



STARCROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Starcross Parish Council held in Starcross Pavilion on Tuesday 14 October 2025 at 7.30pm

Present:

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

Also present:

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

RESIDENTS' QUESTION TIME

The Chairman invited questions/comments from residents.

There were no questions/comments.

141025.01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- Cllr Williamson
- County Cllr Connett

141025.02 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.

141025.03 RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

Members present received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 9 September 2025.

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

141025.04 CRIME REPORT

No report

141025.05 COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

District Cllr Taylor advised that he has circulated a slide presentation from TDC's Executive Committee meeting for the Council's reference. He also advised that he has been involved in a lot of residents' correspondence about the recent closure of the A379 relating to work at The Driftwood. Unfortunately, TDC has been unable to assist residents with free parking whilst this work has been taking place. Members commented about the number and size of HGVs using New Road as a result of the closure. It is understood that traffic officers will be issuing tickets to those vehicles contravening the size restriction.

141025.06 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

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

6.1 **Financial Report** – members received and noted the financial report 9 September – 13 October 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 Proposal: To purchase a measuring wheel - approx £50. This is for the work to be done on the cycle track at New Road corner.
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Rastall

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to purchase a measuring wheel, as proposed.

ACTION: Cllr Hopper to purchase
FUNDING: Reserves

- 6.3 To adopt the proposed route for future quotations and agreements on projects.
Document circulated.
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Rastall

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to adopt the proposed route for future quotations and agreement on projects, subject to some minor amendments.

- 6.4 To agree to contact Cllrs Connett and Taylor to clarify the current position of TDC and DCC regarding the Local Government Reorganisation process in particular regarding consultations with Parish Councils

After a discussion, it was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that the Parish Council would write to Martin Wrigley, MP, regarding the lack of direct consultation with Parish Councils in connection with the Local Government Reorganisation.

- 6.5 Clerk to update members on Data and Digital Compliance matters
The clerk advised that there is a new requirement for Parish Councils, introduced in the 2025 Practitioners Guide, that requires them to demonstrate robust governance over digital presence and data management to ensure compliance with UK GDPR and data protection laws. This includes having proper IT policies, using secure council-owned email domains, meeting website accessibility standards and managing personal data lawfully, safely and securely. The clerk advised that she would be working through the requirements in time for the end of this financial year.

Whilst the Parish Council already has a council-owned email domain which would comply with the new requirements (.org.uk), the preference would be to have a .gov.uk domain, and for each Councillor to have a dedicated council-owned email address for professionalism, security and compliance with GDPR. The cost of a new domain would be £25. JKE Web Design will then be able point the website to the new domain name and create 10 Councillor mailboxes at no additional cost.

- 6.6 Committee Chair & Action Report
The Chair advised that he had spoken to the site manager at The Driftwood and asked whether it was at all feasible to access The Strand. Trade at the shop is being impacted. **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to write to County Cllr Connett to ask that signage is made clear that access to the shop is allowed.

141025.07 PLANNING
(Cllrs Pegg, Cadbury & McNally)

Whole Council to Debate (accompanying documents)

- 7.1 **New applications/appeals**
None

- 7.2 **Decisions:**
7.1.2 25/01199/FUL – Site of Green Pastures, Staplake Lane, Starcross
New single dwelling to replace previously existing demolished bungalow

Members noted that TDC has granted conditional planning permission.

- 7.3 Committee Chair and Action Report
None
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**141025.09 PAVILION, SPORTSFIELD AND BOATPARK
(Cllrs Rastall, Hopper, Pegg, Coupe & Williamson)**

- 8.1 Proposal: To reimburse Cllr Hopper a total of £78.47 for items purchased for the Pavilion Café
Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr McNally

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

ACTION: Clerk to refund
FUNDING: Pavilion Café

- 8.2 Proposal: To reimburse Cllr Rastall £18.99 for Pavilion kitchen rolls and carpet adhesive
Proposer: Cllr Hopper; Seconder: Cllr Cadbury

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to reimburse Cllr Rastall £18.99, as proposed.

ACTION: Clerk to refund
FUNDING: Pavilion

- 8.3 Proposal: To accept a quote from Silver Fern to repair the main gate to the sportsfield - £1384.33
Proposer: Cllr Rastall; Seconder: Cllr Hopper

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to accept a quote from Silver Fern to repair the main gate to sportsfield, as proposed.

ACTION: Cllr Rastall to organise
FUNDING: Pavilion Maintenance

8.4 Committee Chair & Action Report

- Cycle Path - the Highways Engineer will be updating the Parish Council shortly
- Pavilion Bookings Cllr Rastall summarised current bookings and outlined the booking process to members, for information only. Members were pleasantly surprised at how well-used the Pavilion is.
- Container (Starcross Dons) – waiting for a quote
- Rats – filled in a hole under the substation store
- Shanty Festival 2026 – plans are underway for next year's Festival.
- Starcross Dons – they took 160 children to the England v Wales game at Wembley, returning at 4am the following morning. It was acknowledged that this was a great opportunity for the children.

- 8.5 Committee Chair & Action Report
None

**141025.09 PARKS AND GARDENS
(Cllrs Chase, Lovell, Allen & Phillips)**

Committee Chair Report:

- 9.1 Committee Chair & Action Report
Everywhere is reasonably tidy. Safety checks have been done. The Committee will now be focusing on the Community Corner plan.
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**141025.10 WORKING PARTIES, EXTERNAL PROJECTS & NON-COMMITTEE ITEMS
(Updates and Action Reports)**

10.1 Pavements (Cllrs Phillips, Lovell & Allen)

Cllr Phillips circulated a report following a survey of the pavements. There are a number of areas of concern but it was agreed that the following areas would be prioritised as needing urgent attention:

- Pavement from the school to the sportsfield is uneven and broken and in a dangerous state
- Assembly rooms corner – a well-used, small section of pavement where people cross, is very worn and uneven
- Swan steps – dangerous
- Lack of 20mph repeater signs along New Road

Other issues that have been highlighted from the survey:

- Millennium Gardens footpath – it looks as though this has been marked for repair
- Entrance to Bonhay Park (near entrance to bowling club)
- A number of raised manhole covers

It was agreed to clarify areas of responsibility for onward transmission to the relevant authorities.

10.2 Traffic & Speedwatch (Cllr McNally)

Cllr McNally advised that there was a speedwatch session yesterday next to the school. Over a period of one hour, 20 vehicles were reported going over the speed limit. They also counted 12 lorries going past (albeit below the speed limit).

141025.11 RESIDENTS' CORRESPONDENCE
None

141025.12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING
The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday 11 November 2025** in the Pavilion commencing at 7.30pm.

SIGNED:
Chairman of the Parish Council

DATE: 11 November 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

Starcross Parish Council Finance Report – 14 October 2025

Summary of Bank Balances at 13 October 2025	
Current (C)	£43,992.37
Pavilion Trading (P)	£8,818.46
Allocated Reserves (A)	£71,724.23
Total	£124,535.06

Income: 9 September – 13 October 2025		
Second instalment of precept	£26,140	C
Pavilion hire	£889	P
Pavilion café	£278.90	P
Bank interest (30 Sept)	£65.96	A

Payments for approval			
Clerk	Salary & disbursements (September)	£651.37	C
Plant Tech	Grass cutting & maintenance (September)	£1113.12	C
Chip Hosting	Website hosting	£130	C
Powderham	Half yearly rental of allotments	£105	C
RBL	Poppy wreath	£20	C
J Hopper	Reimbursement for items purchased for Pavilion Café (see item 8.1 Oct)	£78.47	P
S Rastall	Reimbursement for blue kitchen roll & carpet adhesive purchased for the Pavilion (see item 8.2 Oct)	£18.99	P
T Greenslade	Pavilion - cleaning, fobbing, supplies, repair of disabled toilet(Sept)	£262.61	P
Bramshaw Heating & Plumbing	Service boiler and water heater	£444	P
S Swift	Sportsfield hedge trimming	£480	P

Direct Debit: 9 September – 13 October 2025			
Bankline (15/9)	Banking fees	£21.36	C
Octopus Energy (8/10)	Electricity/Gas	£87.24	C
Talk Talk (16/9)	Pavilion telephone & broadband	£31.92	P
Biffa (22/9)	Waste bin at Pavilion (rental & collection)	£51.54	P

Clerk (September)	Salary	Tax	Net	Disbursements
Salary	£591.50	£3.60	£587.90	
Telephone and Internet	-	-	-	£5.00
Using home as an office	-	-	-	£8.67
Mileage @ 45p per mile	-	-	-	£30.60
Quickbooks	-	-	-	£19.20
TOTAL				£651.37