

STETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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

Clerk: Mrs. Marilyn Strand Tel: 01638 781286

Email: clerk@stetchworth.org

MINUTES

Stetchworth Parish Council Full Council Meeting on

Tuesday 19th April 2022

held at The Ellesmere Centre (Gredley Room)

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

There were no members of the public present.

The meeting was opened at 7:33pm.

115/21/22 To receive & approve apologies for absence.

Alastair France (unwell).

116/21/22 To Receive Declarations of Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary Interest

Cllrs Whymer and Sharp declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 125/21/22 (c) – PCC request for funding for public toilets and newsletter.

117/21/22 Open Forum for Public Participation

None.

118/21/22 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th March 2022

The minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

119/21/22 Matters Arising including reports from the Clerk and Councillors (for information only)

(a)

- Barclays Bank – the closure of the PC's current account with Barclays has been confirmed in writing. The balance, and all Direct Debits and Standing Orders, have been transferred to Unity Trust Bank.
- Removal of soil in cemetery – no progress has yet been made on this due to issues with equipment.
- Newmarket market place – letters had been sent to West Suffolk and Newmarket Town Councils and Woodditton and Cheveley PCs had confirmed they would also write in support of the market returning to the High Street. Cllr Sharp said there were four locations currently being appraised by West Suffolk Council.
- Repair of MUGA fencing – awaiting confirmation of a date from Cambridge Courts.
- High Street parking issues – update following article in newsletter: there had been positive feedback from the nursery manager and residents following the article. However, one resident had telephoned to complain that the article targeted nursery staff but Councillors said this was not the case.
- Damage to recreation ground fencing adjacent to the play area – the fencing belongs to the neighbouring property and the situation will be monitored. Warning tape has been placed around the damaged fencing.
- A 'No Dogs in the Playground' sign will be purchased for the children's play area.
- The Internal Audit has been booked for 6th May (on Zoom).

120/21/22 The Ellesmere Centre

(a)

Ellesmere Centre Report – Cllr Whymer reported the following: -

- New flooring is now complete.
- The all-day café in support of the Red Cross' Ukraine appeal had raised over £1,500.
- Children are no longer allowed in the Centre if unaccompanied by an adult.
- There are plans to hold a family festival on the recreation ground and more information is awaited.

121/21/22 District & County Councillors' Reports

District & County Cllr Alan Sharp reported the following: -

- ECDC's trading company is to build more houses on the MoD site in Ely.
- Fly tipping in the district has got worse recently and ECDC has been slow to respond to reports of fly tipping.
- There had been some teething problems with the revised refuse collection days but these should now be resolved.

122/21/22 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 – Apr 22	SO	£335.18	
(2)	Clerk's expenses – Mar-Apr 22	BACs	£40.27	
(3)	Opus Energy (street lighting) Feb 22	DD	£39.41	£37.53
(4)	RH Landscapes & Maintenance Services	BACs	£144.00	£120.00
(5)	Ellesmere Centre room hire – Dec 21-Mar 22	BACs	£100.00	
(6)	TBM – ESET renewal	BACs	£36.00	£30.00
(7)	CAPALC subscription 2022-23	BACs	£354.57	
(8)	CAS Ltd – insurance premium 2022-23	BACs	£840.56	
Total payments for the month:			£1,889.99	

(b) Proposed Q4 accounts and bank reconciliation – NOTED.

123/21/22 Administration

(a) To consider correspondence from the National Association of Local Councils re: Smaller Councils' Committee: discussion of issues facing smaller local councils – it was agreed that, in general, it is very difficult for smaller councils to recruit new Councillors, although this is not an issue in Stetchworth.

(b) To consider attendees to the East Cambridgeshire Local Councils' Conference at The Maltings on Tuesday 3rd May, 11am – 4pm – Cllr Whymer and the Clerk will attend.

124/21/22 Planning

(a) To receive planning application decisions and tree works: - none.

(b) To consider planning applications received: -

- 22/00350/TCON – 22 High Street – to comply with Condition 4 (Tree Topping, Lopping and Felling) of Decision Notice 91/00442/FUL. For information only – NOTED.

125/21/22 Community Matters/General Maintenance

(a) Handyman – update: the handyman is unable to return to work at present.

(b) To consider further the decision to open a PC Facebook page – it was AGREED to continue with opening a PC Facebook page and to monitor how it is received by residents over the next few months.

(c) To consider request from PCC for funding towards local newsletter and public toilets – this item was deferred to the end of the meeting so that Cllrs Whymer and Sharp could leave the meeting before it was discussed.

(d) To consider purchase of St George's Cross and Jubilee flags for flagpole – cost £15.00 - £30.00 each – AGREED.

(e) Poppy Appeal 2022 – this item was deferred to the May meeting.

(f) Risk Assessments – to consider the need to carry out a risk assessment on any item discussed during the meeting – none.

126/21/22 Date of Next Meeting & Matters for Future Consideration

17th May – Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Parish Council Meeting.

Cllrs Whymer and Sharp left the meeting at 8:34pm.

Cllr Bell took over the Chair and returned to item 125/21/22 (c):

It was AGREED to raise the PC's contribution towards the parish newsletter to £140.00 per year and to meet the expenses for maintenance of the toilet as it is in use as a public toilet and is not just for church-goers. The most recent maintenance costs had been in the region of £40.00.

The meeting was closed at 8:45pm.

Signed: Approved and signed by the Chairman

Dated: 17th May 2022

Statutory powers relating to this month's payments:

- (1-2) Local Government Act (LGA) 1972, s.112
- (3) Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3; Highways Act 1980, s.301
- (4) Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9-10; LGA 1972, s.214
- (5-8) LGA 1972, s.111