

STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair Matt Garner

Clerk Vacant

Minutes of the Meeting of Stratton Parish Council held on Tuesday 11th July 2023 at 7.00 pm at Stratton Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Andy Aylott, Cheryl Hobbs, Matt Garner, 4 members of the public and Dorset Councillor David Taylor.

- 23.20 Apologies: Cllr Simon Joslin
- 23.21 There were no interests to declare.
- 23.22 Chair's Opening Remarks – MG welcomed everyone to the meeting and offered a reflection on some of the positive community activity that has recently taken place – the Village Fayre, adoption of the majority of the Queen's Canopy trees on the playing field and the Stratton in Bloom competition. Cllr Aylott's work to refresh the planters at either end of the village was recognised.
- 23.23 The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 16th May 2023 were approved – proposed AA, seconded CH.
- 23.24 Action Log items
- 23.24.1 Phone Box Listing – CH confirmed that the process is ongoing and our phone box is on the 'to be considered' list. Likely 6 month process.
- 23.24.2 Clerk – councillors agreed to adopt the updated pay scale as provided by DAPTC & advertise the role at Scale Point 11.
- 23.25 Public Participation
- 23.25.1 A37 – the council was reminded that the issues of concern for the A37 between Stratton and the Railway bridge were not limited to flooding/freezing. Councillors duly noted that the safety concerns (lack of effective barrier) are still to be responded to by Dorset Council.
- 23.26 Finance – finance report circulated prior to the meeting, no comments or questions arose.

STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair Matt Garner

Clerk Vacant

Accounts at 11 July 2023					
<i>Monies in the Village Green account cannot be used for any other purpose</i>					
Year to date totals					
Account	Parish	V/Green	Parish Plan	VAT	Balance
Balance b/f 01/04/23	£ 15,315.85	£ 38,768.73	£ 1,000.00	£ 567.09	£ 54,517.49
Receipts					£ -
Payments	£ 321.98	£ 129.00	£ -	£ 62.20	£ 513.18
Balance c/f	£ 14,993.87	£ 38,639.73	£ 1,000.00	£ 629.29	£ 54,004.31
Receipts					
TOTAL				£	0.00
					(inc VAT)
Payments					
Parish					
25/05/23	Mill House Nurseries - Plants				65.98
22/06/23	DAPTC - Training				70.00
02/06/23	MacFarlane Packaging - Dog Waste Bags				56.40
01/06/2023	RoSPA Play Safety				180.00
Village Green					
31/05/23	R Healey - Maintenance				70.00
29/06/23	Dorchester Timber				70.80
TOTAL				£	513.18
					(inc VAT)

STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair Matt Garner

Clerk Vacant

23.27 Planning - P/HOU/2023/01612 – Replacement Windows, 7 Locks Lane, Stratton was the only application made during the period. No comments from the Council. Date for response has passed.

23.28 Playing Field

23.28.1 Goalposts – discussion about whether to replace any, one or both goals. Insufficient information to make an informed decision – AA will get some quotations for replacements. Agreed that if the posts were dangerous then they should be removed. Views differed as to whether there was a ‘need’ to re-provide if the old ones were to be removed.

23.28.2 Gulley Clearance – SJ has offered to lead a self-help group to clear the drainage ditches. Would save ~£500 which could be used elsewhere. Discussion deferred as SJ unable to make the meeting.

23.28.3 Queen’s Canopy – agreed that the pile of chippings for the Queen’s Canopy should now be fine to use. CH to post update on social media. Also agreed that a commemorative sign would be appropriate. MG to discuss with SJ.

23.29 RoSPA report – despite AA’s reservations regarding some of the observations in the report there is work to be done;

23.29.1 Repairs to slide

23.29.2 Climbing frame steps

23.29.3 Pedestrian gate to playing field

23.29.4 Braking mechanism on the zip-line trolley

AA to action

23.30 IT, data & access – MG had received a proposal for a 3 year MS Office service from 123 Reg. This would include Sharepoint so all councillors and the Clerk can access documents and avoid the potential issue around having one single laptop. Suggested and agreed that we should return to this item once a new Clerk has been appointed.

23.31 Tree report action – SJ item, MG to request update for Council to be circulated. AA concerned that phases 4,5 & 6 do not seem to be progressing.

23.32 Christmas Tree – agreed that if Mr Cartwright was content for the current arrangements to continue then so was the Council. MG will ask him.

23.33 A37 update – the Council have not received an update from Dorset Council. Cllr Taylor was able to confirm that Dorset Council has recognised that there is a safety issue to resolve. Cllr Taylor offered to seek and update and pass on.

STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair Matt Garner

Clerk Vacant

- 23.34 D-Day 80th Anniversary Celebrations – the Council has been informed of a national plan to commemorate the anniversary with a beacon chain. Any community group that wishes to participate is to notify the organisers by 30th May 2024. Agreed that whilst the Council would not be organising an event, it is happy to provide support to a community group much in the same way as for the Jubilee. CH will publicise via the Council web-site etc.
- 23.35 Dog Related Public Space Protection Order Consultation – appeared to be aimed more at individuals than Councils. CH will publicise.
- 23.36 Play Area Fencing – discussion around whether we continue to repair as & when or replace. MG has budget cost of £2-£2,500. Agreed to assess affordability once tree and RoSPA works completed. And to offer Councillor’s labour to remove the old fence. MG to request formal quote from Rolls Landscaping.
- 23.37 Items for next meeting (Tuesday 12th September 2023)– Section 137 awards, Trees, Play Area fencing, A37, Christmas Tree.
- 23.38 Public Participation
- 23.38.1 The council was reminded that the memorial to the Wrackleford Auxiliary was in need of a clean.
- 23.38.2 Strong views in favour of the retention of the goals on the playing field and a suggestion that provision of rugby goals should be considered.
- 23.38.3 The Allotment Committee thanked the Parish Council for the S137 grant that enabled the purchase of new maintenance equipment.

Meeting closed at 8:20pm