

**A MEETING OF STRETTON PARISH COUNCIL
WAS HELD ON TUESDAY 5th MARCH 2024 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 M Low	
Cllr J McKiernan	
Cllr L Bullock	(ESBC Cllr)
Cllr S Slater	(ESBC Cllr)

Also present was the clerk and members of the public.

1. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

2324-142 A member of the public commented on the recent planning application for the change of use of a house on Bridge Street to form a children's home. The Chair advised that this had been discussed at the previous Parish Council meeting and an objection had been made by the Parish Council. It was noted that ESBC Cllrs Slater and Ackroyd had also made objections to the application. The Chair informed that a meeting had been arranged with the SCC Cabinet Member for Looked After Children and Ms Kniveton MP to discuss national and local policy for looked after children and regulation of these homes.

A member of the public commented that the sycamore trees on Station Walk needed to be reduced in height. The Clerk to look at this.

Mrs Pearce commented that she had not received an acknowledgement to her email which was an agenda item. The Clerk apologised for this oversight.

2. APOLOGIES

2324-143 Apologies were received and accepted from SCC Cllr Peters and ESBC Cllr Walker.

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

2324-144 It was acknowledged that Cllr Bullock is on the ESBC planning committee as a ward cllr.

Cllr Winson expressed an interest in Item 2324-157.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON TUESDAY 6th FEBRUARY 2024

2324-145 The circulated minutes were approved as a true and accurate record following a proposal from Cllr Winson and seconded by Cllr Bullock with all present in favour.

5. ACTIONS UPDATE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

2324-146 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	2324/051	Councillor Profiles	Chair / Cllrs	Provide information for posting on social media and website EP received and published on website
3	2324/051	Councillor Surgeries	Clerk/ Cllr Slater	To liaise regarding use of the Parish Room

4	2324/053	Names – Memorial	Clerk	Met with contractor – work cannot take place until Summer 2024 due to weather conditions
5	2324/059/108	Wheelchair Friendly Play Equipment	Clerk	Site meeting held with contractor – quotation received survey conducted Order placed / March install
6	2324/085	Brewers 10K	Clerk	Letter forwarded to BACT / Run Through / Ben Robinson. Responses received. Meeting requested – letter of concerns sent from response. Meeting arranged
7	2324/109	Speed Indicator Signs	Clerk	Quotations received – order placed Signs in place and working well Action Closed
8	2324/111	Contact Martin Slowe regarding Precinct Alley	Clerk	Letter forwarded – photographs also forwarded – awaiting response
9	2324/136 i	Winshill Medical Centre	Clerk	To put information on website and Facebk – Done Action Closed
10	2324/139	Children’s Homes Applications	Clerk	Arrange meeting with Kate Kniveton MP and SCC Mark Sutton Meeting arranged

6. MARTYN’S LAW INFORMATION

2324-147

The Clerk had circulated information prior to the meeting and briefly updated that the consultation for the Standard Tier was ongoing. Once the consultation is complete information on specific training and documentation will be circulated to venues. This to be referred to the Priory Centre Management Committee.

7. CIVILITY AND RESEPECT PLEDGE

2324-148

The Clerk had circulated information prior to the meeting. The Chair advised that by signing up to the civility and respect pledge the Council are demonstrating that it is committed to treating councillors, clerks, employees, members of the public, representatives of partner organisations, and volunteers, with civility and respect in their role. Councillors unanimously agreed to the following statements:

Our council has agreed that it will treat all councillors, clerk and all employees, members of the public, representatives of partner organisations, and volunteers, with civility and respect in their role.

Our council has put in place a training programme for councillors and staff

Our council has signed up to Code of Conduct for councillors

Our council has good governance arrangements in place including, staff contracts, and a dignity at work policy.

Our council will commit to seeking professional help in the early stages should civility and respect issues arise.

Our council will commit to calling out bullying and harassment when if and when it happens.

Our council will continue to learn from best practice in the sector and aspire to being a role model/champion council.

Our council supports the continued lobbying for the change in legislation to support the Civility and Respect Pledge, including sanctions for elected members where appropriate.

8. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

2324-149 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.	Stretton Methodist Church	The Clerk advised that the clock on the Church was broken. This clock had been donated by the Parish Council in 1977 for the Queens Silver Jubilee. The Clerk advised of the cost to replace and that the Methodist Church would install. Cllr Goode proposed replacing the clock, which was seconded by Cllr Winson with all in favour.
ii.	Mrs Pearce	A copy of the email had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk confirmed that communication with Rolleston on Dove Parish Council did take place and that there had been a joint group for discussing the Jinny Trail. It was noted that highways, anti social behaviour and planning enforcement are not within Parish Council remit. Mrs Pearce commented that being pro-active on planning conditions between the Parish Councils would be beneficial. Cllr Slater suggested that the two Parish Councils liaise on planning or issues local the border of the two areas.

9. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

2324-150 A copy of the minutes from the meeting held on 28th February 2024 had been circulated prior to the meeting and were noted. Contractor recommendations to be discussed under Item 2324-157

10. PRIORY CENTRE RECRUITMENT UPDATE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

2324-151 A copy of the minutes from the meeting held on 26th February 2024 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

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

2324-152

ESBC Cllr Bullock advised:

- Improvement works to the Claypits was progressing with installation of benches and larger bins.
- The butterfly garden on Princess Way cannot be refurbished but will be recreated on the other side of the road.

ESBC Cllr Slater advised:

- Continuing to work with the residents of Craythorne Road
- Community Charge levels had been agreed by ESBC
- The ESBC Councillors Fund is available again from April for applications upto £1500
- There is also ESBC Councillor Regeneration Fund for applications upto £10,000
- ESBC have committed £250,000 to upgrade ESBC parks/play equipment in 2024/25

The Chair advised that ESBC Cllr Slater had confirmed that objection letters had been forwarded in relation to the Church Road planning applications.

12. DATE TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

2324-153 The next meeting will be on Tuesday 9th April 2024 at 7.00pm at the Priory Centre.

13. PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND PLANNING MATTERS

2324-154 Cllr Bullock withdrew from the discussion of this item

The Clerk had circulated a register of valid planning applications with status, prior to the meeting, for consideration.

14. FINANCE

2324-155 A copy of the payment schedule below was circulated at the meeting and payments were approved following a proposal by Cllr Holmes and seconded by Cllr Pritchard with all present in favour.

Payment Code	Transaction	Description	Payment
BAC090224	C Allen	Salary	£1,166.62
BAC100224	A J Smith	Salary and reimbur	£2,343.28
BAC110224	HMRC	PAYE / NI Conts	£1,168.52
DD	The Peoples Pension	Pension Conts	£607.72
DD	Right Fuel Card	Diesel	£141.11
BAC010324	Superseal Security	Centre Bollards	£1,953.60
BAC020324	Rainbow Waste	Wheelie bin and empty	£320.54
BAC030324	C Winson	General Maintenance	£2,017.68
BAC040324	G C McCulloch	Litterpicking	£224.00
BAC050324	Prince & Son	Changing Room cleaning	£396.00
BAC060324	Netwise	Email Hosting	£57.60
BAC070324	RT Machinery	Final payment upon receipt	£9,690.00
BAC080324	Firs Farm Nursery	Christmas Trees	£696.00
BAC090324	J Hutson	Bus Shelter cleaning	£150.00
BAC100324	Hardy Signs	Signs for The Green	£136.80
BAC110324	1st Choice Super Seal Ltd	2 additional bollards Pcentre	£1,917.60
DD	BT	Tele and BB	£77.28
DD	EDF Energy	Electric Changing Rooms	£14.01
DD	EDF Energy	Electric Floodlights	£31.89

2324-156 The Clerk circulated a copy of the current budget and allocated spend. There were no questions raised.

15. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE AGREEMENTS / QUOTATIONS

2324-157 *Cllr Winson left the room during this item.*

The Clerk advised that the Open Spaces Committee had recommended that T Bates quotation for the refurbishment of the path around Jubilee Playing Field with clean granite aggregate. Cllr McKiernan proposed acceptance, seconded by Cllr Low with all in favour.

The Clerk circulated the Grounds Maintenance quotation report and advised of the Open Spaces recommendation. Cllr McKiernan proposed an agreement with C Winson for the hours and hourly charge indicated. This was seconded by Cllr Low with all present in favour.

Cllr McKiernan proposed renewal of the field mowing agreement to Champion Bros for 3 years, seconded by Cllr Low with all in favour.

The Clerk advised of the suggestion to refurbish the gardens on The Green and re-establish them in line with the original planting intentions. Mr Winson had quoted a price for plants and could include the labour within the Grounds Maintenance agreement. Cllr Holmes suggested that this could be promoted as a community project and see if any residents would be willing to help with planting and maintenance.

Cllr Winson returned to the room.

16. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL EMPLOYMENT ISSUE AND RECOMMENDATION

2324-158 The meeting was updated on the staffing issue that had occurred and the arrangements that had been made in regard to the Centre opening up, closing and cleaning.

The Clerk thanked Cllr Winson, Mr Winson and Mr Perry (who had been recruited as Caretaker from April) for helping with the Centre; and Cllr Winson wanted to thank the War Games group for also helping out with closing the building twice per week. The Chair also thanked the Clerk for the work that had previously been taken on and the additional.

The Clerk advised of the works that were being planned for the Centre with a storage area, new doors, ceiling works, ventilation and carpets.

The Clerk advised of the quotations that had been obtained from cleaning contractors for daily weekday cleaning. It was felt that the costs were excessive and not sustainable for the Centre. Cllr Winson had spoken with Mr Perry and he had advised that he would be open to some additional hours to undertake cleaning. Cllr Holmes proposed offering the hours to Mr Perry, seconded by Cllr Pritchard with all in favour.

Cllrs unanimously approved the payment of holiday hours for Mrs Allen.

Cllrs unanimously agreed the purchase of a meal voucher in recognition of Mrs Allen's retirement and length of service.

SIGNATURE

DESIGNATION

DATE