

Stratton Parish Council

Official Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Stratton Parish Council held on
19th January 2021 via a remote Zoom Meeting

Present

Cllrs A Aylott, M Garner, C Hobbs, A Wheeler.

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Ordinary Meeting of Stratton Parish Council.

Apologies

No Apologies.

29/20 Public Participation

No Public Participation.

30/20 Code of Conduct/ Declaration of Interest

Chairman reminded Councillors of the need to declare any interest in any of the items to be discussed in the agenda which had not already been entered in the Member's Register of Interests. There were no declarations.

31/20 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Stratton Parish Council

Councillors agreed the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 15th September 2020.

32/20 Finance

A) Income and Expenditure

Details of income received and expenditure made since the previous meeting was circulated:

Accounts to 19th January 2021

Monies in the Village Green account cannot be used for any other purpose

Account	Parish	V/Green	Parish Plan	VAT	Balance
Balance b/f	14,375.73	38,684.83	2,034.71	41.91	55,053.36
Receipts	2,950.00	2,140.00	0.00	0.00	5,090.00
Payments	974.74	3,558.00	565.15	709.81	5,807.70
Balance c/f	16,350.99	37,266.83	1,469.56	751.72	54,335.66

Receipts

Donations for Bench – Family members & friends	100.00
Dorset Council – 2 nd tranche Precept	4,990.00
Total	5,090.00

Payments

Parish

123 Reg – Website Hosting & Web Name	143.84
That's Just The Job – Maintenance – Benches/Notice Board	141.00
P. Hallett – Play area steps/Bus Shelter/Noticeboard (in 2019)	180.00
Stratton Village Hall – Hire for Meetings	81.88
Expenses – Broadband/Telephone	72.00
Royal British Legion – Wreath – Sect. 137	25.00
Dorset Wildlife Trust – Sect. 137	75.00
The Heart of Our Community – Sect. 137	80.00
Stratton Youth Club – Outreach – Sect. 137	80.00

Stratton Allotment Society – Sect. 137	120.00
<u>Village Green</u>	
That's Just The Job – Maintenance – Ramp footing	239.00
V G Pullman & Son – Flood Ditch clearance	385.00
AG Tree Services – Hedge Trimming	276.00
Dorset Council – Grass Cutting, Village Green	1,584.00
Dorset Council – Grass Cutting, Playing Field	1,660.80
<u>Parish Plan</u>	
That's Just The Job – Maintenance – Zip Wire Seat	70.00
AG Tree Services – Tree Removal/Bramble Trimming	594.18
Total	5,807.70

B) Budget Monitoring

The budget monitoring position for the current financial year was reviewed and accepted. Noted that several areas were well underspent.

C) Section 137 Grants

Chairman confirmed that all Section 137 grants as approved by Councillors had been distributed. (Minute 19/20 C) – 15 September 2020).

D) Precept for 2021/2022 and Budget Allocation

Chairman confirmed that Councillors had agreed earlier via e-mail to leave the precept for next year at the same level as this year – a figure of £9,980. The Precept form had been received from the Dorset Council and submitted. The Dorset Council had confirmed receipt of the Precept form.

A proposed budget allocation had been forwarded to Councillors. Agreed to accept the allocations made. Although these could be reviewed at a future meeting if required.

E) Vacancy - Parish Clerk

Cllr Hobbs gave an update, confirming that new advertisements had been sent out with a revised salary level. But still no interest shown by anyone. The last person withdrew just as an interview date was being arranged. After discussion Councillors agreed to circulate advert yet again via the local sources open to the Parish Council and to other local Parishes. Also agreed to circulate a further advert for more Co-opted Councillors to come forward. (Minute 60/19 F) – 21st January 2020, (Minute 8/20 I) – 21st July 2020) and (Minute 19/20 D) – 15th September 2020).

F) Balances in Accounts

Chairman mentioned that as several budget areas were well underspent, that the balance held in the Current Account was increasing. Councillors agreed to transfer some of this balance to the National Savings Account.

33/20 General Maintenance

A) Playing Field additional tree work

Confirmed that additional work had been carried out to remove several dead trees, thin out a couple of other trees and clear back several areas of brambles. This item fell under the aims of the Parish Plan and the cost was to be charged against that Fund. Noted that several other areas around the playing field will require work during 2021. (Minute 9/20 G) – 21 July 2020 and (Minute 25/20) – 15th September 2020).

B) Playing Field/Village Green Contracts for 2021/22

Councillors confirmed that they were happy for the same contractor to be approached to do village green and playing field grass cutting for 2021/22. Chairman to make contact with the contractor.

C) Maintenance List/Progress with Map Stand

No work had been done on any items on the maintenance list because of Covid restrictions. Cllr Garner mentioned that the hand rail on the steps going from the Village Green to the parking area appeared to be weak and liable to break.

The contractor doing work on restoring the map stand has advised he has now obtained a supply of green oak with which to make new legs for it. Chairman to check with the contractor on potential dates for the work to be carried out during 2021.

34/20 Planning

An update on the following planning notices has been received:

WD/D/20/002137 – 7-8 Furbers Paddock, Stratton - Change garage to sitting room. Variation of Conditions- Approved 10 December 2020 by Dorset Council.

WD/D/19/003097 – Land Charminster west of Industrial Estate – 82 houses. Unclear whether application has been approved or delegated down to a Planning Officer. Although the matter was being discussed at a meeting on 10 November 2020. Position to be checked.

WD/D/20/002069 – Flat Royal Yeoman, 9 Dorchester Road, Grimstone – Change of use to residential. Approved 22 December 2020 by Dorset Council.

35/20 Highways

A) Safety of A37 Road.

Noted that a new PVMS unit with warning signs of 'Ice' was now stationed on the approach to the railway bridge. A large amount of water was still flowing over the road, and concern that road speeds appeared to have increased. This fact to be mentioned back to Highways at the next review meeting with them. Chairman had referred cleanliness of the north side of the road back the Highways and a road clean has been promised. Post Meeting - The road clean has now been carried out.

B) Gullies

Several blocked gullies had been noted and reported to Highways, these have now been cleared.

36/20 Future Policy Changes/Areas of Improvements A

Contact with other Parish Councils

Contact has been made with the other Parish Councils in the Charminster St Mary's electoral ward; full replies awaited from several Councils.

37/20 Correspondence

Confirmed that all relevant information received by the Parish had been circulated to Councillors.

38/20 Items for the next Agenda

New Parish Clerk, Christmas Tree.

39/20 Public Participation

No Public Participation.

Date of the next Meeting

Ordinary Meeting – Tuesday 16th March 2021 in the Ashley Hall at 7pm (or via Zoom if necessary)

Meeting closed at 5.00 pm