

# STETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

c/o 59 West Street, Isleham, Ely, Cambs. CB7 5SD

Clerk: Mrs. Marilyn Strand Tel: 01638 781286

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## MINUTES

Stetchworth Parish Council Full Council Meeting on

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

held at The Ellesmere Centre (Small Hall)

**Present:** Cllrs Lily Whymer (Chair), Wayne Bell, Sarah Breen, John Puddick, Piers Saunders and Alan Sharp.  
Clerk: Mrs Marilyn Strand.

There were 4 members of the public present.

The meeting was opened at 7:30pm.

**63/21/22 To receive & approve apologies for absence.**

The Chairman welcomed members of the public.

Cllr France (work commitments).

**64/21/22 To Receive Declarations of Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary Interest**

Cllr Whymer declared a pecuniary interest in item 70/21/22 (a) – invoice from M. Whymer (wife).

**65/21/22 Open Forum for Public Participation**

Members of the public had attended the meeting to express their objections to the planning application at 87 High Street. Their objections include: -

- Loss of sunlight;
- Overbearing;
- Overlooking of outside eating area;
- Delivery of building materials as the property is in the middle of a set of three dwellings and the only access is through the shared access;
- Increase in vehicle parking outside the property;
- Noise, dust and disturbance during building works.

All members of the public left the meeting after this item.

**66/21/22 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> October were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**67/21/22 Matters Arising including reports from the Clerk and Councillors (for information only)**

- (a)
- Cemetery works – removal of soil: awaiting advice from a contractor. Cllr Whymer is following this up.
  - Ellesmere Centre car park white lining – this has been completed and looks very good.
  - Tree works on recreation ground – this is due to be carried out on 25<sup>th</sup> November. Cllr Whymer has informed the resident affected.
  - Condition of Church Lane pavement and highway – Cllr Sharp is following this up and will report back to a future meeting.
  - Parking in front of Stone Row – Sanctuary Housing had responded to say that they have asked their tenants to stop parking on the amenity land in front of the cottages.
  - Highways have said that they are awaiting repair of the footbridge on footpath 19 before they can replace the broken stile.

**68/21/22 The Ellesmere Centre**

(a) Ellesmere Centre Report – Cllr Whymer reported the following: -

- The AGM had taken place and all existing Trustees had been re-elected.
- The Centre is now employing a Book Keeper in addition to the administrative staff.
- A new marquee will be purchased for the outside area.

**69/21/22 District & County Councillors' Reports**

District & County Cllr Sharp reported the following: -

- CCC's Children's & Young People Committee had met today to set its budget for 2022-23.
- Highways & Transport – two consultations are ongoing re: Ely Area Enhancement Scheme and the Greater Cambridge Partnership proposals re: the Newmarket Road approach into Cambridge.

- ECDC is considering methods of parking and speeding enforcement and a pilot scheme will be set up in Ely and some surrounding villages. The findings will be reviewed in October 2022.

The issue of parking in Stetchworth High Street, particularly around the nursery school, was discussed as well as parking issues on Tea Kettle Lane where there had been another complaint made about parking on the corner of Mill Lane. It was agreed to ask the PCSO to come and look at the issues.

**70/21/22 Finance** - to approve accounts for payment – it was proposed by Cllr Bell and seconded by Cllr Breen that the following payments be made – AGREED.

Ref:	Payee/Item	Chq. no	Total	Exc. VAT
(1)	Clerk's salary – Oct 21	SO	£323.05	
(2)	Mill Farm Trees – PAID	101583	£222.48	£185.40
(3)	Clerk's expenses – Oct/Nov 21	101584	£50.62	
(4)	Opus Energy (street lighting) Sep 21	DD	£35.87	£34.16
(5)	RH Landscapes & Maintenance Services	101585	£288.00	£240.00
(6)	The Ellesmere Centre	101586	£25.00	
(7)	123 Reg (Archive website domain renewal)	101587	£28.78	
(8)	Camline Cambridge – car park lining	101588	£912.00	£760.00
(9)	M. Whymer – churchyard grass cutting	101589	£300.00	
<b>Total payments for the month:</b>			<b>£2,185.80</b>	

(b) To note monies received: -

- HMRC Q2 VAT refund - £235.62.

NOTED.

(c) To consider draft budget for 2022-2023 – AGREED. It was also proposed to raise the precept to £18,500 and this was AGREED.

**71/21/22 Administration**

(a) To consider attendees to ECDC Parish Councils' Conference, Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022 (postponed from 2<sup>nd</sup> November) – to be held online. Cllr Whymer will attend.

(b) To consider opening a sector-specific bank account (Unity Trust Bank) in order to facilitate online payments, cost £6 per month – AGREED. The new account will be set up with existing signatories.

Cllr Saunders joined the meeting at 8:50pm.

**72/21/22 Planning**

(a) To receive planning application decisions and tree works:

- 21/01578/TPO 18 High Street – crown reduction/lift of 5 x Sycamore trees to form a more compact shape – NOTED.

(b) To consider planning applications received: -

- 21/01497/FUL 87 High Street – proposed rear two-storey extension replacing an existing single-storey rear extension – NOTED.

The PC objects to this application on the following grounds: -

- Loss of sunlight to the neighbouring properties.
- Loss of residential amenity due to the scale and height of the proposed extension.

Councillors also have grave concerns about how building materials will be delivered to the site as there is no vehicular access. Materials would either have to be carried through the house or brought round on foot to the rear of the property using a pedestrian right of way which crosses the neighbouring properties' gardens. Councillors are concerned that they are planning to access the rear of the property via a piece of amenity land at the back which is currently fenced off (which is owned and maintained by ECDC). The method of building (and demolishing of the existing extension) and level of disturbance this could cause to the neighbouring property owners could reach unacceptable levels due to the position of the property and access to it.

It was agreed to also contact Spencer Clark (ECDC Open Spaces and Facilities Manager) to raise the PC's concerns over the amenity land at the back of this property.

**73/21/22 Community Matters/General Maintenance**

(a) Handyman – update: Mr Evans had kindly swept and tidied the area around the War Memorial before Remembrance Day.

(b) Create Your Own Community Orchard – ECDC funding initiative – Councillors were asked to think about where an orchard could be planted and this matter will be considered again at the December meeting.

- (c) Grounds maintenance contract – RH Landscapes have done a good job. The end date of their contract will be checked as it may soon need to go out to tender.
- (d) 'Close the Gap' hedge planting, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December – volunteers required: Cllr Bell had procured bio-degradable trees guards and bamboo canes which had been delivered. The delivery of trees is awaited but the site has been prepared for planting.
- (e) Risk Assessments – to consider the need to carry out a risk assessment on any item discussed during the meeting – volunteers helping with the hedge planting (item 73/21/22 (d)).

**74/21/22 Correspondence for Information.**

- (a) Email from Newmarket Joggers re: parking for the 2022 Marcus Gynn 10k road race – NOTED.

There had been a good turnout to this year's Remembrance service.

**75/21/22 Date of Next Meeting & Matters for Future Consideration**

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December; Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Cllr Breen left the meeting at 9:34pm.

Clerk's appraisal (Cllrs Whymer and Sharp).  
Meeting dates for 2022.

The meeting was closed at 9:36pm.

Signed: Approved and signed by the Chairman

Dated: 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Statutory powers relating to this month's payments:

- (1) Local Government Act (LGA) 1972, s.112
- (2) LGA 1972, s.111
- (3) LGA 1972, s.112
- (4) Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3; Highways Act 1980, s.301
- (5) Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9-10; LGA 1972, s.214
- (6-7) LGA 1972, s.111
- (8) Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, s.57(1)(b).
- (10) Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9-10; LGA 1972, s.215.