



# STARCROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Starcross Parish Council held in Starcross Pavilion on Tuesday 9 September 2025 at 7.30pm

## Present:

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

## Also present:

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk), District Cllr Taylor and six members of the public

## RESIDENTS' QUESTION TIME

The Chairman invited questions/comments from residents.

## Local Government Review

A question was asked about the future of Parish Councils. District Cllr Taylor advised that he believed that lowest-tier of local government (i.e. Parish and Town Councils) will remain untouched albeit they may find themselves in a different district. District Councils will merge but the shape of the authorities is yet unknown. This will be decided once existing authorities have put forward their final proposals in November. Parish Councils could find themselves with more powers. On the other hand, it was noted that the future of Parish Councils has not been documented and therefore their future can't be guaranteed.

In a recent meeting, Martin Wrigley MP suggested that the Parish Council writes to the new Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, putting forward its concerns. This will be drafted for approval at the next Parish Council meeting.

It was noted that, whilst there has been a period of engagement with residents and an invitation to express a preference, Parish Councils themselves have not been directly consulted. Ultimately, the decision will be made by central government.

In terms of moving forward, there will be no District Council elections in 2027 but there may be a shadow election to a new authority so there can be a managed changeover between the existing and new tiers of local government.

---

### 090925.01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

---

### 090925.02 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.

---

### 090925.03 RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

Members present received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 8 July 2025.

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

---

#### 090925.04 **CRIME REPORT**

During the period 1 – 31 August, there were 7 recorded offences:

Criminal damage x 1 (car drawn on), Criminal damage x 1 (damage to dwelling), Criminal damage to road signs x 1, Domestic x 1, Cultivation of cannabis x 1, Violence less serious (brother hit brother) x 1, Violence less serious (male drove vehicle at other male – verbal altercation) x 1

---

#### 090925.05 **COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

District Cllr Taylor reported that there is a Green Spaces user-survey currently open until 30 September. The survey will gather public input on areas such as safety, signage and maintenance to help improve and shape future green spaces within the district.

---

#### 090925.06 **FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE**

(Cllrs Hopper, Chase, Rastall, Coupe & Phillips)

- 6.1 **Financial Report** – members received and noted the financial report 7 July – 8 September 2025 and were asked to approve the payments listed (copy attached).

*Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Cadbury*

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

- 6.2 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 2025. The increase equates to 3.2%. Clerk's salary will be backdated accordingly.

- 6.3 Committee Chair and Action Report  
Standing Orders and Financial Regulations are still to be reviewed.
- 

#### 090925.07 **PLANNING**

(Cllrs Pegg, Cadbury & McNally)

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

##### 7.1 **New applications/appeals**

- 7.1.1 25/01199/FUL – Site of Green Pastures, Staplake Lane, Starcross  
New single dwelling to replace previously existing demolished bungalow

Members agreed not to comment (1 abstention).

##### 7.2 **Decisions:**

- 7.2.1 26/01069/HOU – Tamariu, Southbrook, Starcross  
Single storey extension to front elevation, the addition of a new pitched roof to the existing flat-roofed dormer, balconies to front, and the replacement of the existing access and parking area surfacing

Members noted that TDC has refused to grant planning consent.

- 7.3 Committee Chair and Action Report  
None
- 

#### 090925.09 **PAVILION, SPORTSFIELD AND BOATPARK**

(Cllrs Rastall, Hopper, Pegg, Coupe & Williamson)

- 8.1 Proposal: To reimburse Cllr Hopper a total of £176.45 for items purchased for the Pavilion Café

*Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr Cadbury*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to reimburse Cllr Hopper £176.45, as proposed.

ACTION: Clerk to refund

FUNDING: Pavilion Café

- 8.2 Proposal: To reimburse Cllr Rastall £15.99 for Pavilion kitchen rolls  
*Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconded: Cllr Williamson*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to reimburse Cllr Rastall £15.99, as proposed.

ACTON: Clerk to refund  
FUNDING: Pavilion

- 8.3 Proposal: To consider quotes for the reconfiguration of the pedestrian entry gate on the boundary of the Field  
*Proposer: Cllr Pegg; Seconded: tbc*

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to defer this item until three quotes have been received.

- 8.4 Committee Chair & Action Report  
None
- 

**090925.09 PARKS AND GARDENS**  
**(Cllrs Chase, Lovell, Allen & Phillips)**

**Committee Chair Report:**

- 9.1 Community Garden grant (Teignbridge) - report for information  
Cllr Coupe has spoken to the co-ordinator for the National Garden Association and the grant opens on 15 September and closes mid-October.  
Tidy up and develop the seating area in the corner of the playground. This includes a hard-standing walkway for wheelchairs and pushchairs from the gate to the concrete area with benches and seating. The grant, if awarded, will not pay for contractors fees, just the materials. The application will be made by SSCA as a charitable body.
- 9.2 Committee Chair & Action Report  
None.
- 

**090925.10 WORKING PARTIES, EXTERNAL PROJECTS & NON-COMMITTEE ITEMS**  
**(Updates and Action Reports)**

- 10.1 **Activity Corner** (Cllrs Hopper & Coupe)  
Cllr Coupe reported that he was awaiting a response from a contractor about obtaining a soil transfer licence which will enable soil to be transferred from another site and used to build a pump track. This will save a huge amount of money.
- 10.2 **Library** (Cllr Lovell)  
The library is running well.
- 10.3 **Pavements** (Cllrs Phillips, Lovell & Allen)  
Cllr Phillips advised that the working party will start by focusing on main routes which link facilities, bus stops, bungalows etc. They have identified the routes to survey and have agreed three key areas to focus on - uneven ground, broken surfaces and whether they are overgrown/slippery. The length of the routes have been measured and a template has been put together for the working party to complete.
- 10.4 **Traffic & Speedwatch** (Cllr McNally)  
There has been no activity over the summer but a session is booked for Thursday.
- 

**090925.11 RESIDENTS' CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter was received raising concerns about access into the Pavilion car park from an adjoining property. The Chair advised that he had written to them.

---

**090925.12      DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday 14 October 2025** in the Pavilion commencing at 7.30pm.

---

SIGNED:  
Chairman of the Parish Council

DATE: 14 October 2025

*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](mailto:starcrossp for cclerk@gmail.com)*

## **Starcross Parish Council Finance Report – 9 September 2025**

<b>Summary of Bank Balances at 8 September 2025</b>	
Current (C)	£20,192.45
Pavilion Trading (P)	£8,730.53
Allocated Reserves (A)	£71,658.27
<b>Total</b>	<b>£100,581.25</b>

<b>Income: 7 July – 8 September 2025</b>		
Pavilion hire	£3420.50	P
Pavilion café	£582.15	P
Bank interest (31 July & 29 August)	£125.09	A

<b>Payments for approval</b>			
Clerk	Salary & disbursements (August + backpay)	£680.37	C
Plant Tech	Grass cutting & maintenance (July & August)	£2226.24	C
PKF Littlejohn	Limited assurance review (audit)	£378	C
S Swift	Work along path of sports field car park	£2040	C
J Hopper	Reimbursement for items purchased for Pavilion Café (see item 8.1 Sept)	£176.45	P
S Rastall	Reimbursement for blue kitchen roll purchased for the Pavilion (see item 8.2 Sept)	£15.99	P
T Greenslade	Pavilion - cleaning, fobbing, supplies, watering in new grass (July & Aug)	£583.63	P
HMRC	Pavilion VAT	£640.72	P
Sungift Solar	Service	£252	P
Source for Business	Pavilion water	£220.44	P

<b>Direct Debit: 7 July – 8 September 2025</b>			
Bankline (15/7 & 15/8)	Banking fees	£46.75	C
Octopus Energy (28/7 & 1/9)	Electricity/Gas	£99.98	C
PWLB (22/8)	Loan repayment	£1536.51	C
Talk Talk (16/7 & 15/8)	Pavilion telephone & broadband	£63.84	P
Biffa (28/7 & 26/8)	Waste bin at Pavilion (rental & collection)	£82.46	P

<b>Clerk (August)</b>	Salary	Tax	Net	Disbursements
Salary + backpay	£665.70	£18.20	£647.50	
Telephone and Internet	-	-	-	£5.00
Using home as an office	-	-	-	£8.67
Mileage @ 45p per mile	-	-	-	-
Quickbooks	-	-	-	£19.20
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>£680.37</b>