

Stretham Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 1st December 2015 at 7pm
In the Pavilion, Short Road, Stretham

Present: Councillors Roberts (Chair), Parish (Vice Chair), Nuttall, Pearce, Murfitt, Prevett, Bright, Speed, Thake, Mackenzie, the Clerk

1. Apologies and approval of absences

Councillor Taylor

2. To receive declarations of interest and requests for dispensations

Councillor Roberts declared an interest in item 15 on the Agenda, in his capacity as trustee of the Stretham and Wilburton Community Land Trust.

3. To resolve that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3rd November 2015 are a correct record

The Council resolved that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 3rd November 2015 are an accurate record. This was proposed by Councillor Thake and seconded by Councillor Parish.

4. To receive an update on the progress of actions from the last meeting of Stretham Parish Council on 3rd November 2015

Pavilion nursery idea – meeting arranged with Paul Frost of BSV Construction.

All Weather Pitch – the old surface has been removed and the new surface will be laid as soon as the weather is dry for a period of time.

General - Rec play area repairs are scheduled to be carried out in December. The three new trees for the area where the Recycling area used to stand have been ordered and will be planted in December. A full update of risk assessments for the Council has started and will be put forward for approval early in 2016. Photos of the encroachment on Short Road have been sent to Pam Joyce at Highways. ECDC will not clear the fly tipping on Newmarket Road. Bulbs all planted and leaves cleared up.

Local Highway Initiative application – The Council has been invited to attend the Highways Dept at Witchford on 14th December at 10.30am to briefly talk over the application. Clerk will attend.

Ely Road Play Area - work is now ongoing and the launch will hopefully go ahead on Saturday 19th December at 3pm if the work is completed on time. Bins and a bench ordered. Fence will be erected mid-December.

5. Public participation

The meeting was adjourned at 7.17pm for Public Participation.

Mr Jeff Barton attended the meeting to notify the Council of the Scout Groups concerns about the floor at the Parish Rooms. It was agreed to assist with this issue that the heating will be left on and that a dehumidifier could be purchased and installed if necessary.

The meeting reconvened at 7.25pm.

6. To receive a presentation from Cheffins regarding a proposed new housing development in Stretham

Mr Ben Pridgeon from Cheffins attended the meeting to discuss the proposed new housing development close to Berry Close of around 50 houses and associated space. Mr Pridgeon explained that although the site is outside of the development envelope, due to East Cambridgeshire District Council not currently able to demonstrate a 5 year supply of land in the district, the application will likely be submitted. Cheffins is now appointing various consultants with a view to submitting the Planning Application early in March 2016. Mr Pridgeon confirmed that the main access route to this development would be through the village. Councillor Roberts explained that there are already concerns about increased levels of traffic passing by the School and onto Reads Street and Top Street. Councillor Roberts asked if Mr Pridgeon has heard of the Stretham and Wilburton Community Land Trust to which he said he had not. Councillor Roberts explained that SWCLT is currently building over 70 houses and some business units at Manor Farm in Stretham and that this is an increase of 10% in the number of dwellings in Stretham. Mr Pridgeon confirmed there will be rigorous consultation and that residents will be listened to. The Council thanked Mr Pridgeon for attending the meeting.

7. To consider tenders for picnic benches

The following tenders were received:

Anchor Fast	£1009.00
Falco UK Ltd	£3851.00
Kompan UK	£3472.00
Shade Zone	£1135.26
Neptune	£1180.00

It was agreed to accept the Anchor Fast tender but that the Clerk should check delivery and assembly arrangements before placing the order.

8. To agree methodology for consultation on the Outdoor Gym Equipment proposal

Councillor Parish put forward information to the Councillors regarding the planned methodology for consultation on the Outdoor Gym Equipment proposal and this was unanimously agreed by all Councillors.

9. To agree the annual precept request for financial year 2016-2017

Councillor Roberts explained to Council that the Finance Sub-Committee had met recently to discuss the annual precept request. The current precept is £51,624. Due to the fact that Cambridgeshire County Council has very little money and is making significant budget cuts, it is now reality that many maintenance tasks within every village will fall upon the Parish Council to pick up. The Council has already seen this with grass cutting being significantly reduced and also repairs to roads getting very difficult to achieve. The Council is currently running to a pretty tight budget and all this has been taken into consideration. It was proposed by Councillor Roberts to increase the request to £64,000 and this was seconded

by Councillor Prevett. The Council unanimously agreed to increase the precept request to £64,000, this is an increase of about 22%.

10. To discuss and agree any actions regarding the oversized memorial stone at the Cemetery

The Clerk read out recent correspondence with W Kent Memorials about the oversized memorial stone of Maria Georgina Pearce. W Kent Memorials are stating that the new recently laid memorial stone (Murfitt) is also oversized. Councillor Parish agreed to measure the Murfitt memorial and report back to the next meeting. The Council is extremely disappointed that W Kent Memorials has acknowledged that they made the error however will not rectify the situation.

11. To review tenders for a new Newsletter template

Two tenders were sent out to four individuals/businesses. There were no tenders returned for the design of a newsletter template and it was agreed that the net should be cast wider with the distribution of this tender. The Clerk will do this in readiness for the February meeting.

Two tenders were received for the monthly design, production and printing of the newsletter. Miss Laura Shearing and C and C Media Ltd tendered. Both tenders were discussed in detail and the Council took the view that they would like a fresh approach to the newsletter and preferred the design of Miss Shearing. It was proposed by Councillor Parish to accept the tender of Miss Shearing at £580 per month. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Mackenzie and unanimously agreed by Council.

It was agreed to ask C and C Media to continue to produce and print the Newsletter for December 2015, January 2016 and February 2016.

The delivery of the Newsletter will be advertised in the January 2016 Newsletter.

12. To consider the purchase of a Defibrillator

Councillor Parish explained how the purchase of a Defibrillator will benefit the community following sad incident in the Red Lion recently and of the need for a village defibrillator. The Red Lion has already started to fundraise for a defibrillator and Councillor Parish agreed to investigate the costs of purchasing one via St John's Ambulance. Councillor Parish proposed that the Council put the sum of £750 towards a defibrillator and this proposal was seconded by Councillor Pearce. The Council unanimously agreed to put the sum of £750 towards this piece of life saving equipment. The defibrillator will hopefully be located in the Red Lion which is open from 7am right through to late in the evening every day so access will be very easy. The Parish Council will make the purchase and maintain the equipment.

13. To consider planning applications

- 15/01387/FUL – Gravel Farm, Newmarket Road, extension to rear

After careful consideration, it was proposed by Councillor Parish and seconded by Councillor Pearce to raise no objections to this planning application, all Councillors in favour.

- 15/01236/FUL – Developing Dogs, Whitecross Farm, Wilburton, erection of three holiday lodges

Councillor Roberts explained the details of this planning application. There are some concerns that the Holiday Lets may become permanent dwellings. The Council came to the

view that as long as some stringent conditions are applied to a permission, then they had no objections to this planning application.

- 15/01136/FUL – 28 Ely Road, Single storey extension to rear of property

After careful consideration, it was proposed by Councillor Parish and seconded by Councillor Pearce to raise no objections to this planning application, all Councillors in favour.

Officer report received for 15/00986/FUM – Land formerly 21 Newmarket Road

14. To receive planning application decisions

15/00798/FUL – Saunders Piece – APPROVED

15/01143/ARN – The Office, Gravel Farm, Newmarket Road, renovation - APPROVED

15. To receive an update on progress of SWCLT

Councillor Roberts provided a full update to the Council. The work is going smoothly on site and is currently running to schedule. The concerns about the positioning of the fencing at the front of the site have been resolved by Councillor Roberts and Laragh Homes. The fencing has been moved back to improve visibility.

16. Finance

To authorise payments from SPC and SSRC accounts and to note income

The following accounts were presented for payment:

Parish Council account

Name	Chq no	Amount
Mr L Gotobed	002165	£72.48
Mr P Penny	002166	£560.00
Mrs R Watts	002167	£1062.10
Mrs M Hutter	002168	£40.00
Truelink Ltd	002169	£102.00
Mr S Coleby (C and C Media)	002170	£751.20
Glasdon UK Limited	002171	£593.80
K Munday	002172	£190.00
Ratcliffe Fencing	002173	£5989.06
HMRC	002174	£137.03
Citizens Advice Rural Cambs	002175	£300.00
Barcham Trees plc	002176	£590.40

The balance of Parish Council current account at 1st December 2015 £13,877.88

SSRC account

Name	Chq no	Amount
Mr P Penny	000373	£217.94

The balance of SSRC current account at 1st December 2015 £1,508.20

It was proposed by Councillor Murfitt and seconded by Councillor Parish that the above accounts be paid. All in agreement.

Parish Council account income:

Meter money £36.00, Room Hire £575.00, Bowls Club Rent £200.00, cemetery £45.00, newsletter advert £180.00

SSRC account income: none

17. To receive correspondence

An email from County and District Councillor Bill Hunt was received and read out regarding his concerns about traffic speeds on A1123 particularly HCVs and fast tracks. Councillor Hunt suggests Stretham purchase 4 Correx signs which are currently being used in Wilburton. The total cost to the Council is £70.32 including VAT. The Council agreed to purchase 4 signs and would arrange erection via Pam Joyce at Highways.

An email reminder from Stretham Youth Centre about the Activ 8 Anti-Bullying Film Premiers on Friday 18th and Monday 21st December 2015.

All general correspondence was circulated.

18. To receive reports from Working Parties and Sub-Committee

All working parties and sub-committees reported into the meeting.

Amenities Working Party – Councillor Parish reported that considerable tidying up work is now happening at the Cemetery. The arrangements for the Farmers Market are all in place and Councillor Bright has the set-up all in place.

Footpaths Working Party – Footpaths are very muddy following the high levels of rain but generally in a usable condition, no complaints received.

Eleanor's Field Working Party – Awaiting Kier Petherick to flail the back section of the field in Spring 2016.

Recreation Ground Working Party – Covered via other Agenda points.

Feast Sub-Committee – the first meeting for the 2016 Feast will be on Monday 7th December at 7pm at the Parish Rooms.

Ely Road Play Area Working Party – the last meeting of this Working Party has happened and it is hoped the new play area will be opened on Saturday 19th December at 3pm. The Council would like to approach Jean Adamson about naming the play area after the Topsy and Tim books.

19. To receive Councillors questions and review Rolling Timetable

No questions received.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm.