

STETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL
c/o 59 West Street, Isleham, Ely, Cambs. CB7 5SD
Clerk: Mrs. Marilyn Strand Tel: 01638 781286
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MINUTES

Stetchworth Parish Council Full Council Meeting on
Wednesday 19 March 2019
in the Gredley Room Ellesmere Centre Stetchworth

Present: Cllrs Lily Whymer (Chair), Wayne Bell (Vice-Chair), Sarah Breen, Alastair France, John Puddick, Piers Saunders and Alan Sharp.

There were no members of the public present.
The meeting was opened at 7.35pm

118/18/19 To receive & approve apologies for absence.

District Cllr Chris Morris had sent his apologies for the meeting.

119/18/19 To Receive Declarations of Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary Interest

Cllrs Whymer, France and Sharp declared personal interests in item 128/18/19(a) – PCC request to place a sign on the village green.

120/18/19 Open Forum for Public Participation

None.

121/18/19 The Ellesmere Centre

(a) Ellesmere Centre Report – Cllr Whymer reported the following: -

- An 8ft x 6ft shed had been offered to Trustees, free of charge, which might be suitable to meet the storage needs of groups and organisations who use the Centre. It was suggested that it might be sited at the end of the small hall backing onto the neighbouring bungalow and Councillors agreed this would be a suitable area for it if the Trustees so decided.
- Trustees had successfully applied for a grant for new gym equipment which had now been installed.

(b) Car park extension grant applications – ECDC had confirmed a Facilities Improvement Grant of £9,987 which will need to be claimed by the PC once the work on the car park has been completed. Further grants from Sport England and Awards for All will now be applied for. The planning officers at ECDC had not yet confirmed whether planning permission is needed for the work.

(c) To consider request to use the recreation ground, 17th August 2019 – it was AGREED to allow a dog trade show to take place on the recreation ground. The organisers will be asked to provide the PC with a copy of their Public Liability insurance and Risk Assessment for the event.

(d) Concrete posts near MUGA – the posts looked as if they had been tampered with and there were tracks on the grass. Upon investigation, it was established that it was equipment used by the Boot Camp which had made the tracks; the concrete posts are intact and no further action is required.

122/18/19 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th February 2019.

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th February were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

123/18/19 Matters Arising including reports from the Clerk and Councillors (for information only)

(a) Matters reported as follows: -

- Correspondence from resident re: 4 Coopers Close – NOTED.
- Mead Construction will assess the level of hardcore under the existing car park extension once they begin work; their final invoice will reflect any reduction as necessary.
- 'Keep Dogs on Leads' signs had been posted at the entrances to the recreation ground and 6 more signs will be posted up in various locations around the grounds in the near future.
- The Clerk is chasing ECDC regarding the litter bin at the entrance to the recreation ground which has still not been replaced.
- The Independent Internal Auditor will carry out the end of year review on Friday 17th May.
- The Annual Parish Meeting (APM) and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 15th May. The Ellesmere Centre Trustees, District Cllr Chris Morris and County Cllr Mathew Shuter will be asked to provide reports for the APM.
- Hamill Landscapes will carry out a first cut of the recreation ground field on Tuesday 26th March. A gate key will be provided for ease of access.

- The PC had not seen a reduction in its street light energy contributions to CCC since the lights were upgraded to LED. The Clerk will send an enquiry to CCC and report back to a future meeting.
- An email will be sent to Planning Enforcement to query whether the close-board fencing along stud land at the entrance to the village from Newmarket requires planning permission.

124/18/19 District & County Councillors' Reports

None.

125/18/19 Finance - to approve accounts for payment – it was proposed by Cllr Whymer and seconded by Cllr France that the following payments be made: -

Ref:	Payee/Item	Chq. no	Total	Exc. VAT
(1)	Clerk's salary – Mar 19	SO	£300.00	
(2)	Clerk's expenses (incl. SLCC conference)	101408	£85.27	
(3)	Ellesmere Centre	101409	£25.00	
(4)	Cartridge Save – printer cartridge	101410	£37.31	£31.09
(5)	Insurance renewal – Zurich	101411	£1,612.72	
Total payments for the month:			£2,060.30	

126/18/19 Administration

- (a) Report from the Parish Forum, Tuesday 26th February – Cllr Breen had attended on behalf of the PC. The meeting had been dominated by planning issues and the Local Plan but had also included discussion of parking issues and street light upgrades. It was noted at the meeting that District Cllr Peter Cresswell, current Chairman of EDCD, would not be standing at the local elections in May. District Cllr Alan Sharp will be standing for Woodditton Ward and District & County Cllr Mathew Shuter will be standing for Bottisham Ward.
- (b) Report from SLCC Practitioners' Conference, 14th-15th February – NOTED. It was agreed to investigate the possibility of purchasing a flag pole and Union Jack, and to liaise with the church regarding plans for Operation London Bridge.
- (c) To review staff contracts and job description – the contract and job description are in line with NALC and SLCC templates.

127/18/19 Planning

- (a) To receive planning application decisions & tree works:
- TPO/E03/19 38 High Street – T1: Holm Oak; T2: Holm Oak; T3: London Plane.
- NOTED.
- (b) To consider planning applications received:
- 19/00200/FUL Land adjacent to Marquis of Granby, 94 High Street – proposed erection of a private detached dwelling/new vehicular access and associated works – resubmission of previous application 18/01141/FUL – NOTED with the following comments:
- The PC objects to this application for the following reasons:
- The scale of the building means it would be over-bearing in this location in relation to existing properties.
 - The access is onto an already busy junction – Tea Kettle Lane and High Street – which is on a school route.
 - The proposed dwelling is too close to the neighbouring Arden Barn and granny annexe.
- Cllr France left and returned to the meeting during this item.

19/00084/FUL Land north-west and south-west of 48 Mill Lane – proposed conversion of existing stables into 4/5 bed dwelling with erection of 14 new stables and associated works – NOTED with the following comments:

The PC objects to this application for the following reasons:

- Taking all four recent applications in this location together, as well as the already approved application 18/00774/FUL, this is an overdevelopment of the site which is outside the village envelope. The Local Plan 2015 states that development in Stetchworth should be limited to infill sites.
- The road to the site is inadequate with no footpath and nowhere to put one. The junction with Mill Lane and Tea Kettle Lane is a dangerous junction on a school route.
- The increase in vehicles to the new housing would be unacceptable in this location given the narrowness of Mill Lane.
- The Council also has concerns that Planning Policy 2015 EMP1 (Retention of Existing Employment Sites & Allocations) and EMP 6 (Development Affecting the Horse Racing Industry) are potentially being breached. This development would mean that the stud is no longer a viable business as there would be a conflict between the stables and the proposed housing.

- The applicant has contradicted herself on the separate applications as to whether the stud is a viable business – the business being deemed by the applicant as unviable to justify conversion of the existing stables to housing, and then viable to justify the erection of a new stable block.

It was noted that the determination date for all pending applications at this location was now 31st March. Cllr Chris Morris will call in the applications if the Planning Officer is minded to approve them, and Cllr Whymer will represent the PC at the relevant Planning Committee.

- (c) Withdrawal of the Draft Local Plan from its independent examination - Councillors agreed with ECDC's decision to withdraw the Local Plan following the Inspector's un-explained decision to remove all policies relating to preserving the character of villages when considering development, as well as other policies relating to Community Land Trusts and Accessibility. Planning decisions will now be governed by the 2015 Local Plan and it is expected that ECDC will re-gain its 5-year land supply in April 2020. It was agreed to write to the leader of ECDC to express the PC's support of their decision.

128/18/19 Community Matters/General Maintenance

- (a) PCC request to place sign on the green at Church Lane/High Street – update: the PCC had obtained quotations for a sign which will say 'St Peter's Church' and have information about the times of upcoming services. The sign will be double-sided so that it can be seen when entering or leaving the village and Councillors had no objections to the sign being placed in this location.
- (b) To consider quotations for upgrading PC-owned street lights to LED – Balfour Beatty had failed to provide a quotation despite several attempts to obtain one. Therefore, the quotation from K&M Lighting was agreed and accepted. However, a final decision on whether to proceed will be taken at the next meeting pending further information on the PC's current General Reserves. It was agreed that it might be necessary to postpone the work until the PC receives further CiL contributions from ECDC.
- (c) Open Meeting with Lucy Frazer MP, Tuesday 9th April, 5pm to 7pm, Community Room, Park Road, Cheveley – NOTED.
- (d) Risk Assessments – to consider the need to carry out a risk assessment on any item discussed during the meeting. It was AGREED that no item required a further risk assessment.

129/18/19 Date of Next Meeting & Matters for Future Consideration

16th April.

15th May – Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

Speedwatch

The meeting was closed at 9:55pm.

Signed: Approved and signed by the Chairman

Dated: 16th April 2019

Statutory powers relating to this month's payments:

- (1-2) Local Government Act (LGA) 1972, s.112
- (3-5) LGA 1972, s.111