

STETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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

Clerk: Mrs. Marilyn Strand Tel: 01638 781286

Email: clerk@stetchworth.org

Stetchworth Parish Council Full Council Meeting on

Tuesday 20th December 2022, 7:30pm

held at the Ellesmere Centre (Gredley Room)

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Lily Whymer (Chair), Wayne Bell (Vice-Chairman), Alastair France, John Puddick and Piers Saunders.
Clerk: Mrs Marilyn Strand.

There were no members of the public present.

The meeting was opened at 7:30pm.

79/22/23 To receive & approve apologies for absence

Cllrs Sarah Breen and Alan Sharp (personal).

80/22/23 To Receive Declarations of Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary Interest

None.

81/22/23 Open Forum for Public Participation

None.

82/22/23 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th November 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th November were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

83/22/23 Matters Arising including reports from the Clerk and Councillors (for information only)

(a)

- Churchyard tree work completed 24th November – NOTED.
- No. 5 Coopers Close – Sanctuary Housing had responded to say that the work to clear the overgrown hedgerow around this property would be carried out soon.
- Local Highways Initiative application – Cllr Sharp has completed the application online.
- Reviewed Risk Management Policy uploaded to website – NOTED.
- Councillors thanked Mr David Blair for providing a new moveable post adjacent to the MUGA, free of charge.

84/22/23 The Ellesmere Centre

(a)

Ellesmere Centre Report – Cllr Whymer reported the following: -

- The Warm Hub is gaining momentum and being well used.
- The staff would like to work with the Council and Dullingham PC on the Coronation celebrations.

(b)

Fencing and tree works at front of car park – it was estimated that this could cost between £2,500-£3,000 and this will possibly be taken from the car park extension budget.

85/22/23 District & County Councillors' Reports

District & County Cllr Alan Sharp had sent in a written report and this was NOTED. The report covered the following points: -

- ECDC had met on 15th December to agree its response to the proposed congestion charge in Cambridge. They had agreed to vote against it.
- Regarding the proposed congestion charge, the consultation on this closes on 23rd December. Councillors were urged to put forward their opinions before the deadline. If the charge goes ahead, it will have a huge effect on travel into and around Cambridge.
- The County Council has agreed to set up a 20mph scheme, with applications being accepted from February 2023.
- The County Council had an original budget gap of £28m which they have reduced to £12m. However, the flatlining of some budgets, such as those within transport, are worrying as they will result in a cut to services.
- In the Government's Autumn statement, Councils were allowed to raise their Council Tax by up to 5% and it is a concern that Cambridgeshire County Council will do so.

- Buses - there are continued timing issues with the number 11 and 12 between Newmarket and Cambridge and it is hoped these can be resolved in the new year.

86/22/23 Finance - to approve accounts for payment – it was proposed by Cllr Whymer and seconded by Cllr France that the following payments be made: -

Ref:	Payee/Item	Chq. no	Total	Exc. VAT
(1)	Clerk's salary – Dec 22	BACs	£365.82	
(2)	Clerk's salary – backpay (agreed Nov 22)	BACs	£240.00	
(3)	Clerk's expenses Nov-Dec 22	BACs	£50.62	
(4)	Opus Energy (street lighting) – Oct 22	DD	£39.67	£37.78
(5)	The Ellesmere Centre – room hire (Nov 22)	BACs	£30.00	
(6)	RH Landscapes – Nov 22	BACs	£288.00	£240.00
(7)	RH Landscapes – cemetery tree works	BACs	£360.00	£300.00
(8)	ICO registration	DD	£40.00	
(9)	Roger's Gardening Services (MUGA)	BACs	£650.00	
(10)	Roger's Gardening Services (general)	BACs	£110.00	
(11)	TBM – update password (Clerk)	BACs	£36.00	£30.00
Total payments for the month:			£2,210.11	

(b) To note monies received: - none.

(c) To finalise the budget for 2023-24 and agree the precept – it was AGREED to earmark a further £1,000 for Ellesmere Centre trees, taking the overall budget to £2,600. It was also AGREED to make a £750.00 contribution to the Local Highways Initiative application for funding of a Moveable Vehicle Activated Sign (MVAS).

A 2% increase in the precept to £18,870.00 for 2023-24 was proposed and AGREED unanimously. This will mean a £1.30 per year rise on a Band D property.

The budget versus the precept leaves a deficit of approximately £550. However, it was agreed that the PC's current general reserve is healthy and would cover this deficit

87/22/23 Administration

(a) To consider additional bank account signatory and to update signatories on the Cambridge Building Society account – it was proposed by Cllr France and seconded by Cllr Saunders that Cllr Bell be added as a signatory to the PC's bank and building society accounts.

(b) To consider leaflet drop advertising for Councillors for 2023 elections – AGREED to go out with the parish newsletter in February.

(c) To consider ideas for HM King Charles III Coronation, 6th May 2023 – it was agreed to organise an event in liaison with the Church for Stetchworth residents, possibly involving hoisting of the Union Flag, and to try to arrange a larger event based on a summer fete in liaison with Dullingham Parish Council if they would like to collaborate. The event could include a subsidised barbecue, hired in attractions, fancy dress competition and live entertainment as well as lots of other stalls and activities like face painting and dressing up. It was agreed to ask Dullingham PC if they would be prepared to contribute 50% of the cost of the event which would be open to all Stetchworth and Dullingham residents, and to ask if Dullingham Councillors would be able to be involved in organising the event via a working party. The particular day on which each event occurs over the Bank Holiday weekend will be decided in conjunction with Dullingham PC.

88/22/23 Planning

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

- 22/00894/FUL 16 High Street – proposed single-storey extension, exterior alterations and associated works. **Approved.**
- 22/01163/FUL 23 Coopers Close – proposed two-storey side extension (replacing existing single-storey extension) with a single-storey front extension. **Approved.**
- 22/00979/FUL 15 Tea Kettle Lane – extension and conversion of garage and pitched roof over, front dormer extension and front open porch. **Approved.**
- 22/01167/FUL The Old Mill, 45 Mill Lane – construction of double garage in lower garden. **Withdrawn.**

NOTED.

(b) To consider planning applications received – none.

89/22/23 Community Matters/General Maintenance

(a) Handyman – update: completion of painting of MUGA fencing – NOTED. A bench near to The Granby public house is in need of repair.

- (b) Hedgerows on Tea Kettle Lane and adjacent to Mill Lane footpath – Cllr Whymer had spoken to Stetchworth Estates about this and it had become clear that there had been a misunderstanding as to which footpath hedgerow their tenant is responsible for. Stetchworth Estates will speak to the tenant about cutting back the overgrowth which is impeding the footpath.
- (c) To consider quotation from RH Landscape & Maintenance Services for hard cut back of hedgerow abounding south and east of recreation ground - £970.00 + VAT – AGREED. The contractor will be asked to carry this out before the bird nesting season and to put the chippings on the footpath behind Coopers Close.
- (d) Risk Assessments – to consider the need to carry out a risk assessment on any item discussed during the meeting – a full risk assessment will be required for the suggested events for the King’s Coronation.

90/22/23 Correspondence for Information

- (a) Opus Energy re: Energy Bill Relief Scheme for Businesses – NOTED.

91/22/23 Date of Next Meeting & Matters for Future Consideration

Wednesday 18th January 2023.

21st Feb and 21st March.

18th April.

The meeting was closed at 8:36pm.

Signed: Approved and signed by the Chairman.

Dated: 18th January 2023.

Statutory powers relating to this month’s payments:

- (1-3) Local Government Act (LGA) 1972, s.112
- (4) Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3; Highways Act 1980, s.301
- (5) LGA 1972, s.111
- (6-7) Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9-10; LGA 1972, s.214;
- (8-11) LGA 1972, s.111