



STARCROSS PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of Starcross Parish Council held on Zoom
on Monday 11 January 2021 at 7.40pm**

Present:

Cllr Hopper (Chairman), Allen, Cadbury, Chase, Lovell, McNally, Rastall, Redmond, Williamson, Woodhouse-Pickton and Zawadzka

Also present:

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk), County/District Cllr Connett and four members of the public.

RESIDENTS' QUESTION TIME

(20 minutes)

Residents are invited to make representations to the Council or to ask questions.

A resident commented on the planning application to be discussed at item 9.1. She advised members that last time she had sent photographs to the District Council about flooding in Parkers Road. She further advised that TDC had done some desk-based research on flooding. She commented that with this amended application, a highways assessment had been undertaken without looking at the blind bends on the approach to the site. She has therefore sent some photographs of these. She requested that TDC visits the site before a decision is made. She also advised that anyone could continue to submit comments to the planning department until it goes to Committee. Cllr Connett confirmed that this was the case but if comments were submitted too late, they may not be included in the planning officer's report.

110121.01 APOLOGIES
None

110121.02 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.

110121.03 RATIFICATION OF MINUTES
Members present received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 4 December 2020.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY by those members present that these minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of that meeting.

110121.04 ACTION REPORT
The Chairman informed members that there were no outstanding resolution requiring action.

110121.05 CRIME REPORT
No report

110121.06 DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT
Cllr Connett informed members that TDC is currently going through the budget setting process. It is likely that TDC will increase the council tax by £5 per year. Next year's budget

will be balanced by reserves. He has and will continue to report potholes most recently outside the garage and on Cofton corner. He also continues to keep an eye on how the planning enforcement is progressing at Starcross Garage.

110121.07 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
(Cllrs Hopper, Chase, Zawadzka and the Clerk)

Committee Chair Report (Cllr Hopper)

- 7.1 **Financial Report** – members received and noted the financial report of 15 December - 11 January 2021 and were asked to approve the payments listed (copy attached).
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Cadbury

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY that the payments listed are made.

Cllr Lovell observed that the Parish Council often uses the same individual to carry out smaller jobs and that it should be opening the opportunity up to other individuals and/or businesses. The Chairman acknowledged the concern but advised that in the past these smaller jobs had been advertised and there was either a lack of interest or the quotes from larger businesses were too high. It was agreed that this would be looked at again with a view to offering the opportunity for others to tender for smaller works.

- 7.2 Proposal: To adopt a suggestion for proposed Committee membership
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Rastall

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to adopt the suggestion for Committee membership as circulated.

ACTION: Amend Committee structure documents

- 7.3 **Action List Report**
There were no outstanding matters requiring action.
- 7.4 **General Report/Question & Answers**
None.
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110121.08 PARKS, GARDENS AND FLOOD DEFENCE
(Cllrs Allen, Cadbury, Chase and Woodhouse-Pickton)

Committee Chair Report (Cllrs Woodhouse-Pickton and Chase)

- 8.1 Proposal: To accept Megan Debenham's donation of some willow trees for the playing field. (Willows can cope with a certain amount of waterlogging and help to reduce it. Megan will bring them on in her allotment for about two years until they are large enough to stand a chance of survival in a public place).
Proposer: Cllr Jan Woodhouse-Pickton; Seconder: Cllr Chase

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the donation of some willow trees for the playing field, as proposed.

- 8.2 **Action Report**
There were no outstanding matters requiring action.
- 8.3 **General Report/Question & Answers**
Members received inspection reports and noted the observations contained therein.
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110121.09 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
(Cllrs Cadbury, Hopper, Rastall & Zawadzka)

Whole Council to Debate (accompanying documents)

- 9.1 **New applications to be considered at this meeting:**

- 9.1.1 18/01656/MAJ - Revised application: Erection of 20 dwellings (affordable housing) including a local equipped area of play in place of existing play park, public open space, landscaping, access and associated infrastructure.

Members discussed the material considerations at length. During the discussion, particular concerns were raised about the loss of the T1 oak. It was agreed to request that the developer looks again at providing additional specimen trees of increased maturity to mitigate the increased flood risk that would be caused by the loss of this oak.

With regard to the loss of ecological habitat, members were also concerned about the potential loss of insect life which only exists in mature trees and will not return until there is a similar host environment. It was therefore agreed to recommend further liaison with TDC's Arboricultural Officer. (Cllrs Zawadzka and Chase to draft wording for the planning report form for members' approval after the meeting).

Concerns about the narrowness and condition of the Brickyard Lane to Staplake Road route were also raised although it was accepted that these are legitimate highways.

Members considered that there was adequate provision against flood risk.

AGREED BY A MAJORITY of members to raise no objections to this application (10 members in favour of no objections; 1 abstention) but following the above discussion it was agreed to raise concerns about the loss of the oak and the impact this would have on wildlife and soil quality. Ways to mitigate this, including the planting of mature oaks to rebuild the habitats more quickly, would be suggested.

The Parish Council also agreed to request that contractors' vehicles be directed to and from the site via New Road to Cockwood rather than through the village.

9.2 **Decisions:**
None

9.3 **Action List Report**
There were no outstanding actions requiring action.

9.4 **General Report/Question & Answers**
None.

110121.10 PAVILION & SPORTS FIELD
(Cllrs Rastall, Hopper, Allen, Zawadzka & Woodhouse-Pickton and B Osborne (co-opted member))

Committee Chair Report (Cllrs Rastall & Hopper)

10.1 Proposal: That the question of street food trading on the Pavilion car park should be passed to the Pavilion Committee to formulate a policy document for consideration by Council at the February meeting
Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr Allen

AGREED BY A MAJORITY of members that the question of street food trading on the Pavilion car park is passed to the Pavilion to formulate a policy document for consideration by Council at the February meeting (10 members in favour; 1 abstention)

ACTION: Committee to meet via Zoom

10.2 **Action List Report**
There were no outstanding resolutions requiring action.

10.3 **General Report/Questions & Answers**
None.

**110121.11 CLIMATE CHANGE
(Cllrs Hopper & Chase)**

Committee Chair Report:

11.1 Action List Report

There were no outstanding resolutions requiring action.

11.2 General Report/Questions & Answers

None

110121.12 NON-COMMITTEE ITEMS

None

110121.13 COUNCILLORS' PROJECTS

None

110121.14 CORRESPONDENCE

None

110121.15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Monday 8 February 2021 commencing at 7.40pm.

SIGNED:
Chairman of the Parish Council

DATE: 8 February 2021

Note: Where a document or paper is referred to on the Agenda, this document will be available on request from the Clerk by emailing starcrosspcclerk@gmail.com

Starcross Parish Council Finance Report – 11 January 2021

Summary of Bank Balances at 11 January 2021	
Current (C)	£16,350.94
Pavilion Trading (P)	£9,014.73
Allocated Reserves (A)	£51,653.17
Total	£77,018.84

Income: 15 December 2020 – 11 January 2021		
None		

Payments for approval			
Clerk	Salary & disbursements	£483.72	C
HMRC	HMRC (PAYE)	£2.60	C
Enviroliance Ltd	Legionella risk assessment and sampling	£1311.60 (already paid)	C
R Grave	Sports field hedge trimming	£45.00	C
R Grave	Reinstall vandalised bench in play area	£74.14	C
R Grave	Quarterly fire alarm test + gutter clearing	£54.00	P

Direct Debits: 15 December 2020 – 11 January 2021			
Natwest (15/12/20)	Bankline fees	£24.40	C
Opus (21/12/20)	Pavilion electricity	£39.83	P
Opus (29/12/20)	Pavilion gas	£42.87	P
Biffa (21/11/20)	Waste bin at Pavilion (rental & collection)	£70.97	P
Post Office (11/1/21)	Pavilion telephone and internet	£18	P