

**ALL STRETTON, SMETHCOTE AND WOOLSTASTON PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING**

MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of All Stretton, Smethcott and Woolstaston Parish Council held on Wednesday 20th July at Picklescott Village Hall.

1) **Present :**

C'Ilr A McVittie (Chairman)
C'Ilr Burton
C'Ilr Dale (Vice Chairman)
C'Ilr Morris
C'Ilr Beagle
C'Ilr A Phillips

Clerk Mrs J Griffiths (Clerk)

Member of the public present: Mr W Kerswell

2) **Apologies**

Apologies had been received from C'Ilr T Barker. C'Ilr V Davies was not present at the meeting. The Clerk agreed to contact C'Ilr Davies before the September meeting.

3) **Introduction**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Declaration of Personal and Pecuniary Interest

The Clerk reminded all Councillors to declare any interests in any items being discussed.

4) **Public Comments**

Mr W Kerswell told the meeting that he wished to bring to the attention of the Parish Council that the site for the proposed garage and workshop at the Gate House in Picklescott, had in the past houses a carpenter's workshop.

Mr Kerswell also expressed concern at the lack of affordable housing in the area.

5) **Approve Minutes of Meeting of the Annual General Meeting held on 25th May 2016**

It was proposed by C'Ilr Dale, seconded by C'Ilr Burton and unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 25th May provided a true and accurate record of the meeting.

6) **Matters Arising from the Minutes (Clerk to report for information only)**

The Clerk told the meeting that she had contacted Lisa Bedford at Shropshire Council requesting that the LJC Planning Meetings were held later in the evening in future and do not commence at 5pm when it is difficult for many Councillors to attend. The Clerk had not received a reply.

The Clerk told the meeting that the web site was now up and running. It can be accessed by the web address and has been submitted to the search engines for indexing, this can take up to two to three weeks. There were problems with indexing with the first domain host. They agreed that there was a problem but their technical support team (Third Line Support) were unable to solve the problem. To resolve this issue we transferred to a new hosting company. This has solved the problems and the site will be indexed shortly and will be available by searching with part of the Parish Council name etc.

7) Standing Orders – amendment and adoption of draft Standing Orders circulated at May meeting

It was proposed by C’Ilr McVittie, seconded by C’Ilr Dale and unanimously agreed that the Draft Standing Orders which had circulated be adopted as the Standing Orders for All Stretton, Smethcott and Woolstaston Parish Council. A copy of the Standing Orders would be placed on the web site.

8) Church Stretton Town Council – contribution towards the cost of non-statutory services

C’Ilr McVittie told the meeting that he had attended a meeting where it was suggested that parishes with the Strettondale Local Joint Committee Area contribute towards the cost of the “At Risk” services in Church Stretton.

The presentation suggested the following options:-

Option A - Library – cost £34,000

Option B – Leisure Centre (without swimming pool) full time cost
£80,000

Option C – Leisure Centre (without swimming pool) part time cost
£40,000

Option D – Leisure Centre and Swimming pool - £100,000 plus £300,000
refurbishment cost

On the assumption that Church Stretton residents (2,406 households) use 75% of these services, this would leave 25% of the cost to be met by the precept of Strettondale Parishes. The precept could be raised under various powers such as the Public Health Act 1936 (S221) for the swimming pool; under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19 for the Leisure Centre and where no specific power exists under S137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (up to £7.42 per electorate). This would mean an increase in the precept for our parishes as follows:-

Parish	% of share	Households	Annual Cost Option A +B	Annual Cost Option A +C
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All Stretton	4.75	52	£1,354	£879
Smethcott	9.23	101	£2,631	£1,708

This would mean an increase in precept per household in each parish of £26.05 for option A + B and £16.91 per household in each parish for Option A + C.

For some reason Woolstaston Parish Council had not been included in the calculations.

The Parish Council had also received details of "part funding services" from SALC this had been forwarded to all Councillors on 13th June.

C'Ilr Dale told the meeting that he had attended a meeting with Church Stretton Town Council and the Strettondale Parish Councils and there was little enthusiasm from Parish Councils. It was agreed that the Parish Council would not comment at this stage.

9) Finance

(a) Accounts due for payment

The following accounts were due for payment:-

HMRC – tax due on clerk's salary for June/July £108.40. It was proposed by C'Ilr Dale, seconded by C'Ilr Beagle and unanimously agreed that this be paid. Cheque no 00287 was prepared in the sum of £108.40.

Clerks Salary June/July plus postage, hire of hall for tonight's meeting, and telephone totalling £442.64. It was proposed by C'Ilr Dale, seconded by C'Ilr Beagle and unanimously agreed that this be paid. Cheque no 00288 was prepared in the sum of £442.64.

The Clerk told the meeting that the web site had taken longer to complete than anticipated. However there was 6 hours unclaimed from the 21 hours estimated in the grant application. The Clerk was therefore claiming the 6 hours plus the 1 hour per month it was agreed for updating the site. It was proposed by C'Ilr Dale, seconded by C'Ilr Beagle and unanimously agreed that this be paid. Cheque No. 289 was prepared in the sum of £105.

The Clerk told the meeting that she had purchased the lap top and scanner as agreed at the May meeting (see Item 12 of Minutes) at a cost of £329.98 (cheque No. 286). This cost was covered by the Neighbourhood Funding Grant.

(b) Total cash held at Bank

The balance held at bank after payment of the accounts approved tonight is

£2968.20.

(c) 2015/16 Accounts

The Clerk told the meeting that the 2015/16 accounts had been sent to Mazars, the external auditors, by recorded delivery on 28th June. The due date for submission being 2nd July.

10) Planning Applications

Applications discussed at earlier meetings:-

Land at The Lynches, Smethcott PREAPP/14/00401

Erection of an agricultural workers dwelling on land at the Lynches, Smethcott. The Clerk told the September meeting that this application was now being submitted as a single plot exception site. The Clerk had not been contacted by Shropshire Council, however, the applicant's agent had asked the Parish Council to contact Shropshire Council to confirm the applicant's local connection. The Clerk told the September meeting that she had written to the Housing Enabling Officer to confirm the local connection as Mr Collins lives and works in the parish and attended local schools and the Parish Council fully support this application.

The Clerk told the July meeting that this was still shown on the web site as an application for an affordable dwelling and shown as awaiting a decision.

New application discussed at July meeting:-

Gate House, Picklescott Ref 16/02748/LBC

Works within curtilage of Listed Building to facilitate the erection of detached single garage and workshop. This application had been circulated to all Councillors by e-mail. It was proposed by C'lr McVittie seconded by C'lr Dale and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council had no objection to this application.

11) Highway Matters

Mr Tim Sneddon, Shropshire Council attended the March meeting when the following matters were discussed. The Clerk had asked for feedback which had been received on 13th July as follows:-

- Culvert fronting Foxtrot Villas needing larger pipe to stop flooding on the highway. Mr Sneddon had advised that they were aware of the problem but as the overflow on the highway is over a relatively short length before it enters the watercourse it is not currently a high priority. Should funding become available they will consider the provision of a larger capacity pipe.
- Child signs by Sallins. Mr Sneddon told the March meeting that were child signs in the hedgerow and he could not provide painted signs on

the highway. Mr Sneddon confirmed in the e-mail that they would make sign that the signs in the hedgerow remain visible.

- Puddles on highway by bus shelter in Picklescott – grip needed in verge to take water off highway. Mr Sneddon confirmed in the e-mail that this work had been carried out and they would check it was working correctly.
- Remainder of Portway not repaired now badly in need of repair. Mr Sneddon told the March meeting that this was an historic unclassified road and Shropshire Council attempted to main this in an historic manner. The e-mail confirmed that some sections would be included in a future surface overlay programme.
- The Parish Council had asked for “no HGV” signs to be placed either end of Church Lane. At the meeting on 23rd March the Parish Council had again asked Mr Sneddon to provide NO HGV signs on Church Lane. The Parish Council agreed to erect the signs if Shropshire Council could provide the signs. Mr Sneddon confirmed that this had been done.
- Tree roots growing in the highway between Dead Mans Hollow and Mynderley are causing humps to appear in the highway. Mr Sneddon told the March meeting that an overlay would be applied. He confirmed in the e-mail that a temporary patch repair has been done. The length from the cattle grid to High Park cross roads is in the future surfacing overlay programme.
- A gully appears to be blocked in Dead Mans Hollow. C’lir Dale had attempted to clear this and Mr Sneddon told the March meeting that the jettter would also visit the area. The e-mail confirmed that this had been done and it will be monitored during wet periods.
- A pothole has appeared in the side of the road outside Mynderly and the edge of the highway appeared to be eroding for a length of approximately 10 metres. Mr Sneddon confirmed that temporary pothole repairs have been done to maintain until the overlay is applied.
- Flooding on the road leading from Picklescott to Dorrington near New Hall Farm. At the March meeting Mr Sneddon agreed that this was a problem which would be investigated as the problem does need to be addressed. Mr Sneddon confirmed in the e-mail that this is difficult to completely resolve. They have dug the ditches out on two occasions. The problem being that there is no positive pint of discharge to a watercourse. The chamber at the end of the pipe run goes to a soakaway. The ground conditions are also difficult in this area as there are rocky outcrops, shallow soil and no obvious local point for such a discharge. They will keep monitoring and deal with storm debris as necessary. It was agreed at the July meeting that the Parish Council would request a meeting with the Technician Johnathon Ingolby to discuss solutions to this problem.
- Sediment and mud is lying in the hollow on Stank Lane. Mr Sneddon told the March meeting that this is caused by a drainage problem which is difficult to solve as the ditches have not been cut deep enough and jetting does not solve the problem. This will require further investigation. Mr Sneddon confirmed in the e-mail that this will be monitored and debris will be removed as necessary.

- Flooding was also reported at the entrance to Netley. Mr Sneddon told the March meeting that this is the same problem where ditches are not deep enough and this will also be investigated. It was confirmed in the e-mail that the ditches have been dug out for a second time as the first time they were not dug deep enough. It was agreed at the July meeting that the ditches were still not deep enough and the Parish Council would request a meeting with the Technician Johnathon Ingolby to discuss solutions to this problem.
- Pot holes were reported in the highway fronting Mansells Barn. Mr Sneddon agreed to investigate and confirmed in the e-mail that this work has been done.
- Flooding on the highway as you turn left out of Picklescott towards High Park. C'llr Morris told the meeting that a vehicle has left the road and cut into the ditch. Mr Sneddon agreed to investigate and confirmed in the e-mail that there are no current proposals to upgrade the highway drains in this area. However, they are aware of a collapsed pipe which requires repair and this will be arranged.
- A pot hole outside Jinlye and a further pot hole a little further across this road was reported. Mr Sneddon made a note of this at the March meeting and confirmed that this had been done. .
- C'llr Dale had carried out some work to clear the ditches in Lower Wood and Mr Sneddon agreed to add this to the list for the jetter and confirmed in the e-mail that this had been done.
- At the March meeting Mr Sneddon also made a note of the poor state of the little used road leading from Smethcott to Netley (passed the Bynards). He confirmed in the e-mail that this requires an overlay and it is hoped this will be included in a future programme.

In the e-mail Mr Sneddon also referred to the following:-

- Storm damage to the culvert on the road leading to Pool Farm. This has been repaired and gabion baskets have been used to shore up the edge.
- The road Picklescott to Smethcott is due to be surface dressed this season

At the July meeting the Clerk was also asked to report the following highway matters to Mr Sneddon:-

- The hedge on the road from Woolstaston to Leebotwood on the left above Hill Cottage had been cut in the bottom but the top was still overhanging the roadway and forcing vehicles into the centre of the road.
- Request the road sweeper to sweep the road from Woolstaston to Leebotwood the road surface was very rough due to a build-up of debris on the highway.
- White lines at the crossroads on the road from Picklescott to Dorrington at the Smethcott turning need repainting.
- White lines at the High Park crossroads need repainting.

- The salt bin on the road from Woolstaston to High Park was smashed and needs replacing.

The Clerk told the meeting that she had contacted Leebotwood and Longnor Parish Council, as requested at the May meeting, to ask if they were interested in employing someone to carry out maintenance work. The Parish Council could perhaps take advantage of someone to carry out a few hours maintenance each week and could then apply for the Highway Maintenance Grant. She had received a reply which stated that they did employ a person in Leebotwood and a person in Longnor as they felt local knowledge of the area was important. They had drawn up a maintenance list for each village and applied for a highway maintenance grant. The people employed were asked to keep an eye on any build-up of debris over road drains. It was agreed that the Parish Council would investigate the possibility of applying for a highway maintenance grant for each of the parishes.

12) Correspondence

The Clerk reported the following correspondence received:-

- Clerk and Councils Direct Magazine – July- handed at C'llr Dale
- E mail from Mike Sillence informing the Parish Council that he intended to resign as the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator in November. He took over this role from Les Morris some 12-14 years ago.
- Came & Co (Insurers) - change of trading style. Previously a trading style of Parish Council Insurance Brokers Ltd. From 1st July they became a trading style of Stackhouse Poland Limited.

Since the May meeting the following correspondence had been forwarded to Councillors as follows:-

- Weekly Shropshire Rural Hub Newsletters forwarded each Monday
- Summer holiday activities for children Craven Arms and Church Stretton forwarded 15.7.16
- Connecting Shropshire Broadband Update forwarded 14.7.16. Also placed on the web site.
- Rural vulnerability Broadband July 16. Forwarded 14.7.16
- Early Help Newsletter – July 16 – forwarded 13.7.16
- First Meeting of Town and PC Working Group 21st July at the Shirehall 4.30pm – 6pm. Forwarded 13.7.16. Clerk will attend
- Rural Services Newsletters forwarded each week
- SALC Bulletin forwarded 8.7.16
- SALC – General Power of Competence Training 30.9.16 at the Shirehall 5-7pm. Forwarded 7.7.16
- SALC Chairmanship Training Part 2 – 7.9.16 6.30-7.30pm forwarded 7.7.16
- Rural Opportunities Bulletin forwarded 6.7.16
- Media Release – Blueprint for Healthcare forwarded 6.7.16
- National Playday 1st August – poster forwarded 4.7.16
- Police Monthly Report – June – forwarded 1.7.16 also placed on web site

- SALC – Information Bulletin forwarded 30.6.16
- Shropshire Rural Housing Association – Recruitment of voluntary board members forwarded 29.6.16
- Shropshire Council – proposed cut backs in funding local services forwarded 24.6.16
- Mayors Lunch 14th August – forwarded 3.6.16
- A49 road closures – forwarded for noticeboards 8.6.16. Also placed on web site
- Police and Crime Commission Consultation forwarded 10.6.16
- Media Release – Hospital Trust improves in survey of patients' satisfaction. Forwarded 13.6.16
- Shropshire Council – Draft Carers Strategy – forwarded 21.6.16
- Early Help Newsletter June forwarded 20.6.16
- Police Summer Newsletter forwarded 23.6.16. Also placed on web site.

13) Local Joint Committee – 9th June

C'llr Dale told the meeting that the meeting at Acton Scott had been well attended by members of parish councils within the Strettondale Local Joint Committee area, however, very few members of the public attended the meeting. The meeting had concentrated on the presentation by Malcolm Pate on budget cuts. The next meeting has yet to be arranged and it is anticipated that the meeting will be held on November.

14) Shropshire Council Report

C'llr Barker was not present at the meeting.

15) Date of next Meeting

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 28th September

Future 2016 meetings are as follows:-

Wednesday 23rd November

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed.....(Chairman) Date.....