



Starcross
Parish Council

STARCROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Starcross Parish Council held in Starcross Pavilion on Tuesday 15 October 2024 at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllrs Hopper (Chairman), Allen, Cadbury, Chase, Coupe, Lovell, McNally, Pegg and Rastall

Also present:

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk), two representatives from Starcross Dons Football Club and three members of the public

RESIDENTS' QUESTION TIME

The Chairman invited questions/comments from residents.

A local resident, living in close proximity to the sports field, commented on the increasing frequency of football matches and the impact this is having on nearby residents. The main concerns were the level of noise, particularly in the summer holidays, and access issues due to the increased traffic. Representatives from Starcross Dons FC responded by advising that they will be reducing their usage during June and July and are putting messages out before every game asking players and coaches to park elsewhere or lift-share to ease the pressure on the car park. Winter training has also been moved forward a month to ease use of the pitch. Starcross Dons are proud to be able to offer this facility to children and adults and feel that the benefits outweigh the negatives. However, they are very willing to work with everyone to maintain relations with neighbours and residents who may be affected by the football being played on the field. They have therefore made a commitment to the Parish Council to do whatever they can realistically do to achieve this.

(also see item 7.1 below)

151024.01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Members received apologies from:

- Cllr Eyre
- Cllr Williamson
- County Cllr Connett
- District Cllr Taylor

151024.02 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.

151024.03 RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

Members present received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on held on 10 September 2024.

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

151024.04 ACTION REPORT

Members noted the action report which had been circulated to them in advance of the meeting.

Well Street Cottages

No further updates

Bus Shelters

Parish Council to contact Starcross Fishing and Cruising Club and ask whether they will lease or sell the land behind the bus shelter as DCC are unwilling to move the equipment unless they own the land.

Defibrillator pads

The spare pads have been ordered.

Cycle path

There have been no new complaints about the cycle path this summer except for the growth of weeds and vegetation along the divided path next to the A379. Some of the Sustrans signs which were put on waste bins by the station steps have been removed and need to be replaced. Further improvements might be made by the repositioning of the bus shelter. A report to DCC has not yet been produced.

151024.05 CRIME & SPEEDWATCH REPORT

Crime

During the period 1 – 30 September, there were two crimes recorded:

Burglary (business) x 1, Violence less serious (repeated messages by partners)

Community Speedwatch

One session has been done this month. There are only two volunteers operating the equipment at the moment; they are currently trying to recruit other volunteers. The signs have been rotated this month.

151024.06 COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

County Cllr Connett sent an update advising that he had visited Longfield last week and noted that the path edges have been cleaned. The 'trip hazards' have been chamfered and tidied. Overall, there is good improvement. The issue of weeds growing through the new covering remains an outstanding issue. As yet, he doesn't know when that will be dealt with.

151024.07 PAVILION & SPORTS FIELD (Cllrs Rastall, Hopper, Pegg, Eyre & Coupe)

- 7.1 Proposal: To accept the minutes of the meeting held between Starcross Dons FC and the Pavilion and Sports Field Joint Committees held on Wednesday 2 October as a true record and to adopt said report as Parish Council policy.
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Rastall

Documents circulated to members and published online with this agenda:

- *A review addressing the relationship between the Starcross Dons FC and Starcross Parish Council September 2024*
- *A response from Starcross Dons FC to the above document*
- *Minutes of the Joint Committee meeting of 2 October*

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the minutes of the meeting held between Starcross Dons and Sports Field Joint Committees on 2 October as a true record and to adopt the report as Parish Council policy.

- 7.2 Proposal: To accept the quote from Steve Swift for hedgecutting - £400
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Rastall

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the quote of £400 from Steve Swift for hedgecutting.

- 7.3 Proposal: To purchase an armchair and small coffee table for use in the Library corner of the Pavilion
Cost: £119.99 for chair (Amazon) and £10 for coffee table (Ikea) - Total £129.99
Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr Hopper

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to purchase an armchair and small coffee table as proposed.

ACTION: Cllr Eyre to purchase

FUNDING: £80 from donations (ring-fenced in SPC accounts) and remaining £49.99 from Reserves

- 7.4 Proposal: To reimburse Cllr Hopper £28.80 for items purchased for the Pavilion Café
Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr McNally

ACTION: Clerk to refund

FUNDING: Precept

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to reimburse Cllr Hopper £28.80, as proposed.

- 7.5 Proposal: To reimburse Councillors as follows:
Cllr Lovell - £12 for Hygiene certificate
Cllr Eyre - £12 for Hygiene certificate and £18 for DBS
Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr Hopper

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to reimburse Cllrs Lovell and Eyre, as proposed.

FUNDING: Reserves

- 7.6 Proposal: To purchase 2 x aluminium composite disabled parking signs that fit over any size traffic cone, at a cost of £31.80 each.
Proposer: Cllr Pegg; Seconder: Cllr Rastall

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to purchase 2 x disabled parking signs, as proposed.

Committee Chair Report:

- 7.7 General Report/Questions & Answers
Cllr Hopper reported on the takings and profits from the Pavilion Café:
2023/24 (12 months) - Takings: £2472.94; Profit £1700
Year to date (5 months) - Takings: £1235; Profit £928.14

1510.24.08 PARKS & GARDENS (Cllrs Chase, Lovell, Allen & Eyre)

Committee Chair Report:

- 8.1 General Report/Question & Answers

Members received the following report.

Bonhay Big Park

Following the damage to the picnic seating, Cllr Hopper has successfully negotiated a replacement from the manufacturer. It is possible the damage may have been caused by people attempting to re-site it and lifting it by the table-top which then separated from the legs. Regardless of the actual cause, the manufacturers have kindly offered a newer, stronger model which will also have a space for a wheelchair user to sit closer to the table.

There was a discussion about how this could be secured to the ground to prevent the possibility of similar damage occurring in the future. Cllr Chase will contact the manufacturer for advice.

The new park signs are still awaiting installation but there haven't been any complaints about errant dog users recently. The Committee needs to find someone to put them up.

The wildlife group (Starcross Goes Wild) is working on a management plan for the wilded area....we admit to learning as we go here but it's not sufficient for us to just

leave the area to do its own thing. The group takes advice from the TDC Wildlife wardens and a local expert and so the grass area has been given a winter cut, areas will be scarified to enable planting of yellow rattle to help the development of meadowland and we will install a weed barrier to stop encroachment into the grass. Most of the trees we planted are doing well and we will be asking Nick Hawkins for replacements of those that died or were vandalised. As much of this work is carried out by the group itself, we do need more volunteers to help with some of the physical stuff as we are still few in number. Apart from advertising in the newsletter we are considering organising another promotional event next Spring.

The path layout will be improved based on the usage we have observed this year and we will make attempts to smother the hogweed before it appears next year. We would still like to see a little more hard-paving between the benches as we are aware the grass is a bit of a hazard for people who are less mobile. There will also be some planting of native flowers to add some colour but it will take a few years to get the ground into a condition where growth will occur naturally. We do need to liaise more clearly with the contractor for the field as the specific instructions for the mowing of this area weren't followed and the cut grass has been left where it fell, rather than where it was asked to be placed.

Equipment was all in good order on the latest monthly check

Strand, Millennium Garden and Memorial area

All areas are fairly tidy but the shrubberies are due some attention for the autumn. as per the contract. Many of the new plants are getting choked by brambles which are an ongoing nuisance in Strand Gardens. There has been one complaint about the path in Millennium Garden where roots are pushing up the tarmac and constitute a trip factor. Also ongoing dissatisfaction with the behaviour of some cyclists on the shared path and pavements along the Strand. It's really difficult to see a solution to this, especially with the promotion of the cycle route in the new joint transport strategy but asking DCC for better signage has been suggested.

151024.09 FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE
(Cllrs Hopper, Chase, Pegg, Rastall, Eyre & Coupe)

- 9.1 **Financial Report** - members received and noted the financial report 11 September - 15 October 2024 and were asked to approve the payments listed (copy attached).

Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Cadbury

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY that the payments listed are made.

- 9.2 Proposal: That the sum of £687.61, being CIL allocation from 2019, be allocated to the expenditure on the fencing project at Bonhay Play Park

Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Rastall

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to allocate £687.61 (CIL allocation from 2019) towards the fencing project at Bonhay Play Park.

ACTION: Clerk to advise TDC

- 9.3 Precept 2025-26
Cllr Hopper has done some work on this but the Finance and Governance Committee will meet to look at it in greater depth and will bring it back to November's meeting for comment and discussion.

- 9.4 Purchase of new lap top for Pavilion
There was a discussion about buying a new lap top for the Pavilion as the account for the existing desktop is locked. It was agreed that, for now, Cllr McNally would try resetting the account rather than going to the expense of purchasing a new lap top.

- 9.5 **General Report/Question & Answers**
None
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151024.10 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
(Cllrs Pegg, Cadbury & McNally)

Whole Council to Debate (accompanying documents)

10.1 New applications/appeals

10.1.1 24/01534/TPO – Ilex House, Road from The Strand to Cofton Cross, Starcross
T1 Ilex Oak, repollard. T2 Ilex Oak, repollard. T3 Pittosporum, reduce by 4m.
T4 Twisted Willow, reduce by 3m. T5 Ilex Oak, crown lift/shorten back off listed
wall by 1m. T6 Column Cypress, fell. T7 Ilex oak, remove limb rubbing on
listed wall. T8 Yew, reduce long lateral limb which is over the listed wall by 2m.
T9 Ilex Oak, crown lift up to 5m.

Members agreed not to comment.

10.1.2 24/01524/HOU & 24/01525/LBC – Northend Cottage, The Strand, Starcross
Renovation of existing annexe including addition of a conservation roof light,
extension and addition of French doors

Members agreed not to comment.

10.1.3 24/01489/VAR – Brickhouse Farm Barn, Mamhead
Variation of condition 3 on planning permission 23/00716/FUL (relocation of car
park and erection of courtyard building, terrace and pergola in association with
use as a wedding venue) relating to time limit for removal of temporary kitchen
(extend until November 2026)

Members had no objections.

10.1.4 24/01461/VAR – Brickhouse Farm Barn, Mamhead
Removal of condition 3 on permission 23/00717/LBC (erection of courtyard
building, terrace and pergola in association with use as a wedding venue)
relating to time limit for removal of temporary kitchen

Members had no objections.

10.2 Decisions:

10.2.1 24/01290/NPA – Hartwell House, The Strand, Starcross
Application for Prior Approval under Part 3 Class MA and paragraph W
of the GPDO for change of use/conversion of existing commercial premises
(Class E) to form two maisonettes and one apartment (Class C3)

Members noted that TDC has confirmed that Prior Approval is given.

10.3 Concession/Pop Up Site Consultation Request

Members were asked by TDC to consider the viability/suitability of a site on The
Strand.

After a brief discussion, members agreed they had no particular comment at this stage
as it rather depends on the concession. However, the Parish Council agrees that any
development should not reduce existing parking places.

10.4 Other/General Report/Question & Answers

None

151024.11 EXTERNAL PROJECTS
(Cllrs Coupe, Hopper, Eyre & Williamson)

A letter was received from GWR advising that a tenant is lined up for the former Fish & Chip
Shop. They will be decorating the building both inside and out once they have moved in.

151024.12 WORKING PARTY REPORTS

None

151024.13 NON-COMMITTEE ITEMS

- 13.1 Proposal: That permission is granted to erect the Christmas Tree on the station green
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Rastall

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to grant permission to erect the Christmas Tree on the station green.

ACTION: Advise Trish Greenslade

- 13.2 Proposal: That the Parish Council writes to GWR requesting that station announcements (in both directions) be silenced from 10.40 to 11.10am on Sunday 10 November to allow for a period of remembrance at Starcross Memorial to be carried out undisturbed.

Proposer: Cllr Eyre; Seconder: Cllr Lovell

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to write to GWR, as proposed.

ACTION: Clerk to email GWR

- 13.3 Members noted the Devon County Council (Teignbridge HATOC) (Traffic Regulation) Amendment Order 6141 relating to the following new waiting restrictions in Starcross:
No Waiting At Any Time on specified lengths of Royal Way and The Strand;
School Entrance Clearway - No Stopping At Any Time on a specified length of Road From Church Street to Royal British Legion
Visit <https://devon.cc/alwrp> for all details and to make comments/object

Members supported these proposals.

151024.14 RESIDENTS' CORRESPONDENCE

A request has been received to put a memorial plaque on one of the Council's benches. Cllr Pegg agreed to look into this.

151024.14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday 12 November 2024** in the Pavilion commencing at 7.30pm.

SIGNED:
Chairman of the Parish Council

DATE: 15 October 2024

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

Starcross Parish Council Finance Report - 15 October 2024

Summary of Bank Balances at 15 October 2024	
Current (C)	£29,206.30
Pavilion Trading (P)	£5,684.74
Allocated Reserves (A)	£59,868.72
Total	£94,759.76

Income: 11 September – 15 October 2024		
TDC - 2 nd instalment of precept	£23,827.00	C
Pavilion hire	£358.50	P
Pavilion café	£188.15	P
Bank interest (30 Sept)	£73.64	A

Payments for approval			
Clerk	Salary & disbursements (Sept)	£597.02	C
Plant Tech	Grass cutting & maintenance (Sept)	£1113.12	C
T Greenslade	Millennium gardens and war memorial maintenance (April-Sept)	£300	C
Turtle Engineering	Spare pads	£126.00	C
Chip Hosting	Website hosting	£125.00	C
J Hopper	Reimbursement for: Items purchased for Pavilion Café (see item 9.4 on October agenda)	£28.80	P
T Greenslade	Pavilion - cleaning, fobbing & supplies (Sept)	£277.68	P
S Rastall	Badges for café volunteers and kitchen rolls	£38.45	P
Bramshaw Heating & Plumbing	Fire alarm fault	£90	P
Silver Fern	Pavilion rendering	£3149.21	P
Tamar Security	Call out charge - fault with heat detector in Pavilion changing room	£99	P
All Doors	Service of shutters in the Pavilion	£262	P
D Lovell	Reimbursement for hygiene certificate	£12	P
F Eyre	Reimbursement for hygiene certificate and DBS	£30	P

Direct Debits: 11 September - 15 October 2024			
Bankline (16/9)	Banking fees	£22.25	C
Shell Energy (13/9)	Pavilion telephone & broadband	£23.31	P
Biffa (23/9)	Waste bin at Pavilion (rental & collection)	£41.58	P

Clerk (Sept)	Salary	Tax	Net	Disbursements
Salary	£551.25	£0	£551.25	
Telephone and Internet	-	-	-	£5.00
Using home as an office	-	-	-	£8.67
Mileage @ 45p per mile	-	-	-	£15.30
Quickbooks	-	-	-	£16.80
TOTAL				£597.02