

STETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs. Marilyn Strand Tel: 01638 781286

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MINUTES

Stetchworth Parish Council Full Council Meeting on

Tuesday 26th January 2021

held online via online meeting platform Zoom

Present: Cllrs Lily Whymer (Chair), Wayne Bell, Sarah Breen, Alastair France, John Puddick, Piers Saunders and Alan Sharp.

Clerk: Mrs Marilyn Strand.

There were no members of the public present.

The meeting was opened at 7:35pm.

Under the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, this meeting was held remotely using an online meeting platform. The meeting will be open to the public (including the press).

101/20/21 To receive & approve apologies for absence.

None.

102/20/21 To Receive Declarations of Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary Interest

None.

103/20/21 Open Forum for Public Participation

None.

104/20/21 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 22nd December 2020 (to be signed at a later date).

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd December were approved as a true record.

105/20/21 Matters Arising including reports from the Clerk and Councillors (for information only)

(a)

- Tree in front of Stone Row – this has now been felled and disposed of.

Cllr Alan Sharp joined the meeting.

- Upgrade of street lights to LED & stickers – this has now been completed. An updated inventory has been sent to UK Power Networks who will issue a new MPAN number so that the PC's energy bills can be adjusted. Cllr Whymer will finish putting the information stickers on columns when the weather allows.
- Website upgrade – the site will be going live shortly and the Clerk has had an initial run through on how to update it. Cllr France will also be able to log in and update the site. It was agreed to advertise the new website on the Stetchworth community Facebook page. A locally organised website on Stetchworth may be closing down in March and some of the information contained within this website could be transferred to the PC's new site.
- Minutes for binding – these have now been collected.
- Tree on recreation ground behind the Centre – Hamill Landscaping will take the branch down on 24th and 25th February. The handyman will be asked if he can be available that day to help spread chippings onto footpaths and other areas which are extremely muddy at present.
- Crushed stone for car park extension – two tonne bags of stone had been spread over the worst affected areas of the car park. Cllr Bell is negotiating the price down due to the very short length of time it took the supplier to lay it.
- Precept 2021-22 – the PC's precept request was sent to ECDC on 8th January.
- Letters to residents re: parking, overgrown shrubbery had been sent by the Clerk. The resident at no. 4 Coopers Close has stopped parking on the grasscrete area but there is still rubbish in the ditch. Cllr Sharp will follow this up with ECDC.

It was agreed to write to Anglian Water with regards to drainage and sewage problems reported by residents on Mill Lane.

(b)

Report from the Acting Police & Crime Commissioner's virtual briefing session for town and parish councils – Cllr Sharp will forward notes from the meeting to the Clerk for circulation. Issues discussed included crime in East Cambridgeshire, scams information and a rise in the Police & Crime Commissioner's portion of the Council Tax.

Cllr France left the meeting due to technical difficulties.

106/20/21 The Ellesmere Centre

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

- The Centre is still closed due to the coronavirus pandemic and trustee meetings are being held online via Zoom. All staff are currently furloughed except for the caretaker.
- Cllr Whymer had informed trustees that the fallen branch at the back of the Centre is being dealt with.
- MUGA lights – the contractor had offered further compensation to the Centre as they haven't been able to bring the lights up to the lux levels they had quoted for. The compensation offered had been accepted by Trustees.

Cllr France re-joined the meeting.

107/20/21 District & County Councillors' Reports

District Cllr Alan Sharp reported the following: -

- ECDC is aiming to take on responsibility for parking enforcement around the district and its officers will be trained and empowered to issue fixed penalty tickets where a parking infringement has occurred.
- The Police & Crime Commissioner's budget panel has recommended a £1.25 per month increase in its share of Council Tax on a Band D property.
- ECDC staff and officers are working on Covid-19 grants and other Covid-19 related matters and therefore may be slower in responding to emails regarding their usual work.
- ECDC has passed its housing delivery test with a score of 87%; the pass mark is 75%. The test looks at how many houses are being built compared to how many have been given planning permission.
- The Approved Climate Change Supplementary Planning Document had generally received good, positive comments. However, the Housebuilders' Federation and Persimmon Homes had put forward no constructive comments.

Development at 20 High Street – construction vehicles have been parking on the road rather than on site and residents have complained about this. The Developer is building a tarmac area within the site for parking but this should have been completed much sooner. Due to Covid-19, there are more cars than there would normally be due to restrictions on travelling together. The matter has been raised with Planning Enforcement.

108/20/21 Finance - to approve accounts for payment – it was proposed by Cllr Whymer and seconded by Cllr Bell that the following payments be made: -

Ref:	Payee/Item	Chq. no	Total	Exc. VAT
(1)	Clerk's salary – Dec 20	SO	£323.05	
(2)	Clerk's expenses Dec 20/Jan 21	101532	£40.27	
(3)	Opus Energy (street lighting) Nov 20	DD	£115.17	£109.69
(4)	K&M Lighting – LED upgrade	101533	£2,070.00	£1725.00
(5)	Cambridgeshire ACRE	101534	£57.00	

Total payments for the month:

(b) Proposed Q3 accounts and bank reconciliation – NOTED.

109/20/21 Administration

(a) Registration of village green – it was agreed to start the process of registering the village green at the junction of the High Street and Church Lane.

110/20/21 Planning

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

- 20/01608/TCON 51 High Street – to comply with Condition 10 (Tree topping, lopping & felling) of Decision Notice 97/00295/FUL. **Approved.**

NOTED.

(b) To consider planning applications received:

- 20/07159/FUL 45 Strollers Way – first floor side extension – NOTED with no comments.

(c) Proposed development at Station Road, Dullingham – it was noted that this is a full commercial application and not a Community Land Trust. Dullingham PC has discussed the proposal and has a number of objections including increased traffic, drainage, and parking associated with the railway station. The developer had distributed a leaflet questionnaire to all households in Dullingham & Stetchworth but the wording did not allow for open feedback from residents and the questions were weighted in favour of development. Stetchworth Parish Councillors are also concerned about increased traffic through Stetchworth and the effect on the primary school. Cllr Sharp will keep Councillors updated on the proposal.

111/20/21 Community Matters/General Maintenance

- (a) Footpath between Coopers Close and Strollers Way – this matter had already been discussed under Matters Arising.
- (b) Handyman – work is ongoing on small maintenance jobs around the parish.
- (c) Covid-19 – volunteers & related matters – none.
- (d) Risk Assessments – to consider the need to carry out a risk assessment on any item discussed during the meeting – none.

112/20/21 Date of Next Meeting & Matters for Future Consideration

2nd March.

Village spring clean.

The meeting was closed at 8:57pm.

Signed: Approved.

Dated: 2nd March 2021

Statutory powers relating to this month's payments:

- (1-2) Local Government Act (LGA) 1972, s.112
- (3-4) Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3; Highways Act 1980, s.301
- (5) LGA 1972, s.111