

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 26th January 2022

held at The Ellesmere Centre (Gredley Room)

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

There were no members of the public present.
The meeting was opened at 7:30pm.

76/21/22 To receive & approve apologies for absence.

John Puddick (personal).

Chairman welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2022.

77/21/22 To Receive Declarations of Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary Interest

None.

78/21/22 Open Forum for Public Participation

None.

79/21/22 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th November 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th November 2021 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

80/21/22 Matters Arising including reports from the Clerk and Councillors (for information only)

(a)

- Tree works on recreation ground – completed 25th November: NOTED.
- Condition of Church Lane pavement and highway – Cllr Sharp said that grading roads in terms of priority for repair was due to be discussed at the Highway's Committee meeting next week. He will report back on what this will mean for Church Lane. Cllr Whymer said that almost all of the reports she had made on CCC's online fault reporting tool had been removed without any action being taken.
- Unity Trust Bank account opening – in progress.
- The PC's grounds maintenance contract runs out this year and quotations will be obtained for consideration next month.
- The Clerk's appraisal will be arranged as soon as possible.
- Churchyard removal of soil – Cllr Whymer is hoping to obtain a quotation for the February meeting. Comparative quotations will also be obtained.
- Cllr Bell was thanked for his work on the 'Close the Gap' hedge planting on the recreation ground.

81/21/22 The Ellesmere Centre

(a)

Ellesmere Centre Report – Cllr Whymer reported the following: -

- Many groups have now restarted and the Centre is busy again. There are lots of ideas for new groups and parties, and reduced prices for the gym and squash courts have attracted people back.
- MUGA – the fence painting has only been half finished due to illness. Quotations need to be obtained for repairing and strengthening the wire netting.
- Platinum Jubilee – a sub-committee has been set up to make arrangements for celebratory events and Councillors were asked if they would like to join. The PC has set aside £1,000 towards the expenses of any events taking place. It's hoped to hold a community music event on Friday 3rd June outside, weather permitting, and an afternoon tea, also outside, on Sunday 5th. It is also hoped that a tree could be planted surrounded by a small garden and a plaque to commemorate the Jubilee and locals who lost their lives to Covid-19. A beacon may also be considered.
- The inverter from some of the first PVs needs replacing and this is expected to be expensive.
- The corridor flooring is to be replaced and the Centre will need to be closed for this.
- The Panto was postponed to next year as ticket sales were a bit low, possibly due to concerns over Covid-19.

82/21/22 District & County Councillors' Reports

District & County Cllr Alan Sharp reported the following: -

- The Mayor for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough will produce a transport and connectivity plan for the region. However, the public consultation on this has been postponed until after the May elections due to the period of purdah. The consultation is now expected to start on 10th May and run for three months.
- CCC is proposing a 4.99% increase in Council Tax for 2022-23, some of which is to go into reserves. The Police & Crime Commissioner has proposed a £10 increase on a Band D property each year for the next three years. ECDC has not yet decided whether to increase its share of Council Tax.
- A proposal has been put forward for a similar scheme to the Local Highways Improvement (LHI) fund, but specifically for 20 mile-per-hour projects. It is unclear whether the funding for this will come from the same pot as the LHI.
- The A1303 Swaffham Heath crossroad improvement has been delayed to the 2022-23 financial year.

Cllr Breen asked Cllr Sharp about the Sanctuary House next door to her which had been left empty like many other Sanctuary properties in the area. In response, Cllr Sharp said that he would like to restart the Parish Forum and invite a representative from Sanctuary Housing to answer questions as to why properties are left empty when there is a clear need for housing.

83/21/22 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 – Nov/Dec 21	SO	£646.10	
(2)	Clerk's expenses – Nov 21-Jan 22	101595	£50.62	
(3)	Opus Energy (street lighting) Oct 21	DD	£39.98	£38.07
(4)	Opus Energy (street lighting) Nov 21	DD	£42.34	£40.32
(5)	ICO – Data Protection Renewal Fee	DD	£40.00	
(7)	Petty Cash top up	101596	£35.04	
(8)	Cambridgeshire ACRE subscription	101597	£57.00	
Total payments for the month:			£911.08	

Following the cancellation of the December meeting, the following payments were made under delegated powers: -

Clerk's expenses £40.27 (101590); The Ellesmere Centre £25.00 (101591); TBM £115.20 (101592); Rialtas Business Solutions £148.80 (101593); RH Maintenance & Landscape Services £1,614.00 (101594). Invoices for RH Landscapes matched quotations previously approved at a Full Council meeting. NOTED.

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

84/21/22 Administration

(a) Asset Inspections – Cllr Sharp: this item was deferred to the February meeting.

85/21/22 Planning

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

- 21/01497/FUL 87 High Street – proposed rear two-storey extension replacing an existing single-storey rear extension. **Withdrawn.**
- 21/01001/FUL The National Stud, Cambridge Road – use of 30 stables at National Stud and an outside paddock for the purpose of conducting an off-and-on-line auction sale limited to 30 horses in training, and no new buildings or fixtures. **Withdrawn.**
- 21/01578/TPO 18 High Street – T1, T2, T3, T9 & T10 Sycamores – crown lift/reduce to form a more compact shape. **Approved.**

NOTED.

(b) To consider planning applications received: -

- 21/01828/FUL Greenwich Lodge, 59a High Street – demolition of existing utility and sun room and extension with internal alterations – NOTED with no comments.

[Simple Search \(eastcambs.gov.uk\)](http://eastcambs.gov.uk)

(c) East Cambridgeshire Local Plan – Single Issue Review – NOTED with no comments.

86/21/22 Community Matters/General Maintenance

(a) Handyman – update: the handyman is still unable to carry out regular maintenance work or take on new work, but is hoping to be available soon.

- (b) Create Your Own Community Orchard – ECDC funding initiative (deadline extended to 30th January 2022) It was AGREED to make an application to the Community Orchard fund for five fruit trees.
- (c) Queen’s Green Canopy – it was AGREED to seek permission from ECDC to plant fruit trees (see previous item) on land to the rear of 87 High Street, and to consult with Strollers Way residents to ascertain whether there would be any objection to this.
- (d) Local Highways Initiative – application feasibility report – NOTED. Cllr France will attend the panel meeting on 21st February to present the PC’s proposals.
- (e) Assets of Community Value – no suitable community assets were identified.
- (f) Risk Assessments – to consider the need to carry out a risk assessment on any item discussed during the meeting: If the application to the Local Highways Initiative is approved, a Risk Assessment will be carried out before it is installed or moved from location to location.

87/21/22 Correspondence for Information.

- (a) PCSO Rachel Mallender re: parking issues on the High Street – NOTED. The PCSO had said that she would not be able to come out to deal with parking issues around the nursery school due to her workload.

88/21/22 Date of Next Meeting & Matters for Future Consideration

Meeting dates for 2022 – meetings will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month as follows: - 15th February; 15th March; 19th April; 17th May; 21st June; 19th July; 20th September; 18th October; 15th November; 20th December.

Clerk’s Appraisal.
Duke of Edinburgh student – litter picking.

Cllr Whymer will check to see if bee orchids on the recreation ground should be protected from grass cutting following a report from a resident.

The meeting was closed at 9:15pm.

Signed: Approved and signed by the Chairman

Dated: 15th February 2022

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
- (5-7) LGA 1972, s.111