

Stretham Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 1st March 2016 at 7pm
In the Pavilion, Short Road, Stretham

Present: Councillors Roberts (Chair), Parish (Vice Chair), Nuttall, Pearce, Murfitt, Taylor, Mackenzie, Speed, Thake (arrived 7.25pm), the Clerk

Eleven members of public were also in attendance for the first part of the meeting including County and District Councillor Bill Hunt

1. Apologies and approval of absences

Councillor Prevett, Councillor Bright

2. To receive declarations of interest and requests for dispensations

Councillor Parish declared an interest in a piece of correspondence under item 12 on the Agenda, specifically relating to the Village Information Pack.

Councillor Roberts declared an interest in item 10 on the Agenda, in his capacity as Trustee of the Stretham and Wilburton Community Land Trust.

3. To resolve that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd February 2016 are a correct record

The Council resolved that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 2nd February 2016 are an accurate record. This was proposed by Councillor Pearce and seconded by Councillor Parish.

4. To receive an update on the progress of actions from the last meeting of Stretham Parish Council on 2nd February 2016

The Topsy and Tim play area is being very well used after the Grand Opening and Ladybird has agreed to the Council using an image of Topsy and Tim on the Noticeboard (to be ordered). The Parish Rooms survey has been amended and will be sent out in March. The Community Asset application for the Red Lion has been completed and will be submitted in due course. The Outdoor Gym public consultation has been delayed as Fresh Air Fitness failed to provide a drawing of their proposal in time for it to happen in February. Mr and Mrs Hubbard have already had the new bench installed at the Recreation Ground replacing the rotten bench. Highways has confirmed the Correx speed safety signs will go up by the end of March.

The Clerk confirmed she has been unsuccessful in obtaining a second quotation regarding the Recreation Ground ditch flail and sought permission from the Council to proceed with the Truelink quote of £385.00. Councillor Roberts confirmed he has been aware of the Clerk's attempts to obtain other quotes and proposed that the Truelink quote is accepted. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Speed and all Councillors were in agreement.

5. Public participation

The meeting adjourned at 7.15pm.

A group of residents of Wicken affected by the Dimmocks Cote Quarry planning application attended the meeting to share their concern at the transport figures quoted in the application. Ted Clover of Clover Planning Services was also in attendance with a representative from Francis Flower (the Owner of the quarry). Mr Clover attempted to provide clarification on the traffic figures however after lengthy discussion, there was general agreement that the number of road movements is still very unclear. Councillor Roberts expressed his concerns that Francis Flowers will have no control over the hauliers travelling through the villages of Stretham and Wicken and that no consultation has happened with those directly affected.

A resident of Berry Close visited to ask if the Council has received any further updates on the proposed planning application on land to the north of Berry Close. The Clerk confirmed that one letter has been received however that the planning application was not ready to be submitted yet.

The meeting reconvened at 7.50pm.

6. To agree plans for the Queen's 90th Birthday Beacon to be held on 21st April 2016

The Council agreed to take part in the lighting of a Beacon on the Queen's 90th Birthday in April. Councillor Roberts suggested that land at the back of Berry Green be used and all agreed this was an appropriate location. The event will run from 7.30pm-9pm and the beacon will be lit around 8pm. It was agreed it would be nice to provide one drink to those who attend for free and Councillors Pearce, Thake and Mackenzie will make arrangements with a budget of £300. The budget for the cost of the fire basket was agreed as £100. These expenses were proposed by Councillor Nuttall and seconded by Councillor Parish, all Councillors in agreement.

Councillor Parish raised the idea of providing each primary school child in the Village with a commemorative coin to mark the Queen's 90th Birthday. The Council provided a coin in 2012 for the Jubilee and it was well received. The cost would be £405.50. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Nuttall and all Councillors were in agreement.

7. To agree and appoint the Internal Auditor for financial year 2015-2016

The Clerk sought the permission of Council to appoint Mr Michael Williamson to act as Internal Auditor for the financial year 2015-2016. This was proposed by Councillor Thake and seconded by Councillor Parish, all in agreement. Clerk to make contact and arrangements.

8. To consider planning applications

- 16/00094/FUL – Gravel Farm, Newmarket Road

It was proposed by Councillor Parish and seconded by Councillor Pearce to raise no objections to this planning application, all in agreement.

- 16/00150/FUL – Plot adjacent to 23A Short Road

After careful consideration, it was proposed by Councillor Parish and seconded by Councillor Speed to raise no objections to this planning application, all in agreement.

- E/3008/14/CM – Dimmocks Cote Quarry

Following the lengthy discussion and debate about this planning application in the Public Participation section of the meeting, it was proposed by Councillor Parish to reiterate and re-submit the original objections and this was seconded by Councillor Mackenzie. The Councillors voted unanimously in favour of this proposal. Clerk to communicate immediately.

9. To receive planning application decisions

None

10. To receive an update on progress of SWCLT

Councillor Roberts provided a full update to the Council. The Trust is currently awaiting details of the hand-over dates for the first three SWCLT properties. The road way is being laid very soon. Councillor Roberts updated the Council in relation to the Clerk issues, the Parish Clerk and Councillor Mackenzie have stepped in to assist.

11. Finance

To authorise payments from SPC and SSRC accounts and to note income

The following accounts were presented for payment:

Parish Council account

Name	Chq no	Amount
Mr L Gotobed	002205	£72.48
Mr P Penny	002206	£370.00
Mrs R Watts	002207	£1694.78
Mrs M Hutter	002208	£40.00
Penny Potter	002209	£500.00
Mr S Coleby (C and C Media)	002210	£625.20
HMRC	002211	£137.03
SLCC	002212	£149.00
Anglian Turf Supplies	002213	£1562.00
George J Goff Ltd	002214	£371.23
Acorn Renewable Solutions Ltd	002215	£144.00
R A Nuttall	002216	£62.88
K A Bell	002217	£613.15
ECDC	002218	£20.00
HAGS-SMP Limited	002219	£59580.00
King Bounce Alot	002220	£50.00

The balance of Parish Council current account at 29th February 2016 £15,866.60

To cover the VAT element of the HAGS-SMP payment, the Clerk sought permission to move £9930.00 from the Business Bank Instant account over into the Treasurers Account for a temporary time until the VAT has been reclaimed. It will then be moved back. This request was approved and Councillors Roberts and Parish signed the bank request letter along with the Clerk.

SSRC account

Name	Chq no	Amount
Mr P Penny	000378	£311.25

The balance of SSRC current account at 29th February 2016 £735.85

It was proposed by Councillor Parish and seconded by Councillor Speed that the above accounts be paid. All in agreement.

Parish Council account income:

Land rent £225.00, VAT reclaim £6,275.31

SSRC account income: meter money £12.00, pitch hire £155.00, hall hire £40.00

12. To receive correspondence

An email from Julie Langford was read out regarding the new signs that are due to be erected on the Recreation Ground very soon and also about the problem of dog fouling on the Rec and down Short Road. The Clerk has replied accordingly informing Mrs Langford that the signs have just been ordered and will be erected as soon as they are ready. Dogs will still be allowed to be off lead on the recreation ground.

An email from Circus Tyanna has been received requesting the Circus visit Stretham Recreation ground from 15th to 19th June 2016. The Council agreed to this request. Councillor Parish requested that the Circus ensure posters are removed from around the Village straight after the 19th.

An email from the Local Highways Improvement Initiative has been received confirming that Stretham Parish Council has been awarded £1040.00 (90% of the total cost) for Gates to highlight entry to the village. It is hoped that these gates will assist in speed reduction.

An email from Neil Ford has been received about the amount of dog mess on Short Road. The Council has received a number of complaints about the dog fouling in February and the Clerk has spoken at length with ECDC. A full update to be provided in the March newsletter.

An email from Laragh Homes has been received confirming that they will fund 50% of the costs of providing each household in the village with the Information Pack the Youth Centre has designed. The Council is very pleased with this news and Councillor Parish was informed to proceed with the project.

All general correspondence was circulated.

13. To receive reports from Working Parties and Sub-Committee

All working parties and sub-committees reported into the meeting.

Recreation Working Party – Councillor Mackenzie provided the quotations for the new five-a-side goals. It was proposed by Councillor Parish and seconded by Councillor Speed to accept the quote of £800 + vat from Artificial Grass (Cambridge) Ltd. All Councillors in agreement.

Amenities Working Party – Councillor Parish provided a full update.

Footpaths Working Party – Footpaths are very muddy following the high levels of rain but generally in a usable condition, no complaints received.

Eleanor's Field Working Party – Awaiting Kier Petherick to flail the back section of the field in Spring 2016.

Feast Sub-Committee – All arrangements are running smoothly.

14. To receive Councillors questions and review Rolling Timetable

Councillor Murfitt reported that some properties in Wood Lane had not received the February edition of the newsletter.

Councillor Taylor reported that the Pantomime went very well with a total of 296 tickets sold. An invoice in the sum of £148.00 was requested from the Clerk for use of the Parish Rooms.

Councillor Pearce raised the issue of nuisance calls being received by elderly residents in the Village. The Clerk will put some helpful information in the Newsletter.

15. To receive the Minutes of the Feast meeting held on 3rd February 2016

Received and decisions noted and agreed.

The Council resolved that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting (Part 2, Press and Public exclusion) held on 2nd February 2016 are a correct record and Councillor Nuttall proposed they be signed. This was seconded by Councillor Parish and all Councillors were in agreement.

Meeting closed at 9.06pm.