

STRETTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in St Matthews
Church Hall, Stretton Road, Stretton on Monday
13th June 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

Councillors in attendance:

L. Jones - Chairperson
J. Higgins
T. Lyons
B. Jones
P. Lyons – Appointed 13 June 2016
J. Fox - Appointed 13 June 2016

Also present:
Clerk to the Council G. Lett
Cllr J. Wheeler
3 residents

P19 Apologies

Apologies received from Cllr D. Buckley.

P20 Appointment of New Councillors

Following interviews completed 8th May 2016 the following new Councillors were appointed;

Cllr J. Fox - Proposed by Cllr T. Lyons, Seconded by Cllr B. Jones
Cllr P. Lyons – Proposed by Cllr B. Jones, Seconded by Cllr T. Lyons

The Chair welcomed the new Councillors to the Council.

P21 Presentation from Sgt Gareth Kerr, South Warrington Beat Sgt

Sgt G. Kerr was invited by the Council to provide an update on Selecta DNA (home contents protective marking kit) and discuss the Speed Sign purchased by Stretton Parish Council.

Sgt Kerr advised the Council that he currently has 11 PCSO's within his Department, including local PCSO Sgt Stephen Parr who covers Stretton.

£10k funding was made available to Warrington Police in 2015 to complete a pilot rollout of Selecta DNA, a home marking kit which has a unique code for each kit and which shows up under UV light. The rollout covered a small area in order to be as effective as possible. Should further funding become available, the kit will be rolled out to a wider area, including the houses omitted from the initial pilot.

The area chosen for the pilot incorporated Stretton Road and Hatton Lane – due to their location near to the motorway. It was highlighted that Lower Stretton also falls within this criteria but was not made part of the pilot.

The option to put window stickers in houses not included in the pilot was discussed, however these are not available separately from the kit.

The retail cost of the kit is £50-£60, however Warrington Police can secure a price of £10 per kit.

Sgt Kerr also provided an update on speeding within the borough. Until March 2016 there was no effective speed control unit with the department. Since then PCSO Sgt Parr has been trained to utilise Trucam, a handheld device which is enforceable and which has recently been used on Hatton Lane.

As the only officer able to use this device, Sgt Kerr advised that the device was very much in demand across South Warrington, although PCSO Sgt Parr is to primarily cover Stretton and Hatton. In the meantime, other officers are being trained on Trucam.

In terms of the speed sign, location and the battery life continues to be an issue. Council were previously advised that the sign could only be used in two locations, however Sgt Kerr advise this is incorrect. It was proposed that the Council be given a key, so that the sign can be regularly moved to any 30mph road, together with the ability to change the battery as to maximise its effectiveness.

Additionally, PCSO Sgt Parr's contact details are to be reported on all noticeboards, together with details of his local surgery.

Local resident advised Sgt Kerr on the high number of vehicles mounting kerbs/grass around the M56 roundabout and not slowing down, making crossing the roundabout dangerous. Sgt Kerr noted the issue.

Sgt Kerr left the meeting.

P22 Minutes of Previous Meetings

The Minutes of the previous meeting (9th May 2016) were agreed and signed as a true record.

P23 Declarations of Interest

Councillors are reminded of their responsibility to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) that they may have in any item of the agenda no later than when the item is reached.

P24 Planning Applications/Issues

P24.1 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received at this point.

P24.2 Domestic Planning Applications (0)

Commercial Planning Applications (1)

Application reference: 2016/28120

Location: ST MATTHEWS CHURCH HALL, STRETTON ROAD, STRETTON, WARRINGTON, WA4 4NT

Description of development – Section 192 (Lawful Development Certificate) - Proposed creation of Parish Office within the Church Hall. Create an external door and window to the rear of the building to allow access without having to circulate through the Nursery.

NO OBJECTIONS RECEIVED

Notice of Decisions (0)

Notice of Appeal (0)

Appeal Decision (0)

Cost Decision (0)

Withdrawn (0)

P25 Finance

P25.1 Accounts Requiring Authorisation for Payment

G Lett Salary and expenses 1/5/2016 – 31/5/2016 Cheque No. 589	£ 278.52
D Buckley Reimbursement for website maintenance costs Cheque No. 587	£ 5.99
D Buckley Reimbursement for website maintenance costs Cheque No. 592	£ 23.95
Community Lincs Insurance Services PC Insurance commencing 1 June 2016 (supercedes May cheque no. 587 – new assets added increasing quote) Cheque No. 588	£ 243.21
G Lett Reimbursement of thank you voucher for P Lovell, Internal Auditor (Hollies voucher) Cheque No. 590	£ 25.00
Appleton Maintenance Services Installation and planting of 5 planters Cheque No. 591	£ 255.00
Total	£ 831.67

All payments approved for payment.

P25.2 Finance Matters

Clerk reported back on Internal Audit of accounts for 12-months to 31 March 2016. It has been identified that Council should have registered any employees with HMRC for PAYE from 2013. This omission is to be rectified within a 3 month period. Accounts submitted to external auditor BDO.

P26 Request for Filing Cabinet

Following cost savings made from discontinuing the Clerk's mobile phone, the Clerk requested consideration to the purchase of a filing cabinet to contain all Council papers, to a maximum cost price (exc VAT) of £50. Proposed Cllr L. Jones, seconded Cllr B. Jones, supported by all.

P27 Correspondence

The list of correspondence was circulated and it was resolved that the same be noted and discussed by the Council.

Lower Whitley planning application

Resident John Lawson sent confirmation to Clerk relating to change of use application in Lower Whitley which would potentially increase the number of HGVs using the A559. This application was successful, and despite a maximum number of vehicles being imposed on the applicant, there is likely to be a further increase on the A559.

The issues relating to A559 are reported upon under item P34 below.

Speed Sign

Locations for its use discussed under Item P21 above.

Transparency Funding

Reported under Item P29.

Thank you email from Hatton Parish Council

Emails received from Cllr M. Winstanley, Chair of Hatton Parish Council and Cllr R. Dickin, Chair of Hatton Village Plan Implementation Group extending thanks to Stretton Parish Council and in particular Cllr L. Jones and Cllr T. Lyons for their help and support in improving road issues on Hatton Lane, including the proposal for a weight restriction.

Litter surrounding The Stretton Fox Pub

Following contact made with Vintage Inns in relation to the litter left around the land owned by The Stretton Fox, the Clerk received a very positive telephone call from the Manager advising that they will undertake a daily sweep of the area in order to reduce litter left by their customers.

Creamfields Meeting

The meeting with Live Nation's representatives and the Police to discuss arrangements for this year's event has been deferred to 16th June. Item already reported to Cllrs.

PGT's AGM

Letter received from PGT requesting Council confirmation that Cllr T. Lyons (nominated) and Mr Pegum (elected) continue to represent Stretton Parish Council for the forthcoming year. All Cllrs supported proposal.

P28 Transparency Funding Application

Clerk provided Council with the breakdown of the application for funding within the Transparency Code. Application approved and supported by all. Clerk to submit application.

P29 Annual Newsletter

Cllr J. Higgins advised Council that she was happy to put together the annual newsletter for 2016.

Suggestions for inclusion and allocation of articles agreed as follows;

- Planters/Signage – Cllr L. Jones
- PGT update/defibrillator – Cllr T. Lyons
- Buses – Cllr L. Jones
- Community Asset – Cllr J. Higgins
- Introduction to PCSO Sgt S Parr – G. Lett
- Work carried out by Stretton Parish Council, not delivered by WBC due to cuts – Cllr B. Jones
- A559 issues – Cllr L. Jones
- Introductions for new Cllrs/Clerk – Cllr. J. Fox, Cllr. P. Lyons, G. Lett, Ward Cllr J. Wheeler
- Footpaths – Andrea Marshall

Ward Cllr J. Wheeler to enquire on the availability of data analysis regarding complaints made within the

year by Stretton Parish Council and residents. Data has not been made available to date.

Articles to be forwarded to Cllr J. Higgins by first week of July.

P30 Registering the Ring O'Bells as a Community Asset

Cllr J. Higgins advised that no further action is required. Consultation period passed with no objections received. Matter to be closed off and notice on pub noticeboard to be removed.

P31 Stretton Medical Centre / Footpath update

Cllr T. Lyons advised Council that a response from HCA had been received in relation to meeting with Stretton Medical Centre, Hatton Lane to discuss an opportunity to incorporate a new medical centre within the proposed development and the inclusion of a new footpath on Stretton Road.

Unfortunately, Delyse Bailey advised that the next proposed phase of development included a new medical centre and therefore this is not an option.

Cllr J. Higgins left the meeting at 8.20pm.

In relation to the footpath Delyse advises that this is outside their land and therefore cannot be progressed. Clerk to re-send letter from Delyse to Cllr T. Lyons to review position.

P32 No 45 Bus Service

Cllr L. Jones advised Council that despite continuous correspondence between the Parish Council and Network Warrington the #45 bus now terminates at the Bee Hive. Only 1 child from Lower Stretton has a bus pass and this is due to expire this term.

The proposal to turn around in Lower Stretton was looked into, however there was nowhere that was deemed safe to do so.

Cllr L. Jones contacted Wincham Parish Council to offer support in keeping this service and it was agreed that Stretton Parish Council should send a letter to Network Warrington independently requesting that the full service is reinstated. The matter is to be reviewed in September.

Clerk to produce submission letter to Network Warrington.

P33 Fence outside St Matthew's Church

Cllr L Jones advised that correspondence had been received from Rev. Alan Jewell confirming that the fence was the property and responsibility of Warrington Borough Council. This confirmation has been forwarded to WBC for them to review the fence as a health and safety issue.

P34 Issues relating to A559

Resident of Lower Stretton has been liaising with the Parish Council, forwarding photos and resident complaints in relation to the A559. This evidence has been forwarded to Ian Stewardson (police) and Jamie Fisher (WBC).

Jamie has responded to the emails and the matter is ongoing. Contact to be made requesting if historic data of accidents / complaints reported is available relating to the A559. Clerk to contact Jamie, together with an estimation as to the cost of all repairs having to be completed due to the road eroding and damage to drains etc.

Due to impending annual leave a meeting with David Mowat, MP has not yet taken place although his

secretary has been in contact with Cllr L. Jones directly.

P35 Projects;

P35.1 Village Betterment

Cllr L. Jones reported that a quote for cutting back overgrown grass in Lower Stretton around the Triangle had been received for £20. To date, WBC has not cut back any verges in Lower Stretton. This quote had been accepted by Cllrs and work completed by AMS, who reported back that the level of dog fouling in the area cut was prolific. Consideration to be given to erecting a bin/signage.

Given lack of grass cutting completed by WBC costing also to be established for; the area of grass opposite the Church with the new planter on; Hatton Lane next to the Medical Centre; the Triangle.

Cllr L. Jones to request costing from AMS. Motion proposed by Cllr T. Lyons and Seconded by Cllr P. Lyons.

Ward Cllr J. Wheeler has tried to obtain a copy of the cutting schedule, however this has been unforthcoming to date. Cllr J. Wheeler will also report back to WBC that the borough feels isolated, particularly as Stretton Parish Council funds are being utilising to undertake the work of WBC due to safety issues.

P35.2 New village planters

Cllr L Jones reported that the planters are now complete and receiving good feedback.

P35.3 Signage

The 2 new signs purchased are in place and it was agreed they look good and in-keeping with the village.

P36 Councillor Issues

Cllr T Lyons

Cllr T. Lyons proposed that all Cllrs review the Councillor Issues spreadsheet and contact the Clerk with which items can be closed down.

Advertising for a Frodsham company on litter bins. Clerk to ask company to remove.

Cllr B Jones

Flooding on A559 remains an issue with flash flooding causing greater issues. Grids are ineffective. Clerk to collate all A559 issues on to a separate spreadsheet and ensure all cases are reported.

Cllr J Higgins

Plastic bollard down outside Cat & Lion. Concrete bollard also pushed over opposite the layby and in front of the Spire. Clerk has already reported both issues. Will send further request to replace.

Grass cutting now dangerous with motorists line of sight blocked. WBC aware of the urgency. Clerk to chase request for all areas to be cut.

Rubbish in the last bin in the layby overflowing due to volume of rubbish. Previous owner of food van removed rubbish (part of licence to operate?). Clerk to report issue to WBC and request solution.

Cllr L Jones

Grass cutting should be on a 5-8 weeks schedule unless causing visibility issues for vehicles (case

reference CAS 696540).

Banking Arrangements – Each Cllr who is to be added as signatory on the bank account is required to go into the bank with ID. Currently, the Clerk and 3 Cllrs are to be added as signatories however it is impractical for all to attend at the same time. Clerk to advise Cllrs when next visiting the bank to see who is available. Other signatories to be added at a later time.

Flooding at the Ring O’Bells, Hall Lane and Common Lane – Cllr L. Jones has reported the flooding at the pub on 23rd May and 5th June due to flash floods (CAS 691409). Drains have yet to be sorted. Flooding on Hall Lane (CAS 691433) remains bad. Additionally, resident Clare Olver has reported blocked gullies.

Overnight parking to be stopped in layby by Spire, Tarporley Road. To be advertised soon. Two hour stop only on Section 1. No waiting between 6pm – 8am on balance of Sections.

Cllr J. Fox

None to report.

Cllr P. Lyons

None to report.

Ward Cllr J. Wheeler

No issues to report.

P37 Public Forum

It was suggested that once the changes to the parking outside Spire on Tarporley Road are implemented, an acknowledgement be sent from the Parish Council approving of the change.

Grids on A559 remain an issue, although WBC has been out, there is silt being flushed into grids near residents homes. Clerk to report.

Meeting finished at 9:15pm

P38 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday 4th July 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

Signed as a true record:

.....(Chairman)
4th July 2016