MINUTES – STRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Held at 7pm on Monday 3RD August 2026 at Greetham Community Centre, Greetham.

2627-23	Councillor Hawkes (Chairman) opened the meeting at 7pm. All members were present; there were no apologies for absence. Ward Councillor Begy was present as well as three members of the public and two representatives of Leicestershire Police.
2627-24	Councillor Allan declared an interest with respect to one item on the agenda for planning. The Council RESOLVED to not discuss the agenda item, so as to remain quorate.
2627-25	The Council RESOLVED at 19:02 to suspend the meeting to allow members of the press and public to ask questions or make short statements on items relating to the agenda or request topics for future meetings. Two members of the public expressed an interest in agenda item 30a; the Chair invited comments from the individuals during the discussion of the item; Councillor Allan expressed her thanks to Mrs Cassappi and all those volunteers who took part in the recent litter pick last Saturday. Given the amount of litter along the Clipsham Rd, she further informed of her intention to investigate siting a bin close to the George Henry Wood car entrance, pending which a potential proposal to Council may be submitted in the future. The Council meeting resumed at 19:04.
2627-26	The Council RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the 3rd June 2026 Annual Parish Council Meeting as drafted.
2627-27	The Chair invited PCSO Lauren Lyall to provide an overview of crime / issues reported in Stretton and introduced PC Jaimie Stott, local beat officer for the Rutland North neighbourhood policing team covering areas including Uppingham and surrounding regions near Oakham.
2627-28	As an update on the recruitment of a Parish Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer, the Chair confirm he had not received any applications.
2627-29	As an update on the co-option of Councillors to the three vacant positions, the Acting Clerk confirmed that no applications have been received.
2627-30	a) Following receipt of further documentation, the Council RESOLVED to submit a revised objection to planning application 2024/1459/MIN :

	Change of use from agricultural land to the extraction of building stone and limestone to include, Welfare Office, Weighbridge, Weighbridge Cabin, Wheel Wash Facilities, Fuel Bund, Haul Road and associated plant, machinery and infrastructure - Location: Land off New Road, Stretton. b) The Council RESOLVED to submit a neutral, no objection to planning application 2026/0527/FUL : Extension to parking/service area to existing vehicle recovery depot including new road access - Location: Ram Jam Services, Great North Road, Greetham, Rutland. c) The Council RESOLVED to submit a neutral, no objection to planning application 2026/0914/CAT : T1 - Reduce height of Cherry tree by 2m and reduce lateral branches by 1.5m to balance shape T2 - Reduce height of Silver Birch tree by 2m and reduce lateral branches by 1m to balance shape T3 - Reduce height of Whitebeam tree by 1m and reduce lateral branches by 1m to balance shape -Location: 9 Walnut Close Stretton Rutland LE15 7QQ.
2627-31	The Council noted payments/bank charges levied/receipts as follows: a) Greetham Community Centre – Venue Hire 3rd June - £16; b) Zurich Municipal Insurance – PC Insurance - £264; c) Reimbursement to Cllr Hawkes for Elementor Website Plug-in - £57.46; d) Unity Trust monthly Bank Charges levied – June 2026 - £7; e) Unity Bank Quarterly Interest received on 30 June 2026 - £69.44
2627-32	The Council considered and RESOLVED to approve the: a) Financial reconciliation for the period 1 April – 28 July 2026; b) Table of transactions for the period 1 April – 28 July 2026; c) Financial & Management Risk Assessment; d) Financial Regulations; e) Code of Conduct; f) SPC Policy Review Schedule. The Council agreed to review the Co-Option Policy at a future meeting.
2627-33	a) The Council noted that Cllr Allan informed that the installation of a floor mounted Victoriana polythene plastic waste bin had been ordered and was awaiting installation by RCC in the location of the Stocken Hall Road / Public Footpath; b) The Council RESOLVED to approve Cllr Allan's proposal to scope the possibility of installing a waste bin at the car entrance to George Henry Wood.
2627-34	Ward Councillor Begy confirmed the cycle path between Stretton and Greetham remained on the RCC agenda.
2627-35	The Chair confirmed that regular checks had been performed on the defibrillators.

	The second defibrillator was pending installation to the wall of the dog-training centre near Stretton Wood Estate; there would be minimal / no charge to SPC / community for the installation.
2627-36	The Council noted the grant-funding opportunities available as circulated by RCC. No requests had been submitted to SPC for consideration of grant funding.
2627-37	The Council noted the correspondence received/exchanged since the last meeting: a) Email 27th March 2026 to 4th June 2026 – Email exchange with "The Hub Committee" reference minute reference 2526-141 (attached at Annex); b) Email 8th June 2026 – Moore Accountants – Receipt of SPC Exemption Certificate; c) Email 9th June 2026 – Resident's response regarding a Complaint regarding 'access to St Nicholas Church, conduct of Church Representatives and failure of pastoral and ecclesiastical duty'; d) Emails 8th & 14th June 2026 – Rutland High Sheriff – notation regarding SPC nomination of Award; e) Email 18th June 2026 – RCC Rights of Way Team – Confirmation that the Stretton Footpath E132 (Church Lane) has been cleared of obstructions; f) Email 19th June 2026 – Forestry England – Planning Forester – Request for comments on the Forestry Plan encompassing Stretton be submitted online by 19th July 2026; g) Email 22nd June 2026 – RCC – Communications notifying that waste collection crews will operate from 6am (instead of 7am) for the period 23rd to 26th June due to high temperatures; h) Email 26th June 2026 – RCC Community Well-being Worker – Resident Survey – Physical Activity and Wellbeing Survey; i) Email 29th June 2026 – Shires School – Proposal to support SPC maintain attractive village spaces, provide meaningful real-work learning opportunities and encourage community pride; j) Email 1st July 2026 – Ward Cllr Begy informing of the grant funding available from RCC; k) Email 7th July 2026 – RCC Street Scene Officer – confirmation that grounds maintenance will cut grass per the mapping supplied by RCC, unless a resident requests a verge not be cut; l) Email 9th July 2026 – RCC Communications, seeking submissions from Land owners as preparation for a new local plan begins; m) Email 16th July 2026 – RCC Leader's statement in response to LLR reorganisation announcement; n) Email 23rd July 2026 – RCC Communications re Plans for museum transformation; o) Email 27th July 2026 – RCC Communication – Rutland Local Plan – Main Modifications Consultation.

2627-38	The Chair closed the meeting at 20:21, and confirmed the next meeting would take place on Monday 5th October 2026 at 7pm, Greetham Community Centre.

Cllr John Stokes
Acting Clerk to the Council
21st August 2026

ANNEX - Email exchange with “The Hub Committee”

From: hub@strettonrutland.co.uk <hub@strettonrutland.co.uk>
Sent: 27 March 2026 12:19
To: clerk@strettonrutlandpc.co.uk
Cc: Monitoringofficer <monitoringofficer@rutland.gov.uk>; Cllr Nick Begy <nbegy@rutland.gov.uk>
Subject: STRETTON PARISH COUNCIL (SPC) - FALSE PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION CONTAINED WITHIN 16TH MARCH 2026 MINUTES AGAINST STRETTON, RUTLAND COMMUNITY HUB ASSOCIAITON & FRIENDS (SRCHAF)

Good afternoon,

Please note that we have been made aware of false information to the detriment of the SRCHAF and the hiring of the Stretton Community Hub by way of a specific entry contained within the published Draft Minutes of the SPC meeting of Monday, 16th March 2026; the SPC claims the following @ 2526-141:

'Reviewing the options of St. Nicholas Church' - the SPC are well aware that St Nicholas Church is primarily a religious building and hosts church services, baptisms, funerals and all other events of a religious nature and that the Association is responsible for the hiring of the Hub for secular events such as polling station, training sessions, external meetings incl previous Parish Council meetings, community quizzes, wedding receptions, Stretton music nights etc and these arrangements have been made directly with the Association since its inception in October 2022.

'Far less expensive than hiring 'St Nicholas Church'' - this is wholly incorrect and false and we consider that by publishing this onto the public domain this only adds to the SPC's unsupportive community attitude towards the Hub and further ignites their intention to cause separation and divide within our community. They are fully aware of the hourly hire rates afforded to the SPC by the Association which are 'far less expensive' than Greetham Community Centre(GCC) - please find attached various communications with the SPC since January 2025 setting out the hire charge of £16 per hour, £4 per quarter of any hour and a very generous 15 minutes free before and after each meeting for the 'set up' and 'take down' and note the SPC have reviewed their arrangement to continue to use the GCC throughout 2025 & 2026 despite the venue being outside of the Parish and more expensive.

A spreadsheet of charges paid to GCC-v SRCHAF charges (that would have been applied) is attached to this email for ease of reference.

The Association has installed 4 x 3Kw Tower Infra-Red Heaters in the past year which amply heats up the whole of the community Hub.

We also note that the SPC is to hold the APM at HMP Visitor Centre instead of using the Hub and all other SPC meetings for the following 6 months returning back to the GCC, these arrangements are at the behest of the Councillors and not of the community and by this decision it continues to take all Parish Council meetings outside of the Parish and for parishioners to pay another Parish for the hire of a meeting room - throughout 2025 & 2026 the majority of SPC meetings have attracted only one member of the public opposed to double-figure numbers of Stretton parishioners when meetings were held in the community Hub. The GCC is not only more expensive it is inconvenient for all parishioners.

It is unfortunate that the Councillors continue to disregards the community Hub when such great support is given to it by a large number of parishioners, together with HRH Lord Lieutenant of Rutland Dr. Sarah Furness, HRH Deputy Lieutenant of Rutland Mrs. Jeannette Warner and Alicia Kearns MP who has not only hired the community Hub previously and is doing so in the very near future, therefore, we irrevocably refute such written false information being published and in the public domain by the Stretton Parish Council.

Councillors are spending our precept against the wishes of many parishioners.

Regards

The Committee

Stretton, Rutland, Community Hub Association & Friends

On 2026-03-27 13:49, clerk@strettonrutlandpc.co.uk wrote:

Dear Hub Committee,

Thank you for your email, which I confirm has been sent to all Stretton Parish Councillors and will be included on the agenda of the next Stretton Parish Council meeting.

Best Regards

Cllr John Stokes
Acting Clerk
Stretton Parish Council

Mob: 07497829181
clerk@strettonrutlandpc.co.uk
www.strettonrutlandpc.co.uk

From: hub@strettonrutland.co.uk <hub@strettonrutland.co.uk>
Sent: 27 March 2026 1:58 PM
To: clerk@strettonrutlandpc.co.uk <clerk@strettonrutlandpc.co.uk>
Cc: Monitoring Officer <monitoringofficer@Rutland.gov.uk>; Cllr Nick Begy <NBegy@rutland.gov.uk>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: STRETTON PARISH COUNCIL (SPC) - FALSE PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION CONTAINED WITHIN 16TH MARCH 2026 MINUTES AGAINST STRETTON, RUTLAND COMMUNITY HUB ASSOCIAITON & FRIENDS (SRCHAF)

Dear Acting Clerk,

We would appreciate a response in writing from the SPC on all points raised in the below email and we look forward to the Monitoring Officer fully investigating the contents of the

below email with regards to the SPC's false information contained within the published Draft Minutes as detailed.

Regards

The Committee

Stretton, Rutland, Community Hub Association & Friends

On Apr 7, 2026, at 4:44 PM, Monitoring Officer <monitoringofficer@rutland.gov.uk> wrote:

Good afternoon,

I acknowledge receipt of your emails, on behalf of the Monitoring Officer.

By way of clarification, the Monitoring Officer's remit relates to the conduct of members and not overall council decisions. Any complaints about individual named members can be submitted via the website:
Complain about a councillor | Rutland County Council

Regards,

Sarah Khawaja, Solicitor | Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Deputy Monitoring Officer)
(she/her)

Rutland County Council
Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP
Telephone: 01572 827347
www.rutland.gov.uk

Details regarding your data protection rights and how the Council processes your data can be found at: www.rutland.gov.uk/my-council/data-protection

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From: Stretton Parish Clerk <clerk@strettonrutlandpc.co.uk>
Date: June 4, 2026 at 10:01:32 PM GMT+1
To: hub@strettonrutland.co.uk
Cc: Cllr Nick Begy <nbegy@rutland.gov.uk>, Monitoring Officer <monitoringofficer@rutland.gov.uk>, Jonathan Pattison <jonathan@hal5000.co.uk>, Kevin Hawkes

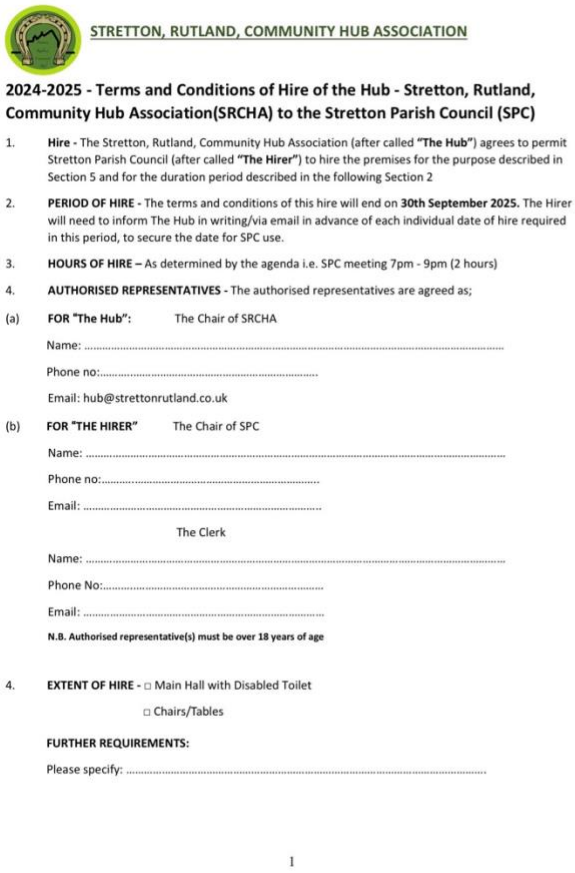
<khawkes@strettonrutlandpc.co.uk>, Dilys Allan
<dallan@strettonrutlandpc.co.uk>, John Stokes
<jstokes@strettonrutlandpc.co.uk>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: STRETTON PARISH COUNCIL (SPC) - FALSE PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION CONTAINED WITHIN 16TH MARCH 2026 MINUTES AGAINST STRETTON, RUTLAND COMMUNITY HUB ASSOCIAITON & FRIENDS (SRCHAF)

Dear Hub Committee,

Copied into this email is Mr J Pattison, Churchwarden and member of Stretton Parochial Church Council (SPCC), given that 'The Hub' is not listed as an incorporated or charitable organisation.

The issues raised in the 27 March 2026 email and subsequent exchanges were considered at the 3 June 2026 Annual Stretton Parish Council Meeting, prior to resolving to adopt the draft minutes for the 16 March 2026 SPC meeting. No changes to the draft minutes were considered necessary.

SPC considered the venue for its meetings at an Extraordinary Meeting held on 26 January 2025, finding the proposed 66.6% increase in St Nicholas Church's "Hub" Hire rate from £15 / hour to £25 / hour was an important factor when resolving to move meetings away from St Nicholas Church, Stretton to Greetham Community Centre (GCC).



STRETTON, RUTLAND, COMMUNITY HUB ASSOCIATION

2024-2025 - Terms and Conditions of Hire of the Hub - Stretton, Rutland, Community Hub Association(SRCHA) to the Stretton Parish Council (SPC)

1. **Hire -** The Stretton, Rutland, Community Hub Association (after called **"The Hub"**) agrees to permit Stretton Parish Council (after called **"The Hirer"**) to hire the premises for the purpose described in Section 5 and for the duration period described in the following Section 2
2. **PERIOD OF HIRE -** The terms and conditions of this hire will end on **30th September 2025.** The Hirer will need to inform The Hub in writing/via email in advance of each individual date of hire required in this period, to secure the date for SPC use.
3. **HOURS OF HIRE –** As determined by the agenda i.e. SPC meeting 7pm - 9pm (2 hours)
4. **AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVES -** The authorised representatives are agreed as;

(a) **FOR "The Hub":** The Chair of SRCHA

Name: .....

Phone no:.....

Email: hub@strettonrutland.co.uk

(b) **FOR "THE HIRER"** The Chair of SPC

Name: .....

Phone no:.....

Email: .....

The Clerk

Name: .....

Phone No:.....

Email: .....

N.B. Authorised representative(s) must be over 18 years of age

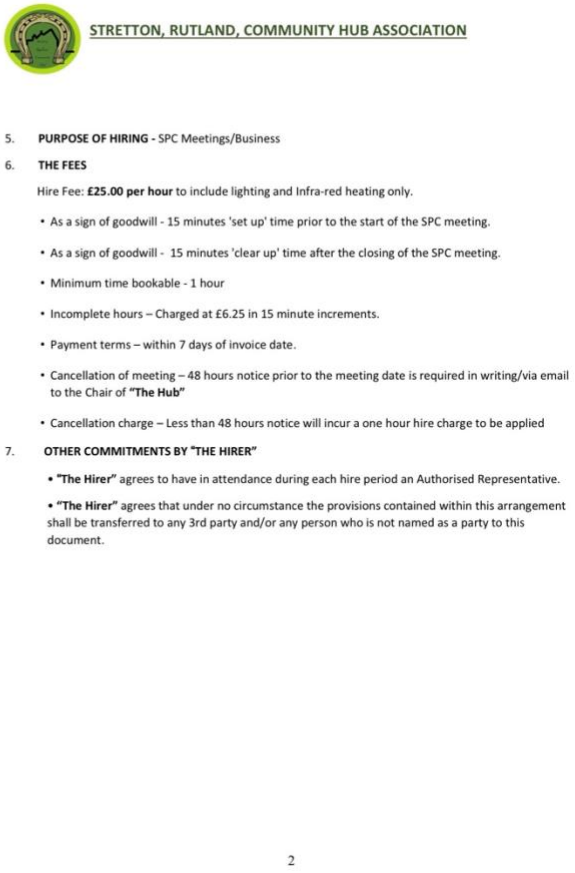
4. **EXTENT OF HIRE -** □ Main Hall with Disabled Toilet

□ Chairs/Tables

FURTHER REQUIREMENTS:

Please specify: .....

1



STRETTON, RUTLAND, COMMUNITY HUB ASSOCIATION

5. **PURPOSE OF HIRING -** SPC Meetings/Business
6. **THE FEES**

Hire Fee: **£25.00 per hour** to include lighting and Infra-red heating only.

- As a sign of goodwill - 15 minutes 'set up' time prior to the start of the SPC meeting.
- As a sign of goodwill - 15 minutes 'clear up' time after the closing of the SPC meeting.
- Minimum time bookable - 1 hour
- Incomplete hours – Charged at £6.25 in 15 minute increments.
- Payment terms – within 7 days of invoice date.
- Cancellation of meeting – 48 hours notice prior to the meeting date is required in writing/via email to the Chair of **"The Hub"**
- Cancellation charge – Less than 48 hours notice will incur a one hour hire charge to be applied

7. **OTHER COMMITMENTS BY "THE HIRER"**
   - **"The Hirer"** agrees to have in attendance during each hire period an Authorised Representative.
   - **"The Hirer"** agrees that under no circumstance the provisions contained within this arrangement shall be transferred to any 3rd party and/or any person who is not named as a party to this document.

2

GCC hire rates are published online : (£16 / hour during Spring/Summer months and £21 / hour during Autumn/Winter). SPC noted that GCC offers a more suitable and comfortable environment in which parishioners and councillors can meet, including adequate heating, parking and facilities. SPC has resolved at subsequent meetings to continue meeting at GCC until February 2027.

SPC recalls that invoices paid for meetings previously held at St Nicholas Church resulted in a charge of £134 for a single two-hour meeting. In light of its responsibility to manage public funds responsibly and secure value for all, SPC does not consider it appropriate to expose parishioners to the prospect of similar costs in the future. This remains a significant factor in the Council's decision regarding meeting venues.

Stretton, Rutland, Community Hub Association

Invoice

Shani Storrie
Stretton, Rutland Community Hub Association Treasurer
[redacted]
Address redacted

Invoice Number: 045
Date: 28th December 2023

Invoice To
Stretton Parish Council

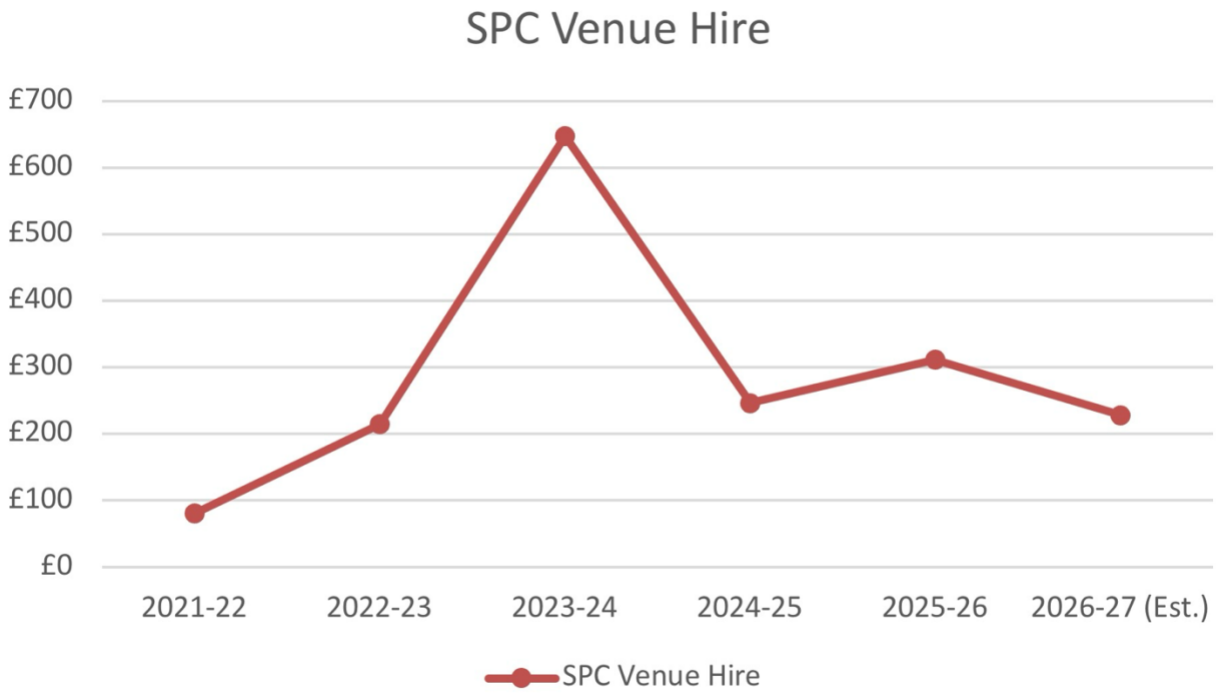
QTY	Description	Rate	Amount
2 hours	SPC meeting 05.12.2023	£15.00 per hr.	£30.00
471 units	Electricity including Standing Charge plus 5% vat	.21p	£104.59
	Units 471 @ 0.21p = £98.91		
	Vat @ 5% = £4.94		
	SC = £0.74		
		Sub Total	£134.59
		VAT	£0.00
		Total	£134.59

NB: Please note that our payment terms are strictly 7 days from date of Invoice

Please make Cheques Payable to:
Stretton, Rutland, Community Hub Association

Bank
Please transfer funds into the below bank account:
Bank Name : Lloyds Bank
Bank Account: 29989768
Bank Sort Code: 30-99-50
Ref SRCHA SPC Meeting

In analysis, St Nicholas Church's 'Hub' venue hire costs for SPC amounted to ~£700 in fy 2023/4; venue hire costs subsequently reduced following the move to GCC in 2025 to ~£300. SPC reviewed venue hire costs paid by parish councils across Rutland and noted that the proposed charges to hire St Nicholas Church's 'Hub' are higher than those paid by any other parish council in Rutland for comparable facilities.



Through a combination of cost-saving measures, including the relocation of SPC meetings to GCC, the Stretton parish precept has reduced from £8,805 in 2024 to £3,850 in 2026. This significant cut was achieved through a phased reduction of 36.5% in fy 2025/26, followed by a further reduction of 32.4% in fy 2026/27. Full details of SPC income and expenditure are published on the SPC website.

SPC understands that some users of St Nicholas Church's 'Hub' may be disappointed by the Council's decision to cease hiring the venue. However, SPC's responsibility is to act in the interests of all parishioners and to ensure that public funds are spent prudently and to provide value for money for all.

SPC's next meeting takes place at 7pm on 3 August 2026 at GCC, where representations on this or any other matter relating to the Parish can be brought forward.

Best Regards

Cllr John Stokes
Acting Clerk
www.StrettonRutlandPC.co.uk