

**A MEETING OF STRETTON PARISH COUNCIL
WAS HELD ON TUESDAY 7th NOVEMBER 2023 AT 7.00PM
AT THE PRIORY CENTRE, STRETTON**

The following members of the Council were present:

Cllr E Pritchard	Chair
Cllr K Winson	Vice Chair
Cllr M Goode	
Cllr G Holmes	
Cllr J McKiernan	
Cllr S Slater	(ESBC Cllr)
Cllr L Bullock	(ESBC Cllr)

Also present was the clerk and members of the public.

1. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

2324-087 A member of the public suggested that there should be signage on The Green advising as to meaning of the tree.

A member of the public commented that the lamp post poppies were nice and gave thanks.

Members of the public informed that the lorries were continuing to use Craythorne Road and causing damage.

A member of the public informed that Trent & Dove had given approval for some planters to be installed by the garages on St Mary's Drive. Residents had obtained pallets to make the planters and were to trim/tidy the area but needed some assistance with plants. The Chair suggested that the residents make an application for funding in writing.

2. APOLOGIES

2324-088 Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Low who had undergone a heart operation recently and was hoping to return in January. Apologies were received from SCC Cllr Peters.

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

2324-089 There were none to disclose with regard to agenda items.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON TUESDAY 3rd OCTOBER 2023

2324-090 The circulated minutes were approved as a true and accurate record following a proposal from Cllr Good and seconded by Cllr Winson with all present in favour.

5. ACTIONS UPDATE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

2324-091 A copy of the action update had been circulated prior to the meeting.

	REFERENCE	ACTION POINT	FOR WHOM	ACTION TAKEN
1	2223-176	Councillor vacancies	Chair / Clerk	Posters developed and erected
2	2324-017	Bus Shelter Repairs / Surveys	Clerk	Order placed - Repairs completed Awaiting survey results
3	2324/051	Seating - Bitham Comm Park	Clerk	Options and costings agreed - order placed. Site meeting with Cllr McKiernan agreed positions. Liaise with Mr Ball regarding the donation - benches delivered. Mr Ball contacted
4	2324/051	Councillor Profiles	Chair / Cllrs	Provide information for posting on social media and website EP received and published.

5	2324/051	Councillor Surgeries	Clerk/ Cllr Slater	To liaise regarding use of the Parish Room
6	2324/052	Overhanging Branches Jinny / Craythorne	Clerk	Meeting held with contractor Work to be completed November
7	2324/052	Cycling along Jinny Trail	Chair / Clerk	Item referred to Open Spaces Comtee
8	2324/053	Names - Memorial	Clerk	Met with contractor - work cannot take place until Summer 2024 due to weather conditions
9	2324/059	Wheelchair Friendly Play Equipment	Clerk	Site meeting held with contractor - awaiting quotation / drawings - see agenda item
10	2324/084	Asset management software	Clerk	Software purchased and operational
11	2324/085	Brewers 10K	Clerk	Letter forwarded to BACT / Run Through / Ben Robinson. Responses received. The Chair advised that it was evident that lots of areas had not received the letters advising of the event; marshals had not been in pairs in many instances and some were very young. There had not been any briefing for marshals at the stadium and there had been vehicles along Dovecliff Road whilst runners were participating. It was agreed to request a meeting with BACT and Mr Robinson.

6. OPEN SPACE ITEMS

2324-092

A copy of the quotation for the inclusive play equipment at Jubilee Playing Field had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk circulated artwork of the equipment and updated why the location and pieces of equipment. Cllr McKiernan suggested having a consultation on the proposal prior to making a final decision and this was agreed.

The Clerk advised that the trampoline at Jubilee Playing Field is in need of repair again and of the cost that Wicksteed had quoted to repair. The Clerk also advised of the cost of replacing with a better model which could be included with the inclusive equipment. It was agreed to discuss both together following the consultation.

The Clerk circulated an information board produced on options for adult trim trail equipment at Bitham Lane Community Park. The Clerk to use this as part of the consultation on what should be installed.

Cllr McKiernan informed that the Town Deal Funding tow path upgrade works are due to commence and will start at Branston before moving onto the Stretton section and completing the Shobnall section last. The college part of the funding has now been completed, along with the cycle path on Station Street. The Project D (heritage centre / washlands / water tower) proposal will be out for consultation very soon.

7. REMEMBERANCE SUNDAY ARRANGMENTS

2324-093

It was greed that Cllr Goode would attend the service at St Mary's Church and the Chair would attend the Methodist Church. Wreaths were made available.

8. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

2324-094 The following items of correspondence have been received from the sources shown and actioned as indicated. All items were available for inspection by councillors.

i.	St Mary's Church	Floodlight donation request. Cllr Goode commented that the floodlighting was an asset to the Church and always looked good. Cllr Goode proposed increasing the donation to £1000 which upon discussion was withdrawn. The Chair proposed £750 as in previous years with the note that once the Church know the new tariff and consumption they can recontact, this was seconded by Cllr Winson with all present in favour.
ii.	Mrs Catherine Pearce	A copy of the email of thanks had been circulated prior to the meeting and the contents noted. Cllr Slater advised that there were still issues in the area but some progress had been made. A copy of the contact guide to be put onto noticeboards.
iii.	ESBC	A copy of the polling district review information had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed to suggest the Methodist Church as an alternative or additional station due to the congestion and parking at the Priory Centre.

9. REPORTS BY STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLORS, EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCILLORS AND STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE.

2324-095

ESBC Cllr Bullock advised:

- Trent & Dove were not willing to install bollards by the garages at St Mary's Drive due to cost and feeling that it would not resolve the issues. Cllr Bullock to attend to take photographs as Trent & Dove also did not think that there was a problem.
- Enforcement had been made aware of the noisy van and officers had visited. To date there had not been any further reports of the nuisance.

The Chair and Cllr Bullock also remarked on the 30th Anniversary Day at Claymills Pumping Station which had been a fabulous event.

ESBC Cllr Slater advised

- Of the ESBC homeless count which had been undertaken in the Town Centre
- Of the Government proposal to close the asylum hotels which will ultimately make the Borough Council responsible for housing those who are fast-tracked to stay and also those applying to stay in the UK.
- Of the food bank funding and also warm spaces grants due to the cost of living crisis

10. DATE TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

2324-096

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 5th December 2023 at 7.00pm at the Priory Centre.

11. PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND PLANNING MATTERS

2324-097

The Clerk had circulated a register of valid planning applications with status, prior to the meeting, for consideration. There were no comments to be made.

12. FINANCE

2324-098

A copy of the payment schedule below was circulated at the meeting and payments were approved following a proposal by Cllr Pritchard and seconded by Cllr Winson with all present in favour.

Payment Code	Transaction	Description	Payment
BAC111023	Currys Business	Laptop - Clerk	£798.99
DD	Right Fuel Card	Diesel	£4.80
BAC121023	C Allen	Salary	£1,160.73
BAC131023	A J Smith	Salary and reimbur	£2,261.37
BAC141023	HMRC	PAYE / NI Conts	£1,114.31

DD	The Peoples Pension	Pension Conts	£607.72
BAC151023	Viking	Stationery	£52.68
DD	Right Fuel Card	Diesel	£179.68
BAC011123	PR Horticultural	Repairs to mower tractor	£404.28
BAC021123	Rainbow Waste	Wheelie bin and empty	£302.23
BAC031123	Alan Cox	Additional painting Bitham	£540.00
BAC041123	C Winson	General Maintenance	£2,341.36
BAC051123	British Recycled Plastic	Benches	£1,606.49
BAC061123	Rialtas	Asset Software	£646.93
BAC071123	Viking	Stationery	£612.14
BAC081123	Prince & Son	Cleaning Changing Rooms	£198.00
BAC091123	G C McCulloch	Litterpicking and maintenance	£680.00
DD	BT	Tele and BB	£76.78
DD	EDF Energy	Electric Changing Rooms	£166.74

2324-099 The Clerk circulated a copy of the current years budget and allocated areas.

13. BUDGET SETTING – PRECEPT 2024/25

2324-100 The Clerk asked if Cllrs could advise of any projects that they would like to be included in the budget for next year. A proposal budget will be presented at the December meeting.

14. STAFFING UPDATE

2324-101 The Chair informed that Mrs Allen – Priory Centre Manager – had given her written notice of retirement on the 31st March 2024. Mrs Allen will have completed 30 years service at the Priory Centre that month and it was agreed that a way of recognising this will be made – meal and plaque.

The Chair advised that discussions are underway for advertising for replacement/s which will be presented at the December meeting for approval.

The Clerk left the meeting.

15. RENUMERATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

2324-102 The Chair outlined the recently agreed national agreement on pay and conditions of the National Joint Council for Local Government Services and the applicable pay scale uplift from 1st April 2023.

The Chair informed on contract conditions regarding pay for the Clerk and agreement reached regarding a maximum pay scale which is reflected in the updated employment contract.

The Chair proposed that, as there is no reason to believe that the Clerk's performance fell below the level expected, the Clerk should progress onto the next salary scale from 1st April 2024, this was seconded by Cllr Winson and unanimously accepted.

The Chair advised that the 2024 local government services pay award negotiations start in the New Year with a view to implementing the next national pay award on 1st April 2024. There is no guarantee that the implementation will be on that date but will be backdated to 1st April once agreed.

SIGNATURE

DESIGNATION

DATE