

Stretham Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 6th October 2015 at 7pm
In the Pavilion, Short Road, Stretham

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

Also in attendance: County and District Councillor Bill Hunt and seven members of public

1. Apologies and approval of absences

Councillors Speed and Thake

2. To receive declarations of interest and requests for dispensations

Councillor Roberts declared an interest in item 14 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 1st September 2015 are a correct record

The Council resolved that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 1st September 2015 are an accurate record. This was proposed by Councillor Parish and seconded by Councillor Nuttall.

4. To receive an update on the progress of actions from the last meeting of Stretham Parish Council on 1st September 2015

The external audit paperwork has been completed with no findings and is now being displayed for the mandatory length of time on the Notice Board. The Recreation play area repairs are in hand with assistance from Councillor Roberts. The new piping has been installed at the Parish Rooms. Councillors Roberts and the Clerk have met with one builder regarding the Pavilion nursery idea and we now await the first quote. The ERPA project is going well and the site has been cleared by volunteers. The equipment, fencing and surfacing is now all on order and it is hoped the opening event will be on Saturday 19th December. Councillor Bright and the Clerk attended the LHI Scheme meeting and this is covered on the Agenda. Councillors Roberts, Bright and the Clerk have met to review the view cutting in the Village, a revised tender will now be put out once the maps have been updated.

Notification has been received that the DAC has turned down the request from St James' Church for the Parish Council to be allowed to plant a permanent Christmas Tree at the front of the church. It was felt the location was too close to the retaining wall amongst other reasons. It was agreed to continue to purchase and erect a temporary Christmas Tree each year.

5. Update from County and District Councillor Bill Hunt

Councillor Hunt read out a report updating everyone on the local issues which is available on request. Councillor Hunt wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

6. Public participation

The meeting was adjourned at 7.12pm for Public Participation.

Mr Tim Bent and Mr Clive Judd spoke to the Council about the Dimmocks Cote Quarry Planning Application based between Stretham and Wicken. Mr Judd and Mr Bent attended the Council meeting in February 2015 and an amendment to the application is currently open for comment. Mr Bent and Mr Judd are still attempting to raise awareness in the village and Wicken PC is hardening their response to this application. The main concern for the village of Stretham is the considerable increase in HGV movements each year. Councillor Hunt listened to the concerns and advised people to attend the Planning Committee meeting when it takes place. The amendment to the application is to be discussed under point 12 of the Agenda, Planning.

Mrs Murfitt attended to discuss a section of a public footpath which has been removed. Councillor Roberts confirmed the land in question is owned by Godfrey Parish and farmed by John Parish. The Council will make contact with John Parish about this issue.

Mr Richard Breedon attended the meeting regarding the proposal for the Bar Park/outdoor exercise equipment. Mr Breedon feels this idea has been brushed under the carpet and requested an update on progress. Councillor Roberts explained that this matter has not been brushed aside and that much work has been taking place over recent months. The consultation with the village is now complete and ideas for the Recreation Ground are to be discussed later in the meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 7.30pm.

7. To discuss the Amey Cespa grant of £20,000 for a new All Weather Pitch surface

Councillors Taylor and Parish updated the meeting to confirm that the Council has been awarded the sum of £20,000 from Amey Cespa to replace the old surfacing at the All Weather Pitch at the Recreation Ground. It is likely that work will start in December and should take around one week. Stretham Sporting FC committed £600.00 to this project. The Council resolved to pay the remainder of the cost of this project which is £6295.00. This was proposed by Councillor Taylor and seconded by Councillor Parish, all Councillors in agreement.

Artificial Grass (Cambridge) Ltd was selected as the provider for this project and has requested a 25% deposit. Councillor Nuttall has looked at this company's accounts and the most recent accounts are not yet filed. The Council requested that the Clerk obtain some verbal references from other companies who have used Artificial Grass (Cambridge) Ltd before sending off the deposit cheque (total £8068.50). The Clerk will inform that Finance Sub-Committee of the outcome of the enquiries before the cheque is sent off.

8. To review the updated results of the Recreation Ground Survey and the proposed Action Plan put forward by the Recreation Working Party and agree

A total of 166 responses have been received which have been assessed and the results provided to Councillors.

Councillor Parish is very pleased with the number of replies received and was thanked for the time she has put into this exercise. The main items people would like to see is a picnic/seating area, more play equipment at the children's play area, the All Weather Pitch

becoming usable again and some form of exercise equipment for all ages. Based on the results, the Council agreed the following:

Phase 1 – 2015 - 2016

1. Picnic seating to be fixed in South East corner of the Recreation Ground.
2. Outdoor gym area to be installed beside the Northern boundary of the All Weather Surface subject to funding being obtained to cover all cost. The Recreation Working Party will provide details of companies the Clerk should approach to tender. This work will commence when the Ely Road Play Area project and the All Weather Pitch projects are complete.
3. Recreation Working Party to facilitate a meeting for all interested in forming new sports clubs.
4. Signage regarding dogs replaced with signs giving the same message and clear consequences of allowing dogs to foul on the Recreation Ground.

Phase 2 – 2016 – 2017

1. Two more items of play equipment to be positioned in the play area.
2. Basketball hoop to be installed next to the All Weather Surface.

9. To consider tender proposals put forward by the Communications Working Party for the Parish Newsletter and Parish Council website

The newly formed Communications Working Party met in September and put forward two tenders for consideration by Council. The first tender is for the initial design of the Newsletter and production of a template and the second tender is for the ongoing production of the newsletter. Both tenders were agreed by Council and will be ready for consideration in December.

10. To consider if the Council wish to make a bid for Speed Reduction Gates via the LHI Scheme

The Clerk briefly explained the LHI Scheme to the Council. There was concern as to whether speed reduction gates actually do succeed in reducing the speed of traffic. The Clerk offered to attend an information event on the Scheme on 14th September 2015. Councillor Bright to attend with the Clerk.

11. To consider a request to fund an ECG Machine for Stretham Doctors Surgery

Councillor Bright has been approached by a Nurse at Stretham Doctors Surgery regarding the lack of an available ECG machine. The Haddenham Doctors Surgery has one machine but it would be extremely beneficial to have one machine at both surgeries. The surgery at Stretham will be opening for longer hours when it hopefully moves into the new purpose built surgery on the Manor Farm development. The approximate cost is £1800.00. The Council discussed this request and agreed this is a purchase that Stretham Charity could maybe consider. Councillor Bright was asked to write to Stretham Charity Trustees and this matter be deferred until a decision has been made by Stretham Charity.

12. To consider planning applications

15/00986/FUM – Land formerly 21 Newmarket Road

This application is linked to the Manor Farm SWCLT development and consists of 25 houses of which 8 will be CLT houses. The plans were reviewed and Councillor Parish put forward a proposal to the Council to strongly support this planning application for the benefits it will bring to Stretham. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Mackenzie and all Councillors were in favour. The Council resolved to strongly support this application.

15/00550/FUL – Sadler Way, amendment

Objection still stands.

15/01042/FUL – 30 Ely Road

No objections

E/3008/14/CM – Dimmocks Quote Quarry, Wicken

Following discussion within Public Participation, the Council resolved to object again to this application focussing mainly on the additional road movements through Stretham, the lack of pedestrian crossing in Stretham, the additional traffic with the new SWCLT Manor Farm development and the dangerous Green End bend. This was proposed by Councillor Mackenzie and seconded by Councillor Nuttall, all Councillors in favour. The Clerk will publicise this application in the Newsletter and copy the Council's response to all local Parish Clerks.

15/01076/FUL – 2 Cambridge Road

No objections.

13. To receive planning application decisions

15/00899/FUL, 35 Cambridge Road – APPROVED

15/00030/NMAA, Manor Farm development – APPROVED

15/00018/NMAA, Manor Farm development – APPROVED

15/01007/FUL, Gate House, 29 Newmarket Road – APPROVED

15/00993/TRE – 4 Cage Lane tee works - APPROVED

14. To receive an update on progress of SWCLT

Councillor Roberts provided a full update to the Council. The work has finally started on the Manor Farm site and the first houses have been marked out. It is hoped the first CLT homes will be ready for occupation May-June 2016.

15. 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	002140	£72.48
Mr P Penny	002141	£423.04
Mrs R Watts	002142	£1296.98
Mrs M Hutter	002143	£40.00
K A Bell	002144	£187.50
Truelink Ltd	002145	£932.69
United Plumbing & Heating	002146	£1423.94
A James (Jewellers) Ltd	002147	£204.00
Mrs V Russell	002148	£78.55
PFK Littlejohn LLP	002149	£360.00
Mr S Coleby (C and C Media)	002150	£751.20
Haysom Ward Miller	002151	£628.08
Artificial Grass (Cambridge) Ltd	002152	£8068.50

Name	Chq no	Amount
Royal British Legion	002153	£30.00

The balance of Parish Council current account at 5th October 2015 £33,723.13

SSRC account

Name	Chq no	Amount
Mr P Penny	000369	£235.00

The balance of SSRC current account at 5th October 2015 £1040.26

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

Parish Council account income:

Key cutting fees £50.00, Farmers Market income £118.85, precept £25,812.00, additional funding £1022.00

SSRC account income:

None

The Publications Scheme was reviewed by the Council.

16. To receive correspondence

A letter regarding the gritting scheme was read out.

Councillor Roberts updated the meeting with regards to correspondence between Mr Doug Stuart and the Clerk and Mr Stuart and Councillor Roberts. All correspondence was read out which includes some concerning accusations against both the Clerk and the Councillors. One Freedom of Information request has been received and responded to. Councillor Roberts will continue to monitor the situation and noted his absolute disagreement with the accusations that have been made.

All general correspondence was circulated.

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

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

Amenities Working Party – The organic waste bin at the Cemetery is being abused and Councillor Parish sought permission to have it removed and wheelie bins put in place. This was agreed. The area where the Recycling area was previously located on the Recreation ground requires some work. Two trees will be required to cover over the gap and a reinforced grass area was recommended at a cost of around £10 per square meter. This was agreed by Council.

Footpaths Working Party – Footpaths are in a good condition, no complaints received.

Eleanor's Field Working Party – Councillor Roberts has asked Kier Petherick to flail the field.

Recreation Ground Working Party – The Clerk is still awaiting the quote from ECDC for

the repairs to the play equipment. Mrs Hutter has received a request to start a Boot Camp on the Recreation Ground. The Council agreed that this could happen but not before the hours of 8am and no later than 8.30pm.

18. To receive Councillors questions and review Rolling Timetable

Councillor Murfitt raised the boundary between properties linked with the Windmill. Clerk will pass this query to Highways.

Councillor Taylor asked if Stretham Players could hire the Parish Rooms for the Pantomime on the same arrangement as this previous year and this was agreed.

19. To receive the Minutes of the Amenities Working Party Meeting held on 28th September 2015 and note decisions made

Received and agreed.

Meeting closed at 10.19pm.