

# 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 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023, 7:30pm**

held at the Ellesmere Centre (Gredley Room)

## MINUTES

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

Clerk: Mrs. Marilyn Strand.

There was one member of the public present.

The meeting was opened at 7:30pm.

### **127/22/23 To receive & approve apologies for absence**

The Chairman welcomed Limara Kempton to the meeting. Ms. Kempton has been elected to the Council and will take office on 9<sup>th</sup> May.

### **128/22/23 To Receive Declarations of Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary Interest**

None.

### **129/22/23 Open Forum for Public Participation**

None.

### **130/22/23 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **131/22/23 Matters Arising including reports from the Clerk and Councillors (for information only)**

- (a)
- PC laptop – the old laptop will be advertised on eBay for £50.00.
  - Elections – the result of the election had been declared uncontested and Councillors will take office on 9<sup>th</sup> May.
  - Motorbike on recreation ground – Cllr Whymer had spotted a motorised bicycle being ridden on the recreation ground and had asked the rider to desist. It was agreed by all that no form of motorised vehicle should be used on the recreation ground.
  - Internal Audit – this will take place on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April.
  - Laurel on Church Lane – the neighbouring property owner had agreed this should be removed. The Clerk is waiting to hear from UK Power Networks as to whether they agree that the Laurel can be removed as it is next to a substation.
  - Access over amenity land – Spencer Clark, ECDC, had confirmed he had previously given permission (some time ago) for a resident to use amenity land to access their property with building materials. However, permission had not been sought recently. It was agreed to let Mr. Clark know that a planning application at an address on the High Street for an extension is due to be submitted and that using the amenity land to access the rear of the property should be taken into consideration.
  - It was agreed to write to Sanctuary Housing regarding no. 5 Coopers Close which remains unoccupied.
  - Items for the newsletter include Voter ID for upcoming elections and the Coronation.
  - Cllr Whymer confirmed that Mr. Michael Whymer would continue to carry out weekly checks on the play area equipment.
  - The PC had received favourable comments from a columnist for the Newmarket Journal in relation to its liaison with Newmarket Town Council regarding their Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr Sharp joined the meeting at 8pm.

### 132/22/23 The Ellesmere Centre

- (a) Ellesmere Centre Report – Cllr Whymer reported the following: -
- The early morning cleaner has left and a new person has been appointed and will start soon.
  - The Post Office is currently closed due to staff illness. It is not known when it might be able to re-open.
- (b) To consider post and rail fencing to replace temporary fencing between the MUGA and car park – it was AGREED to accept the quotation from the PC's handyman for £275.00.

### 133/22/23 District & County Councillors' Reports

District & County Cllr Sharp reported the following: -

- Eighty members of the public had attended the CCC full council meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> March to hear about the proposed Cambourne to Cambridge Busway which, if approved, would cut through a 100-year-old orchard at Coton. It is likely that a planning application will be submitted for this which will almost certainly result in a public enquiry.
- A petition against the proposed Congestion Charge for Cambridge had collected 15,500 signatures. Results of the public consultation are expected later in the year.
- CCC had recently held meetings to discuss what to do about the huge number of potholes appearing all over the county, some of which are reappearing due to poor workmanship on repairs. Cllr Sharp said that budget restrictions were part of the problem as the budget had been kept the same by the ruling group of Councillors even though building materials inflation is running at about 20%.
- ECDC had cancelled its full council meeting in April as there had been no business to discuss. The next meeting will now be held after the elections on.
- Cllr Sharp had enjoyed the privilege of meeting HRH Prince Edward, The Duke of Edinburgh, when His Royal Highness visited a chocolate factory in Ely, and the Viva Arts Centre in Soham recently.
- Cllr Sharp had attended a meeting of Newmarket Vision where one of the topics of discussion had been the cost of relocating the town's market.

134/22/23 **Finance** - to approve accounts for payment – it was proposed by Cllr France and seconded by Cllr Bell that the following payments be made: -

Ref:	Payee/Item	Chq. no	Total	Exc. VAT
(1)	Staff costs – Apr 23	BACs	£365.82	
(2)	Clerk's expenses Mar-Apr 23	BACs	£60.97	
(3)	Opus Energy (street lighting) – Feb 23	DDR	£39.17	£37.31
(4)	The Ellesmere Centre – room hire (Mar 23)	BACs	£36.00	£30.00
(5)	RH Landscapes – Mar 23	BACs	£144.00	£120.00
(6)	TBM – ESET renewal	BACs	£36.60	£30.50
(7)	Baker Ross Ltd – Union Jack Windmill kits	BACs	£35.91	
	<b>Total payments for the month:</b>		<b>£718.47</b>	

- (b) Q4 accounts and bank reconciliation – noted and AGREED. The general reserves had increased over the course of the year as some budget lines had not been completely exhausted.

### 135/22/23 Planning

- (a) To receive planning application decisions and tree works: - none.
- (b) To consider planning applications received: -
- 23/00139/FUL Aislabie Stud, Ley Road – proposed sub-division of existing dwelling element from 1 no. dwelling to 2 no. apartments – AMENDMENT: amended plans and supporting email – NOTED with no further comments. The PC's previous comments had not yet appeared on ECDC's planning portal and the Clerk will follow up on this.
  - 23/00406/FUL 44 Mill Lane – new 3 air source heat pump units (retrospective) – NOTED with no comments or objections.
- (c) To note ECDC Local Enforcement Plan – NOTED.

### 136/22/23 Community Matters/General Maintenance

- (a) Handyman – regular maintenance work around the parish continues to be undertaken by the handyman.
- (b) HM King Charles III Coronation – update: the Coronation service for HM King Charles III will be streamed live in the Small Hall at the Ellesmere Centre and all residents are welcome to attend. In addition, there will

be a flag-hoisting ceremony on the village green at 10am on the morning of the Coronation, and a community event on the recreation ground on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

- (c) Hedgehog Highway Project – it was agreed that helping hedgehogs by making holes in garden fencing for them to pass through is a good idea. However, Councillors did not agree that purchasing plastic surrounds for the holes was beneficial in terms of the overall environmental impact of producing these.
- (d) Risk Assessments – to consider the need to carry out a risk assessment on any item discussed during the meeting – none.

### **137/22/23 Correspondence for Information**

- (a) Lucy Frazer KC MP re: HM King Charles III Coronation events – NOTED.

### **138/22/23 Date of Next Meeting & Matters for Future Consideration**

Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May, 7:30pm.

PC representative, Ellesmere Trustees.

Cars cutting the corner at the staggered junction on the B1061.

The meeting was closed at 8:45pm.

Signed: Approved and signed by the Chairman.

Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023

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) LGA 1972, s. 111
- (5) Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9-10; LGA 1972, s.214;
- (6-7) LGA 1972, s.111