

Stretham Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 5th July 2016 at 7pm
In the Pavilion, Short Road, Stretham

Present: Councillors Roberts (Chair), Parish (Vice Chair), Nuttall, Pearce, Murfitt, Taylor, Speed, the Clerk

1. Apologies and approval of absences

Councillor Thake, Councillor Bright, Councillor Mackenzie, Councillor Prevett

2. To receive declarations of interest and requests for dispensations

Councillor Roberts declared an interest in item 9 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 7th June 2016 are a correct record

The Council resolved that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 7th June 2016 are an accurate record. This was proposed by Councillor Taylor and seconded by Councillor Pearce.

4. To receive an update on the progress of actions from the last meeting of Stretham Parish Council on 7th June 2016

The Councillors and Public in attendance received a full update on tasks completed since the last meeting. In summary: the Correx speed safety signs are now being strengthened. The repair to the finial on the Pavilion roof about to happen as will the tidy up work to the Laurel hedge along the car park. A meeting has taken place with Highways and Road Safety about the Green End junction on the A1123. The 'Highways' verges are now being cut by Truelink, it was not necessary to go to tender with the extra cutting as the Truelink quotation was under £1000. The Notice Board for the Topsy and Tim Play Area has been ordered. Still obtaining a price from Artificial Grass (Cambridge) for some netting for the AWP to stop the balls flying into the Bowls Club. CIL money cannot be used to purchase laptops for the school. All correspondence and planning applications responded to.

Councillor Roberts provided an update on the meeting with Highways and Road Safety around the safety issues at the Green End junction on the A1123. It is very obviously a dangerous section of the road especially for users of the pavement which is often mounted. Now that the Dimmocks Cote planning application has been approved, it is even more imperative to resolve these safety issues. Councillor Roberts suggested the Council move forward to seeking funding to extend the road and to approach Francis Flowers about assistance with the funding. The Council agreed to this approach.

5. Public participation

The meeting adjourned at 7.07pm to hear from members of the public in attendance.

Sally Tees-Prior and Joanne Paddock attended the meeting to ask the Council if it would

support a Music Festival on the Recreation ground and allow use of the land. The Festival would raise money for local charities, welcome children, be staffed properly and be held over a weekend in August 2017. The Council confirmed that although it would not agree to camping on the Recreation Ground, it was in broad agreement pursuant to obtaining the correct licenses.

Kier Petherick gave an informative talk to the Councillors about the proposed Tomato Glasshouses which is to be considered under Planning. The development would employ around 100 people and any light coming from the glasshouses would be blanked out at night to stop light pollution. The Council questioned how many trucks would be involved with the production of the tomato's and Mr Petherick confirmed it would be around 10 daily which would only use the A10 and not come through Stretham on the A1123.

Allen Norman attended the meeting to discuss a possible housing development on the site of the old Transport Yard on Newmarket Road. A question was put forward that the owners be asked if they would consider working alongside Stretham and Wilburton Community Land Trust and Mr Allen confirmed he would pose this question. Although the Council would like to see this area improved due to being such an eye sore, there are serious concerns about the contamination of the land which used to be a landfill site.

The meeting reconvened at 7.52pm.

6. To review results of the Parish Rooms Survey and agree next steps

Councillor Parish provided a detailed breakdown of the results from the Parish Rooms survey which was circulated with the newsletter earlier in 2016. The results quite clearly show that the building requires serious improvement or to be rebuilt in a more suitable area of Stretham. To enable the Council to be in a position to apply for funding for such a project, more detailed consultation will be necessary with the community. The Councillors all agreed that it would be preferable to build a new community building in a better location with more parking room and that this is the preferred plan over the next 5 years.

Councillor Parish sought permission to move forward at this point in time with some further more direct consultation and this was agreed.

Councillor Parish also proposed to ring fence any Community Infrastructure Levy money being paid to Stretham Parish Council in the next 5 years with an annual review in case priorities change. Any CIL money will be put to this project to build a better community facility, likely in a new location. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Taylor and following a unanimous vote, it was resolved that the CIL money be ring fenced from this date forward.

7. To consider planning applications

- 16/00660/ESF – Land off Ely Rad, Chittering – Four glasshouses
Following the discussions within Public Consultation, this application was carefully considered. Correspondence from residents living close to the proposed site was read out, mainly with concerns around traffic and location. Councillor Speed put forward that the development would bring jobs to the village, will be based on agricultural farmland and be growing UK produce and proposed that the Council support this application. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Parish and following a unanimous vote, it was resolved to support this planning application.

- 16/00733/FUL – 15 Akeman Close – Single storey front extension

This planning application was carefully considered and all plans viewed. It was proposed by Councillor Parish to raise no objections and this was seconded by Councillor Speed. All Councillors in favour, resolved to raise no objections.

- 16/00674/FUL –Morning Meadow, Grunty Fen – Replacement three bedroom detached dwelling

Stretham Parish Council is consulted on this application as a neighbouring parish. The Council raised serious concerns that yet again this planning application relates to development outside of the envelope. The Council agreed it is an unsuitable location and on wet, low lying land. It was proposed by Councillor Parish and seconded by Councillor Speed to submit this response, all Councillors in agreement.

- Letter from Ely Design Group regarding proposed development on Newmarket Road
The Council would be pleased to see the old transport yard site re-developed as it is such an eye sore on entry into the village from Wicken. The Council has no objection to the site becoming residential dependent on design of the housing. The Council drew attention to the fact that the site used to be a rubbish dump and is classed as contaminated land which may be a major hurdle to overcome. The Council will obviously respond formally at the time that a planning application comes forward for this site.

8. To receive planning application decisions

- 15/00550/FUL – Land north of Sadler Way, pair semi-detached affordable houses – APPROVED

- E/3008/14/CM – Dimmocks Cote Quarry, extension – APPROVED

9. To receive an update on progress of SWCLT

Councillor Roberts provided a full update to the Council. SWCLT has unfortunately experienced further Clerking issues at a very crucial time. The first three houses are due for handover early in September and some borrowing may be necessary. The site is developing very well and there is a good level of interest in the properties, especially for rental.

Councillor Roberts has approached the Parish Clerk, Rachel Watts, about taking back on the role of Clerk to SWCLT to give SWCLT some stability at this crucial time. The Clerk would need support with the Parish role to continue to provide the level of service provided and to take forward the major projects coming forward. Councillor Roberts sought agreement from the Council to employ an Assistant Parish Clerk so that Rachel has support with major projects and can slowly reduce her hours as the Assistant becomes competent to take forward SWCLT. Councillor Nuttall stated that as long as the current level of service is maintained, he is supportive of the addition of an Assistant Parish Clerk. The Clerk explained that a number of villages now have an Assistant Parish Clerk and that in no way would the level of service decline with these changes.

The Council agreed in principle to this proposal and asked the Finance, Personnel and Governance Sub-Committee to take this forward. Proposed by Councillor Speed, seconded by Councillor Nuttall, all Councillors in favour.

10. 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	002287	£72.48
Mr P Penny	002288	£529.99
Mrs R Watts	002289	£1031.39
Mrs M Hutter	002290	£40.00
James Thew	002291	£80.00
HMRC	002292	£147.03
Laura Shearing	002293	£707.00
K A Bell	002294	£55.00
Mrs V Russell	002295	£96.75
Notice Boards Online Ltd	002296	£610.80

The balance of Parish Council current account at 5th July 2016 £17,372.27

The Clerk has met with Emma Grima at East Cambridgeshire District Council to be informed of a number of pots of money available to Stretham Parish Council. They are:

- SPD Open Space £1821.00 and £1183.10 – official request letter from the PC to release these funds
- Section 106 pot public open space - £1453.21
- Section 106 pot community infrastructure - £1089.91 (Parish Rooms/Pavilion improvements)

It was agreed access the pots of money that are now available via a formal letter of request to ECDC.

SSRC account

Name	Chq no	Amount
Mr P Penny	000385	£158.43

The balance of SSRC current account at 5th July 2016 £463.96

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

Parish Council account income:
Cemetery fees £140.00, room hire £115.00

SSRC account income: room hire £20.00

11. To receive correspondence

A letter from Stretham Sporting FC was read out seeking the Council's support in applying for the Section 106 pot of money in the sum of £1453.21 to put towards some new fold-away goal posts. The Council agreed to support this request with the following conditions:

- a commitment from Stretham Sporting to set a time limit for purchase of the goals (i.e within 4 weeks of receipt of funding)
- proof of payment against invoice

An email from Mr and Dr Rahman of Wood Lane was read out regarding the state of the road leading to the cemetery and also the electric transformer close to their property. The Parish Council does own the section of road in question and it was agreed to approach

Highways for a quotation to repair the potholes. With regards to the electric transformer, the Clerk was asked to write to UK Power Networks.

All general correspondence was circulated.

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

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

13. To receive Councillors questions and review Rolling Timetable

Councillor Parish enquired if any response has been received from the Red Lion Public House about the location of the defibrillator. The Clerk confirmed that no response has yet been received.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm.