



# **STARCROSS PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting of Starcross Parish Council held in Starcross Pavilion on Monday 14 March 2022 at 7.40pm**

**Present:**

Cllr Hopper (Chairman), Cadbury, Lovell, McNally, Pegg, Rastall, Williamson and Zawadzka

**Also present:**

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk) and two members of the public.

## **RESIDENTS' QUESTION TIME**

**(20 minutes)**

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

There were no comments.

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### **140322.01 APOLOGIES**

- Cllr Allen
- Cllr Chase
- Cllr Redmond
- County/District Cllr Connett

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### **140322.02 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.

Cllr Zawadzka declared an interest in item 9.1.3.

Cllr Rastall declared an interest in item 10.1.

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### **140322.03 RATIFICATION OF MINUTES**

Members present received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14 February 2022.

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

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### **140322.04 ACTION REPORT**

The Chairman reminded members of items on the action list including: Starcross Garage, the cycle path and the Swan Road entrance.

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### **140322.05 CRIME REPORT**

PC Orchard provided a crime report for the period 1 – 28 February 2022 for Starcross and Kenton. 6 crimes were reported and 11 incidents recorded.

Members also received the latest edition of the gazette, an article about dog walking/livestock worrying and the community speedwatch report. There were 12 sessions in Starcross: 247 vehicles were recorded exceeding the speed limit and 10 vehicles were not registered with DVLA. The maximum speed recorded in a 20mph area was 29mph and in a 30mph area the maximum speed recorded was 58mph.

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**DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Connett was not present at the meeting but sent the following update:

In relation to the access from Swan Road to New Road, Devon highways advise that they will not fund signs. I have though asked Highways if they would permit signs and put them up if they were funded by another party. I await a response on that issue and will update when received.

This was discussed by members who expressed safety concerns about the overgrown hedge and lack of signage. The access is used by school children alighting the school bus and other users accessing the housing estate. Members therefore felt that DCC should be maintaining it by cutting the hedge back and ensuring that users were able to use it safely. The Chairman will write to Cllr Connett about these concerns.

Starcross Garage. Teignbridge has been pursuing the matters and I know there has been contact from the council to the occupants/owners within the past few weeks. Enforcement matters are confidential until they reach the point that an Enforcement Notice is issued. However, I have asked Teignbridge how best the Parish Council can be updated.

I have taken up the issue of the slurry surfacing of pavements in Starcross with the Chief Officer for Highways at Devon County Council. The officers leading the contract work were, in my view, slow to accept there are significant issues with the work. They have taken it up with the contractor and I am expecting remedial work to be undertaken. I don't yet know to what extent that will be or when the work will be done. I am chasing that detail.

**FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

(Cllrs Hopper, Chase and Zawadzka)

- 7.1 **Financial Report** – members received and noted the financial reports 15 February – 11 March 2022 and were asked to approve the payments listed (copy attached).

*Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Cadbury*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that the payments listed are made.

**Committee Chair Report:**

- 7.2 Members noted that the National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) has reached an agreement on the new rates of pay applicable from 1 April 2021. The new rates have a 1.75% increase applied.

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to increase the clerk's salary in line with the new agreed rates and backdate payments from 1 April 2021.

**Committee Chair Report:**

- 7.3 Proposal: To purchase a Vehicle Activated Speed sign and ancillary equipment in conjunction with Kenton Parish Council at a cost of £3095.17 (including VAT)

*Proposer: Cllr McNally; Seconder: Cllr Williamson*

**AGREED BY A MAJORITY** of members to purchase a Vehicle Activated Speed sign and ancillary equipment in conjunction with Kenton Parish Council at a cost of £3095.17 (including VAT). [7 in favour, 1 abstention].

FUNDING: Covered by 100% grant

ACTION: Clerk/Cllr McNally to liaise with Paul Harmsworth

- 7.4 Proposal: To agree the allocation of section 137 grants for 2022/23 (applications circulated to Councillors)

*Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr McNally*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to allocate the s137 grants as follows:

- RBL Poppy Appeal (purchase of poppy wreath) - £25
- St Paul's Church (upkeep of village clock) - £150
- Starcross in Bloom (public liability insurance & purchase of materials to make a new planter) - £128.50
- SSCA (purchase of street decorations and items for the opening of the play park as part of the Jubilee celebration) - £150
- Starcross Dons (contribution towards storage container) - £1000

After a discussion, an application from Westbank to support the provision of two events was not supported [1 in favour, 3 against, 4 abstentions].

ACTION: Clerk to notify applicants of outcome

FUNDING: Precept

#### 7.5 **Action List Report**

There were no outstanding actions.

#### 7.6 **General Report/Question & Answers**

None

### 140322.08 **PARKS, GARDENS AND FLOOD DEFENCE** (Cllrs Chase, Williamson and Allen)

#### **Committee Chair Report (Cllr Chase)**

- 8.1 Proposal: To accept a quotation of £140 from Rob May to paint the metal of the cradle swings on the play park  
Proposer: Cllr Williamson; Seconder: Cllr McNally

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept a quotation of £140 from Rob May to paint the metal of the cradle swings on the play park.

FUNDING: Repairs and renewals

ACTION: Clerk to raise purchase order

- 8.2 Proposal: To replace the swing seats at Bonhay Road play park. To be supplied by [onlineplaygrounds.co.uk](http://onlineplaygrounds.co.uk) at a cost of £208 + VAT  
*Proposer: Cllr Williamson; Seconder: Cllr McNally*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to replace the swing seats at Bonhay Road play park as proposed.

FUNDING: Repairs and renewals

ACTION: Clerk to raise purchase order. Committee to fit.

#### 8.3 **Action Report**

There were no outstanding actions requiring action.

#### 8.4 **General Report/Question & Answers**

Cllr Williamson circulated a written report which was noted:

Phase One of the project has been completed and received really well by the community, the play equipment is better than we had envisaged and due to the lay out incorporating the existing equipment, we have a really good space for creative play across a variety of ages. The original plan for Stage 2 was to purchase the Lustleigh climber and 2 extra trim trail pieces, however we are now thinking that the priority should shift towards an inclusive piece of equipment in the park. We have discussed before the idea of a nest swing and so we have decided that this should be the next item purchased. We have also been contacted by members of the community to request that the park is more inclusive and they have offered to support us in fundraising for such an item. The nest swing would cost almost £4,000 including installation etc.

There are some maintenance issues:

Swing Seats – Proposal on the agenda

Swing Cradles – Proposal on the agenda

Graffiti – There was some graffiti on the dome structure, which Cllr Hopper has removed.

Bench Seats – Cllr Hopper has spoken to Tom and Trish Greenslade who have volunteered to clean the bench seats etc up for free.

Bakers Yard Boundary – Cllr Hopper has contacted Bakers Yard to see if they would support us in tidying up the bank / boundary between the park and the yard.

Next Steps – Nature Area

We are hoping to consult with a couple of local experts and start planning the layout of the nature area, we are also starting to look at suitable furniture such as picnic benches, mushroom stools, natural seating etc and we will update more on this at April's meeting.

Funding – We have secured £500 from Cllr Martin Wrigley towards the park project.

We have had interest from members of the local community to help with fundraising so we will also be looking further into this.

We will also be compiling a list of items needed that we will send out to local businesses to see if they would like to sponsor an item, this would tie in well with the opening and Jubilee celebrations as we are working alongside some of the local businesses to plan this event.

Jubilee Celebrations – I have attended two further meetings regarding the Jubilee celebrations since our last meeting and can confirm that there will be activities and a grand opening of the park on Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> June. We are still in the planning stages but will give regular updates as the plans progress.

Maintenance Checks:

The Strand is looking very neat and tidy. The grass has been cut and the whole area looks well cared for. The planters are a welcome picture with spring bulbs in full bloom. The area from the shaped holly bush to the path going down to the road by the car park needs revitalising with new shrubs and even a suitable tree in the centre of the grass to bring it up to the standard of the rest.

All other areas are in good order, but lacking spring colour.

The Memorial and Millennium gardens are both looking nice and tidy. The magnolia in the latter is particularly pretty. The benches could do with smartening up and we are looking into the best way to do this - it would be nice to do this for the Jubilee.

The playing field/park was in a generally good condition, less litter than previously noticed and equipment was in good condition, some grass between safety surfacing, which is being monitored. The boundary between the park and Bakers yard was exposed and some rubbish had come across the boundary into the playing field. The area was particularly marshy but despite this the grass appeared to be in a good state. Brambles were noted in certain areas of the boundary, the new equipment looked well used but holding up well. There was some damage to one piece of equipment but it does not affect use or safety. We will investigate this further and seek to get it repaired as soon as possible. No extensive rust or loose parts were noted.

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**140322.09 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**  
(Cllrs Cadbury, Lovell, Zawadzka & McNally)

**Whole Council to Debate (accompanying documents)**

**9.1 New applications**

**9.1.1 22/00168/FUL – Cofford Farm, Starcross**

Conversion of agricultural buildings to create eight self-contained holiday units plus associated car parking and landscaping works

Proposal: To accept the Planning Committee's recommendation that no objections are raised

*Proposer: Cllr Cadbury; Seconder: Cllr Zawadzka*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the Planning Committee's recommendation that no objections are raised.

- 9.1.2 APP/P1133/W/21/3287682 – The Sail Loft, The Strand, Starcross  
Appeal against TDC's decision to refuse application 21/01428/VAR – removal of clause b on planning permission 5/5/1417/33/3 to enable the flat to be let on a short-term holiday basis

Proposal: To make no further comment

*Proposer: Cllr Cadbury; Seconder: Cllr McNally*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the Planning Committee's recommendation and make no further comment.

- 9.1.3 Non22/000003/ENFA – Land at Beach Farm, Starcross  
Appeal against grounds a,b,c,e and f for enforcement notice issued – the Unauthorized change of use of land from agricultural land to a mixed use of agricultural and storage of boats and associated maritime/industrial equipment

Proposal: To convey local concern regarding the use of the property

*Proposer: Cllr Cadbury; Seconder: Cllr Lovell*

*Having declared an interest in this item, Cllr Zawadzka left the meeting for this item.*

**AGREED BY A MAJORITY** of members to write to the Planning Inspectorate to advise that no formal complaints have been made to the Parish Council but verbal comments have been made by residents regarding the untidiness of the land.  
[7 in favour, 1 abstention]

## 9.2 Decisions:

- 9.2.1 21/02670/NPA – Westlake Farm, Mowlish Lane, Kenton

Application for Prior Approval under Part 3 Class Q(a) and (b) and paragraph W of the GPDO change of use of an agricultural building to five dwellings

Members noted that TDC has confirmed that Prior Approval is given for this development.

## 9.3 Action List Report

There are no outstanding actions.

## 9.4 General Report/Question & Answers

None

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## 140322.10 PAVILION & SPORTS FIELD (Cllrs Rastall, Hopper, Pegg and Redmond)

### **Committee Chair Report (Cllrs Rastall & Hopper)**

- 10.1 Proposal: To order from Richard Grave minor maintenance on the Pavilion building as listed:

- Repair the bottom of the door on the West side of the Pavilion  
To drill out and sand old screw shanks  
*Materials (screws and sanding disks) £5.05 + labour £15 = total £20.05*
- To paint a yellow safety line on the three steps up to the East door entrance  
*Materials £16.74 + labour £10 = total £26.74*

- Clean off loose paint and then repaint railings on East side of Pavilion  
*Materials (already on site) + labour £45 = total £45*
- Clean by using a pressure washer the North and East walls of the Pavilion  
*Labour only = total £55*

*Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr McNally*

*Having declared an interest in this item, Cllr Rastall left the meeting for this item.*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to ask Richard Grave to carry out minor maintenance on the Pavilion building as proposed.

FUNDING: Repairs and renewals  
ACTION: Clerk to raise purchase order

- 10.2 Proposal: To pay £40 + VAT towards the cost of £96 including VAT for plumbing in a dishwasher in the Pavilion kitchen (the other half to be paid by Westbank)  
*Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr Williamson*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay £40 + VAT towards the cost of plumbing in a dishwasher, as proposed.

- 10.3 Proposal: To accept a quotation from MAT Electrics for a 'fixed wire test' in the Pavilion at a cost of £536.77  
*Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr Zawadzka*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the quotation from MAT Electrics as proposed.

- 10.4 Action List Report  
There were no outstanding actions.

- 10.5 General Report/Questions & Answers  
Cllr Rastall advised that the Parish Council has been offered two previously used benches by TDC. They will let the Parish Council know when they are available to collect. These will be cleaned up and sited on existing concrete pads in the sports field.

#### **140322.11 WORKING PARTY REPORTS**

None

#### **140322.12 NON-COMMITTEE ITEMS**

- 12.1 To agree a response to TDC in response to its Notice of Proposals to amend and revoke the District of Teignbridge (Off-Street Parking Places ) Order 2022 and all previous Orders

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** not to respond further.

- 12.2 Members note that the land behind the old Post Office has been advertised for sale in the Dawlish Gazette with a guide price of £80,000

#### **140322.13 COUNCILLORS' PROJECTS**

None

#### **140322.14 CORRESPONDENCE**

Members were advised that a request to site a memorial bench on the sports field has been made. As the Parish Council does not have a policy for memorial benches at present, the Chairman advised that he has written to TDC to ask whether it would be possible to latch on to their memorial bench programme and is waiting for an officer to get in touch with him.

**140322.15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Monday 11 April 2022 in the Pavilion commencing at 7.40pm.

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SIGNED:  
Chairman of the Parish Council

DATE: 11 April 2022

*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](mailto:starcrosspcclerk@gmail.com)*

## Starcross Parish Council Finance Report – 11 March 2022

<b>Summary of Bank Balances at 11 March 2022</b>	
Current (C)	£11,261.97
Pavilion Trading (P)	£10,080.18
Allocated Reserves (A)	£51,658.77
<b>Total</b>	<b>£73,000.92</b>

<b>Income: 15 February – 11 March 2022</b>		
Pavilion hire	£385	P

<b>Payments for approval</b>			
Clerk	Salary & disbursements (including backpay from April 2021)	£598.01	C
HMRC (PAYE)	PAYE	£19	C
DALC	Training (Cllr McNally)	£36	C
Powderham Estate	Half yearly rental for allotments	£105	C
Arthur J Gallagher Insurance Brokers Ltd	Insurance renewal	£1697.38 <small>(this figure may increase to cover playground equipment and solar panels)</small>	C
T Greenslade	Pavilion cleaning, fobbing and cleaning materials (Feb)	£200.35	P
Tamar Security	Fire and intruder alarm annual maintenance	£400.25	P
Bramshaw Heating & Plumbing	Pavilion boiler servicing	£186.00	P
MAT Electrics	PAT testing – Pavilion	£59.40	P

<b>Direct Debits: 15 February – 11 March 2022</b>			
Opus (21/2/22)	Pavilion electricity	£78.80	P
Biffa (21/2/22)	Waste bin at Pavilion (rental & collection)	£42.81	P
Opus (28/2/22)	Pavilion gas	£67.18	P
Post Office (11/3/22)	Pavilion telephone & broadband	£18.00	P
PWLB (22/2/22)	Loan repayment	£1681.58	C
Natwest (15/2/22)	Bankline fees	£22.00	C

<b>Clerk (Feb)</b>	<b>Salary</b>	<b>Tax</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>
Salary + backpay from April 2021	£573.65	£19.00	£554.65	
Telephone and Internet	-	-	-	£5.00
Using home as an office	-	-	-	£8.67
Mileage @ 45p per mile				£15.30
Zoom subscription				£14.39
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>£598.01</b>