

Annual Parish Council Meeting Minutes
of Stretton Parish Council held in Stretton Community Hub, Church Lane, Stretton on
Thursday 27th June 2024, at 7:15 pm

- 2024-01 Election of Chair and signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office for Chair
RESOLVED - It was agreed by a unanimous vote in favour that John Stokes be elected Chair for Stretton Parish Council. Cllr J Stokes signed the Acceptance of Office for Chair
- 2024-02 Welcome to new Councillors and signing of Declaration of Office
NOTED - Chair Cllr J Stokes welcomed all the new councillors and confirmed that the Declaration of Office had been signed prior to the meeting.
- 2024-03 Election of Vice Chair
RESOLVED – It was agreed by a unanimous vote in favour to elect Cllr C Cassapi as Vice Chair for Stretton Parish Council.
- THE MEETING WILL BE SUSPENDED TO CONDUCT THE PUBLIC FORUM**
- Public **Forum**: Members of the public may ask questions or make short statements on items relating to the Agenda, below or request topics for future meetings.
There were 8 members of the public in attendance. No questions were asked.
- CLOSURE OF PUBLIC FORUM AND COMMENCEMENT OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**
- 2024-04 Record of **Members Present**
Cllr J Stokes, C Cassapi, G Harker, S Storrie, R Foster and P Finlay
Also, in attendance Clerk to the Council D Rolfe and Ward Councillor Nick Begy
- 2024-05 To receive **apologies** for Absence
There were none
- 2024-06 **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests**: To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011, and to consider any requests for dispensations in respect of disclosable pecuniary interests'
Cllr J Stokes declared an interest in agenda item 2024-15 Application No:-2024/0492/CAT. This is in relation to his property. No action required.
- 2024-07 To approve and sign the Minutes of:-
a. Full Council Meeting 7th March 2024
RESOLVED - It was agreed by a unanimous vote in favour to accept the minutes of the Full Council meeting dated 7th March 2024 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
b. Extra ordinary meeting 30th April 2024
RESOLVED - It was agreed by a unanimous vote in favour to accept the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Full Council meeting dated 30th April 2024 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
- 2024-08 To receive and note the draft minutes of Annual Parish Meeting Minutes 28th May 2024
NOTED – No comments were made.
- FINANCE**
- 2024-09 To receive and approve payments and note receipts listed below as per financial reports attached.
a. 1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024
b. 1st April 2024 – 17th June 2024
RESOLVED - It was agreed by a majority vote in favour to accept the financial reports as a true and accurate record of accounts held by Stretton Parish Council.
- 2024-10 To discuss and approve budget re-allocation to reflect the approximate costs of the election of £2100
RESOLVED – It was agreed by a unanimous vote in favour to pay the election costs out of the general reserves. The finance focus group will review the Precept breakdown and report back to council with recommendations on the new budget allocation for the remainder of 2024/25
- 2024-11 To discuss and approve Reserves Policy
DEFERRED – This item will be discussed at the next Full Council meeting after the Precept budget has been reviewed.

GOVERNANCE

2024-12

To receive update and approve:-

- a. Internal Audit Conclusion
- b. 2024 Annual Governance Statement (section 1)
- c. AGAR submission for publication (section 2)
- d. To confirm date for Exercise Rights of Inspection.
- e. To confirm Stretton Parish Council Certificate of Exemption
- f. To confirm the council does not meet the criteria for Powers of General Competence

RESOLVED – It was agreed by a unanimous vote in favour to accept items a- e as a true and accurate record. The dates for Exercise Rights for Inspection have been set as 1st July 2024 – 9th August 2024
It was also confirmed that the Parish Council did not meet the criteria for Powers of General Competence as the Council met only one of the two criteria required.

2024-13

To receive, consider and review Regulatory Documents for 2024/25

- a. Financial Risk Assessment – No changes

RESOLVED – It was agreed by a majority vote in favour that the Financial Risk Assessment be accepted. It was noted that when the Financial Regulations are updated. There will be a requirement to review the financial risk assessment.

- b. Financial Regulations – No changes, however new guidance has been received and documentation will be updated accordingly if required and presented at a future meeting

RESOLVED – It was agreed by a unanimous vote in favour that the Financial Regulations be accepted. A full review of the new guidance published in May will be undertaken and presented back to council at a future meeting.

- c. Standing Orders – No Changes

RESOLVED – It was agreed by a majority vote in favour to accept the Standing Orders with the following amendments:-

- a. Remove the requirement to stand at section 3i
- b. Change the length of meetings from 3 hours to 2 hours as detailed in section 3x
- c. Cllr Cassapi and S Storrie will review the wording in respect of 15b-xiv planning application decisions between meetings

HIGHWAYS

2024-14

To receive Highways Focus Group summary update to include

- a. Grass Cutting arrangements with Rutland County Council

Cllr Cassapi has been in touch with Rutland County Council in respect to the grass cutting contractors and the quality of work provided. It is much improved. However further comments have been made. To be reviewed again after 3rd cut. The cutting of the snowberry hedge has been requested to RCC contractor.

- b. To discuss AutoSpeed Watch and to discuss whether the council should join the ASWAR group

RESOLVED – It was agreed by a majority vote in favour to join the ASWAR (Auto Speed Watch Alliance Rutland).

Cllr P Finlay requested that pro-active measures should be taken first

- c. To discuss and resolve the cost and location of 2 x general waste bins

ACTION: Cllr Cassapi to seek donations to fund bins rather than fund through precept

DEFERRED – Cllr Cassapi to confirm location and type of bins required

Cllr C Cassapi has submitted an ITCP highways concern (2024-03) to request speed reduction measures on Stocken Hall Road. There has been a request for Caution Horses signage on New Road and a review of vehicle activity is required on Rookery Lane in respect of HGV's and Speeding Vehicles

ACTION – Cllr Cassapi to raise Highways Concerns for New Lane and Rookery Lane

PLANNING

2024-15

To receive any matters arising for information exchange in respect of planning applications received and to note the decisions of RCC upon applications validated and determined.

Application No:- 2024/0627/FUL –

No objections – The council felt it would enhance the welfare of the animals

Application No:- 2024/0626/FUL –

No objections – The council felt it would enhance the welfare of the animals

Application No:- 2024/0592/FUL –

No objections

Application No:-2024/0481/FUL – No objections - NOTED

Application No:-2024/0492/CAT – No objections – NOTED

2024-16

To receive update on Local Plan

Cllr G Harker gave an update on the Local Plan. Detailed below is the information provided by RCC at the recent Parish Fourm meeting.

Rutland County Council Parish Liaison Meeting Rutland Local Plan update Wednesday 12th June 2024

1. Additional sites put forward for consideration: a small number of additional sites have been put forward for consideration in the Local Plan. RCC are assessing these and will directly contact local councils for their informal comments.

2. Local Plan timetable: RCC are seeking to maintain our proposed timetable for the production of the Pre-Submission Local Plan (Regulation 19 consultation). Our intention is to seek consideration and approval for public consultation on this next stage of the Local Plan at Cabinet on 10th September and full Council on 26th September. Public consultation is then intended to take place from end of October to mid-December.

3. Town/Parish Council briefing: Based on this, it is intended to hold a briefing for local councils in the week commencing 2nd September – RCC will notify councils as soon as this date is confirmed.

Planning Policy Team June 2024

Of the additional sites put forward, it was noted that only the Woolfox site a 21.2 hectare employment site was close to and possibly relevant. RCC considered that this notification was sufficient under regulation 18 and these sites could be added to the local plan under regulation 19.

OTHER ADMINISTRATION ITEMS

2024-17

To discuss Councillors roles and responsibilities within the Parish Council

It was agreed that named councillors would represent the following Focus Groups:-

- a. Highways Group – Cllr C Cassapi, Cllr G Harker and Cllr J Stokes
- b. Finance Group – Cllr G Harker and C Cassapi
- c. Planning Group – Cllr S Storrie, R Foster and P Finley
- d. Tree Champions- Cllr R Foster and S Storrie
- e. Bank signatories – Cllr J Stokes, retain G Harker and S Storrie

It was agreed that the following focus groups would be set up:-

- a. Public Relations and Communications – Cllr J Stokes, Cllr C Cassapi and Clerk D Rolfe
- b. Community Focus Group – C Cassapi, and J Stokes

It was agreed that short Terms of Reference will be set up for approval by the council

2024-18

To discuss the involvement of Parish Councillors with organisations outside of Parish Council

AGREED to nominate Cllr C Cassapi to represent the Parish Council at the Rutland Quarry Forum

AGREED to nominate Cllr C Cassapi and Cllr S Storrie to represent the council at the Rutland High 5 meetings

AGREED to nominate Cllr J Stokes to represent the council at the Parish Liaison Meetings

AGREED to nominate Cllr C Cassapi to represent the Parish Council at CPRE meetings

2024-19

To discuss a visit from the High Sheriff of Rutland to Stretton Village

AGREED Councillors to confirm a location for the visit to take place and then the clerk will respond to the High Sheriff email.

2024-20

Confirmation of next calendar year meeting dates

CONFIRMED – 25th July 2024

26th September 2024

28th November 2024

16th January 2025

20th March 2025

8th May 2025

15th May 2025

2024-21

- CONFIDENTIAL SESSION – Members of the press and public will be asked to leave the building
- a. To discuss the role of Parish Clerk for Stretton Parish Council
Clerk D Rolfe had expressed a wish to rescind her notice given in March. The council agreed to the rescinding.

MEETING CLOSED AT 21.27

Deborah Rolfe, Clerk to the Council, 3rd July 2024