is dismissive and gives no notification of the next stage. All members are extremely disappointed at the RCC response to the complaint.  <i>GH and JC to draft a letter of complaint to go to Cllr. N. Begy (Ward Member) to take up the matter with the new Portfolio Holder.</i></p> <p>It was noted that this is no longer a singular case, due to the application for tree pruning at 4 Spinney Lane being rejected. – See complaint raised in comments from members of public (Ref: 032/22).</p>
<b>039/22</b>	<p><b>Traffic Calming</b></p> <p>Cllr. N. Begy gave the following Update:</p> <p>At the last PC meeting, it was agreed to meet the Portfolio Holder and Highways Manager. This was booked for 18<sup>th</sup> May and was to be attended by members of SPC.</p> <p>Within the last week there has been a great deal of upheaval within RCC with resignations from the council. This has included, the resignation of the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Ian Razzel.</p> <p>The areas to be discussed were the extension and widening of the pathway, and to revisit what can be done to reduce speeding, reinstatement on the SIDs project so Parish funds are not required, and how we can move forward with Stretton and Greetham path in line with the proposed Local and Walking Infrastructure consultation.</p> <p>NB has asked the Governance Team, as soon as a new Portfolio Holder is appointed to rebook this meeting urgently.</p> <p>It was suggested and agreed that at that same meeting, the 2 trees of concern (Ref: 038/22) would be shown to the Portfolio Holder.</p> <p>NB said he was committed that the villages to the north of the county are not continually ignored, and now in his independent position, he has the freedom to more rigorously challenge the leadership to get the infrastructure deserved.</p> <p><b>20mph speed limit in village</b>  It was noted that the speed survey in 2019 showed very little speeding often because of the numbers of cars parked along the roads. This had been looked at in the ITCP 2019-07 report. The PC accepted the RCC Highways recommendation that because there was very little evidence of speeding, that additional signage would be needed and because Police will not enforce speeding below a 30mph speed limit, (as experienced in Greetham), there would be little benefit in reducing the speed limit.</p> <p><b>Overgrown footpath E132</b>  A visit/meeting was made by Highways last Friday to the overgrown footpath.  <i>NB to chase up a response following the visit.</i></p>

<b>040/22</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>
	Correspondence received by the Clerk for information has been posted on the website <a href="https://strettonvillageparishcouncil.co.uk/other/correspondence">https://strettonvillageparishcouncil.co.uk/other/correspondence</a> Noted: Letter from Andrew Tatt – RCC Highways Manager regarding lack of footpath/cycleway on Clipsham Road.
<b>041/22</b>	<b>Agenda items for next meeting</b>
	Update from HMP Stocken Prison on expansion
<b>042/22</b>	<b>Next Meeting</b>
	The following dates were agreed: Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> July at 7pm Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> October at 7pm 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7pm

Meeting ended at 8.05pm

Draft Minutes issued 14<sup>th</sup> May 2022