



STARCROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Starcross Parish Council held in Starcross Pavilion on Monday 17 May April 2021 at 7.40pm

Present:

Cllr Hopper (Chairman), Allen, Cadbury, Chase, McNally, Rastall, Redmond, 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 from members of the public.

170521.01 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Members submitted to the clerk their nominations for Chairman, Vice Chairman and Safeguarding Officer. Votes were received from nine members and submitted in writing to the clerk. Officers were elected as follows:

- Chairman - Cllr Hopper (8 votes)
- Vice Chairman - Cllr Chase (7 votes)
- Safeguarding Officer - Cllr Zawadzka (7 votes)

170521.02 RESIGNATION AND APOLOGIES

2.1 Members received and noted the resignation of Cllr Woodhouse-Pickton.

2.2 Apologies were received from:

- Cllr Lovell
- County/District Cllr Connett

170521.03 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 Rastall declared an interest in item 10.1 and 10.3.

Cllr Hopper declared an interest in item 9.1 and 10.2.

There were no other declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

170521.04 RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

Members present received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 12 April 2021.

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

170521.05 ACTION REPORT

The Chairman informed members that Cllr Connett has advised that he is waiting for an assessment from the planning department re the tidy land ruling in connection with Starcross Garage. The Council also needs to discuss updating the PSPO and he advised that the new bins on the Strand are going to be fitted within a fortnight.

170521.06 CRIME REPORT

Reported crimes from 01/04/2021-28/04/2021

Starcross (8 crimes)

Malicious Communications x 1
Criminal Damage x 3
Possession of a Bladed Article Offences x 2
Harassment without violence x 1
Assault (Domestic related) x 1

Other matters

Please report any suspicious persons/activities and record vehicle registration details if used. Please contact the police on 999 if the incident is happening there and then, or by 101 (emailing is quicker) if it is historic.

PACT meetings will resume soon, subject to Government lockdown guidance. Hopefully, we can get together in June 2021.

Shellfish Gathering/Harvesting-River Teign and River Exe

On Monday 12 April and Tuesday 13 April 2021 multi-agencies addressed the ongoing shellfish/harvesting concerns by attending the rivers Teign and Exe. Representatives from Environmental Health, Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority, members from your Local Neighbourhood Policing Team along with local Councillors met to discuss the ongoing concerns highlighted by local parish members and residents. Gavin Fearby of Environmental Health has provided a detailed leaflet/map to provide education moving forward. A more detailed report will be shared in due course, however if there are any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Local Neighbourhood Team.

Community Speed Watch

Local volunteers have been active again within the Parish since the easing of lockdown restrictions. A comprehensive report has been attached, detailing the numerous site activities and results collated. Any volunteers would be welcome moving forward to assist the team. Details of how to become a volunteer can be found on posters displayed in the parish.

Monthly Themes

We are aware that across the county this month it has been busy with both residents and visitors enjoying the outdoors. This situation will obviously increase as we move out of lockdown. Natural England re-launched the 'Countryside Code' in an aim to highlight some of its key messages and would like to promote a 'protect, respect and enjoy' campaign. Please could we advertise this to the wider community and ensure our beautiful surroundings are protected.

Equine Crime

Equine-related activity attracts criminals due to the high value of animals, equipment and transport. This has a financial and emotional impact on all concerned and can affect animals and owners long after an incident has taken place.

Reduce equine crime with simple crime prevention measures. Farmers, horse owners, rural businesses, and members of the public should be vigilant in the countryside reporting any suspicious activity to the police noting vehicle details and descriptions.

Poaching

Again, this month we are looking to 'target' local poaching issues/rural wildlife crime in and around the area. If you see anything suspicious, please report as soon as possible. Any information would be greatly appreciated to assist with our plans moving forward.

170521.07 DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Connett was not present at the meeting.

170521.08 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

(Cllrs Hopper, Chase and Zawadzka)

- 8.1 **Financial Report** – members received and noted the financial report 13 April – 16 May 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.

- 8.2 **Audit 2020-21:**

8.2.1 Members received and **NOTED** the year end bank reconciliation.

8.2.2 Members received the internal audit report and noted that no issues had been raised.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY that this Council is confident that the internal audit arrangements provide excellent reassurance for the public that the financial systems are robust and fit for purpose and to continue with the appointment of Lee Accounting (South West) Ltd as the Internal Auditor to the Parish Council
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Cadbury

8.2.3 Members received Section 1 of the Annual Return (Annual Governance Statement 2020/21).

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to complete and approve Section 1 of the Annual Return and authorise the Chair and Clerk/RFO to sign it.
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Cadbury

8.2.4 Members received Section 2 of the Annual Return (Accounting Statements 2020/21).

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to approve Section 2 of the Annual Return and authorise the Chair and Clerk/RFO to sign it.
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Cadbury

- 8.3 **Action List Report**

There were no outstanding actions.

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

None

170521.09 PARKS, GARDENS AND FLOOD DEFENCE

(Cllrs Chase and Williamson)

Committee Chair Report (Cllr Chase)

- 9.1 Proposal: To agree retrospective payment to Cllr Hopper for disposal of dinghy from boat park - £20

Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr McNally

Having declared an interest, Cllr Hopper was not present at the meeting for this item.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to approve retrospective payment of £20 to Cllr Hopper for the disposal of a dinghy from the boat park.

- 9.2 Proposal: To consider the suggestion that we expand the racking on the boat park

Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Chase

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY that consideration should be given to expanding the racking on the boat park. Cllrs Williamson and Chase will look further into this. The Chairman also advised that he may already have some information which may assist with this.

ACTION: Costed proposal to go on next agenda

9.3 **Action Report**

There were no outstanding matters requiring action.

9.4 **General Report/Question & Answers**

9.4.1 Members received and **NOTED** the following report from the Parks, Gardens and Flood Defence Committee following an inspection on 5 May:

Playing Field

Overall condition of playing field is good apart from the usual:-

- Small amount of rubbish including abandoned trainers
- Some gaps in rubber tiles on surface of big junior slide
- Gap has appeared between wooden edging and a tile under adult slides- potential trip hazard (this surface replaced last year?)
- Concrete area near benches has very shallow small potholes – to be monitored.
- Stream running along field fairly dried up and some rubbish on grill
- New seats needed for adult swings

Millennium Garden

- Is in good condition apart from the benches which look scruffy.

Memorial Garden

- Is looking neat and tidy.

Dinghy Park and Car Park

- Boat out of its mooring reported to Suzanna.
- A boat was in need of attaching more securely because it was making lots of noise. This has been done.

Strand path up to kissing gate

- On date of inspection there was a large branch wedged in the entrance gate to the Strand. Otherwise, the Strand path is looking smart.
- The bin was empty.
- The planters seem in good condition.
- There is rubbish on the railway side of the wire fence which is hard to remove.

9.4.2 Cllr Williamson circulated a report updating members on the play park proposals. With regard to the adoption and resiting of the Brickyard Lane equipment, Cllr Williamson has been advised by Sovereign Play that they would not be interested in relocating the equipment (and that they very much doubt others would) because they are unable to tell the state of equipment (underground) until removed. If removed with surrounding concrete, it would need to be prepared for reinstallation which is costly and difficult to do without causing damage. They have advised that it would not be covered by insurance once installed and that it is highly likely that damage would be caused during removal. Any upkeep would then be the Parish Council's responsibility and not covered by equipment warranty; previously unseen damage from moving could become an expensive problem. The cost to move and reinstall would also be extremely high. They have suggested that it may be an idea to ask the developers or Teignbridge for a monetary donation instead as a sign of good will to the village (backed up by the fact that the old park would be one of the first things to go once the development begins and the new one would not be available until completion). Cllr Williamson advised that they are keen to explore this.

With regard to equipment choices, the community consultation and discussions with playground experts have directed us towards three possible ideas: Trim trail, Space Net and a series of pathways/tracks around or between existing equipment made from either a safety surface or tarmac to be used for scooter/skateboard play.

The Chairman considered that the manufacturer of the existing equipment should be contacted to seek their views on whether the equipment can be relocated. Cllr Williamson advised that she would contact Komplan.

170521.10 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
(Cllrs Cadbury, Lovell, Zawadzka & McNally)

Whole Council to Debate (accompanying documents)

10.1 New applications to be considered at this meeting

There were no new applications

10.2 Decisions:

10.2.1 21/00528/HOU – 21 Parkers Road, Starcross

Conversion of garage and construction of additional bedroom over

Members **NOTED** that TDC has granted conditional planning permission.

10.3 Action List Report

There were no outstanding actions requiring action.

10.4 General Report/Question & Answers

None.

170521.11 PAVILION & SPORTS FIELD
(Cllrs Rastall, Hopper, Allen and Redmond)

Committee Chair Report (Cllrs Rastall & Hopper)

11.1 Proposal: To accept the following quotes from Richard Grave for maintenance work on Council sites:

- Plastic spikes to Pavilion roof - £90
- Paint interior of sportsfield shelter - £44.95
- Weed and tidy boat and car park - £55
- Clean N & E Pavilion walls - £45
- Repair rendering on Pavilion - £37.50

Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Redmond

Having declared an interest, Cllr Rastall was not present at the meeting for his item.

The Chairman informed members that an advert ran in last month's newsletter seeking expressions of interest to provide quotes to the Parish Council for small maintenance jobs. Only Richard Grave had notified the clerk of his interest.

Members discussed at length the problem of and possible solutions to youths climbing and skateboarding on the Pavilion roof including the fixing of plastic spikes to the Pavilion roof. Members discussed the effectiveness and safety of the plastic spikes and the role of the Council in making parents aware of the issue.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the quotes from Richard Grave for the maintenance work on Council sites as proposed with the exception of the plastic spikes to the Pavilion roof which, after discussion, required further consideration. Publicity of the issue on social media was agreed.

ACTION: Issue Purchase Orders

11.2 Proposal: To agree retrospective payment to Cllr Hopper for emergency supply of new padlock for the sports field new gate - £15.99

Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr Williamson

Having declared an interest, Cllr Hopper was not present at the meeting for this item.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to retrospectively approve a payment of £15.99 to Cllr Hopper for emergency supply of new padlock for the sports field new gate.

- 11.3 Proposal: To accept retrospective invoice from Richard Grave for emergency labour to remove and fix padlocks above - £10
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Redmond

Having declared an interest, Cllr Rastall was not present at the meeting for his item.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to retrospectively approve an invoice of £10 from Richard Grave for emergency labour to remove and fix padlocks above

11.4 **Action List Report**

10.4.1 Pavilion booking forms have been updated following a change in the fees at the last meeting.

10.4.2 The newsletter article regarding dog control on the sportsfield has not been very successful. It was suggested that the Parish Council goes back to the dog warden for further advice.

11.5 **General Report/Questions & Answers**

Cllr Rastall outlined proposals for an event on the sportsfield which is being organised by the footballers. The Pavilion and Sports Field Committee will get together to look at the details and will keep everyone informed.

170521.12 WORKING PARTY REPORTS

None

170521.13 NON-COMMITTEE ITEMS

- 13.1 Proposal: To endorse Kate Manley-Tucker and Allison Miles as Parish Council nominees to the Board of Trustees of the Henry Drew Thomas Almshouses, Starcross
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Cadbury

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to endorse Kate Manley-Tucker and Allison Miles as Parish Council nominees to the Board of Trustees of the Henry Drew Thomas Almshouses, Starcross.

- 13.2 Proposal: To renew our existing arrangement with the Exe Estuary Management Committee at a cost of £258.

Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Zawadzka

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to renew our existing arrangement with the Exe Estuary Management Committee at a cost of £258. A more detailed discussion will follow when budgets are being considered for next year.

ACTION: Clerk to initiate payment

- 13.3 Proposal: To agree retrospective payment to Cllr Cadbury for new batteries and pads for the defibrillator - £170.04 (including VAT and delivery)

Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Allen

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to approve a retrospective payment of £170.04 to Cllr Cadbury for new batteries and pads for the defibrillator.

170521.14 COUNCILLORS' PROJECTS

The Chairman advised that with regard to the patio extension, the proposed structure can not be put on the patio at the moment until some improvements are made to the way the patio has been laid.

The Chairman advised that Vision ICT should be producing a new page for the Parish Council to look at. Some photographs are also needed for the new tabs.

170521.15 CORRESPONDENCE

None.

170521.16

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Monday 14 June 2021 in the Pavilion commencing at 7.40pm.

SIGNED:

Chairman of the Parish Council

DATE: 14 June 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 – 17 May 2021

Summary of Bank Balances at 16 May 2021	
Current (C)	£27,588.53
Pavilion Trading (P)	£14,488.40
Allocated Reserves (A)	£51,655.31
Total	£93,732.24

Income: 13 April – 16 May 2021		
Pizza A Legna (trading in Pavilion car park)	£48	P
Harrys Kitchen (trading in Pavilion car park)	£15	P
HMRC (Pavilion VAT repayment)	£86.24	P
HT Dons (Football pitch hire)	£463	C
Teignbridge District Council (1 st instalment of precept)	£19,978.60	C

Payments for approval			
Clerk	Salary & disbursements	£486.52	C
M&D Hire	Sportsfield grass cutting (April, May, June)	£1637.46	C
Vision ICT	Website changes for Operation London Bridge, Operation Forth Bridge and Operation Menai Bridge	£126	C
Lee Accounting (SW) Ltd	Internal audit of accounts	£240	C
A Cadbury	Reimbursement for defibrillator pads and batteries	£170.04	C
J Hopper	Reimbursement for floor cleaner, hand sanitiser, kitchen towels, note book	£27.13	P
T Greenslade	Flushing system, key fob/unfob, cleaning toilets	£98	P

Direct Debits: 13 April – 16 May 2021			
Post Office (11/5/21)	Pavilion telephone and internet	£18	P
Opus (21/04/21)	Pavilion electricity	£38.43	P
Opus (26/04/21)	Pavilion gas	£23.95	P
Biffa (26/4/21)	Waste bin at Pavilion (rental & collection)	£25.92	P
ICO (29/4/21)	Data Protection Licence renewal	£35	C
Natwest (15/04/21)	Bankline fees	£22	C