

STRETE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Helen Darch

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF STRETE PARISH COUNCIL (PC) HELD IN STRETE PARISH HALL ON THURSDAY 18 APRIL 2019 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT

Cllr Kate Gill, Chairman (KG); Cllr Ralph Clark (RC); Cllr David Rothwell (DR); Cllr Ian Cumberlidge (IC); Cllr Louise Newman (LN); Cllr John Vallance (JV); Mrs. Helen Darch – Clerk

PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public attended the meeting.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

There was no County Councillor report.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

There was no District Councillor report.

0419/1 APOLOGIES – Cllr Richard Foss, District Councillor, Allington & Strete Ward (RF); Cllr Julian Brazil, County Councillor, Kingsbridge Division (JB); Cllr Mark Hanson (MH)

0419/2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 21 MARCH 2019
The above minutes were AGREED as a true and correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

0419/3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Parish Councillors were invited to declare any unregistered or other interest, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting. **None were declared.**

0419/4 CLERK'S REPORT
WIFI. Since the last meeting the Clerk contacted Actionwest and arranged for WIFI to be installed in the Hall. The hub is in the kitchen and the password will be given out tonight. There still needs to be decided security of the Hub. Cost per emails with Actionwest 4th and 5th February 2019 of £418 inc VAT. The Clerk has taken out a contract with '3' at £20/month unlimited broadband and will pay the bills monthly and claim back the cost. Anything incurred above this by users will be also billed.
The Parish Hall Committee chairman has corresponded with the Council on the matter of the aerial. His email raised concerns over the aerial which had been installed and the costs of the WIFI and who would pay for these. The Clerk explained events leading up to the installation of the WIFI. She also explained it had been funded by a SLCF grant to £500 and the ongoing broadband costs would be paid by the Clerk and reclaimed from the Parish Council.

Resolved: The Clerk write to the Chairman of the Parish Hall on his concerns raised.

Annual Parish meeting. A few people have asked the Clerk when this will take place this year. The Clerk had been advised by the SLCC and DALC in her election training not to hold an Annual Parish Meeting [APM] during the election purdah period. This advice had been circulated to councillors in March 2019. Councillors discussed when to hold a meeting and it was decided to settle on either of 15th and 16th May for the first meeting of the new council and the APM.

Resolved: that the date of the first council meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting would be one or other of the 15th or 16th May subject to availability.

Since this the Clerk confirmed with Andrea Phillips that the Hall is free on the 16th May from 5pm to do swearing in, a council meeting from 5.45pm which the public may attend and then the Annual Parish Meeting from 7pm.

Elections. The parish elections are uncontested so only the District will be contested this time. However, ALL councillors need to sign declarations of acceptance of office and complete a register of interests which can take place before the first meeting of the new council on 16th May at 5.45pm. Any councillors who cannot attend the

first meeting of the new council may if the council agrees sign their paperwork before the next meeting. The Clerk has to be present at this as responsible officer.

We also have European elections to be held on 23rd May.

VAS Machine. The Clerk confirmed that there was paperwork that the previous Clerk had received with the machine and there is a warranty for 12 months from title which is when payment is made. In the case of the sign this was 10th July when it cleared. RC offered to contact Westcotec to ascertain warranty and seek resolution.

Resolved: RC to contact Westcotec to confirm the machine was still in warranty and resolve the matter.

Grants and funds. Since the last meeting the Council has received the first instalment of the precept and the CTSG of £277.

External audit. An email earlier this week set out the arrangements for signing Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR [Annual Governance and Accountability Return]. This must be completed before 1st July. The internal audit has been completed and signed off by Nick Shepherd. He also reviewed Sections 1 and 2 and gave his approval on these. Then the public exercise will start and members of the parish [electorate] can inspect the accounts. The guidance given on this recommends between 17th June and 26th July. The external auditor for smaller authorities is PKF Littlejohn. KG as Chairman signed and dated Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR.

Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR were signed at the meeting. The dates for exercise of public rights by the electorate were confirmed as between 17th June 2019 and 26th July 2019. The Clerk will publicise the rights on the noticeboards and these will also appear on the website.

Greenspace contract. Greenspace has still not billed since January for the work done. An amount for the unbilled works to the end of March plus suggested contract payments in April and May has been lodged. IC confirmed the cuts had been done.

Since the meeting the Clerk contacted Greenspace and received correct bills for January to April 2019 inclusive.

The report was received.

0419/5 CHAIR'S REPORT

Slapton Line. This is still ongoing. I have had contact with Alan Denbigh who tells me that Slapton PC are intending to apply for planning permission to move the memorial onto the public footpath on Sands Road. I am very unhappy about this and I am not the only one. If the road is to be destroyed by the sea it seems pointless to put it where no one has access other than through the village of Slapton which already has parking issues.

Strete Gate. I have at last been able to ascertain who is responsible for the fencing off of the path to the beach opposite the car park and toilets. It is Helen Hardwicke. There has not been time to contact her since I obtained the information.

Play Park. We have recently been congratulated by visitors to the village on the ongoing maintenance which includes fence swings, equipment in general and well-kept grass. Thank you to all those who have contributed.

Planning. This found me at Follaton House defending our PC's decision to object to the proposed three houses on the Blindwells plot. Our decision was upheld by the SHDC planning committee by a majority of 8 to 4.

WIFI. The installation has become something which we as a PC have been forced into installing rather swiftly. My apologies to those who feel upset. At the last Parish Hall meeting things were still ongoing as I said. Circumstances managed to overcome us.

Tree preservation. An order has been applied for/placed to protect the trees on Blindwells land.

The Chair's report was received.

0419/6 PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS

[1093/19/LBC] Listed building consent for renovation of telephone kiosk, K6 telephone box in Strete.

Decision: there was unanimous support for the application.

[0642/19/HHO] Householder application for proposed siting of replacement oil storage tank. Moortosea, Totnes Road. **Decision: there was unanimous support for the application.**

To consider the following **readvertisement (revised plan and amended description):**

[0540/19/FUL] The Kings Arms. Full planning application for internal and external alterations to existing roof/windows/doors, formation of 2nd floor rear extension including rooftop balcony. **Decision: there was unanimous support for the application.**

[0541/19/LBC] The Kings Arms. Listed building consent application for internal & external alterations to existing roof/windows/doors, formation of 2nd floor rear extension including rooftop balcony. **Decision: there was unanimous support for the application.**

To report back on Development Committee Meeting 10th April on [3400/18/FUL] Blindwells, Hynetown Road Strete. This was reported at 0419/5 and there was nothing to add.

**0419/7 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
NP Report for PC – April 2019**

The Neighbourhood Plan examiner, Mrs Deborah McCann BSc, DipArchCon, MRICS, MRTPI who lives in North Huish, South Brent, has all the NP documents and is currently reading through them.

Based on other NP groups experiences the examiner should respond to Strete NP with any questions, queries, etc.; approximately one month after receiving everything.

With Easter, May Day and Spring Bank Holiday taking us through to the end of May this may take longer.

The impact of the 'Blindwells' planning application for three properties being refused by SHDC Planning Committee should give a huge boost to those in the community supporting the NP.

This site is located in an area designated as 'Low Density' in the NP and the examiner will be informed of this decision.

As the NP is now with the Examiner it carries over 50% weight in planning decisions.

The decision to refuse this planning application should help strengthen the weight of the NP but it will still be dependent upon the community voting to accept it in a referendum.

Once the examiner has completed the necessary checks a date for the referendum can be agreed. One month before the agreed referendum date, advertising can begin with public notices, etc.

The examination and referendum period is likely to be another two months before it is complete.

The 'My Community' website advises that notification of any new grant funding for 2019/20 is delayed until 01/05/2019.

The NP report was received.

0419/8 UPDATE ON THE SLAPTON LINE, PLACING OF THE WAR MEMORIAL & PROVISION OF EXTRA PARKING ALONG THE SLAPTON LINE

KG noted that SHDC are planning to hand back the middle car park on the Line [Monument car park] to The Whitley Trust so there will be no council support here if the handover goes ahead. RC brought up the £44,380 award recently made from the Coastal Revival Fund to the Slapton Line Partnership [SLP] to relocate the Monument and renovate the tank memorial. He thought SHDC and DCC would manage the site. KG observed the latest SLP minutes had not been published so she could not confirm what the SLP meeting had agreed regarding the resiting of the Monument. She has contacted Alan Denbigh to get the minutes published. However, it is likely to be on a field next to the footpath up Sands Road. It is certain the Monument will not be moved until after the 75th anniversary of D Day on 6th June 2019. IC wondered where people would park as Slapton did not have much carparking available. RC wondered if it was worth approaching Slapton PC but KG thought Alan Denbigh was a better contact.

The Clerk then read from the Slapton PC website minutes [February 2019 to April 2019 inc] concerning the planning application for the Monument which RF had referred to in his report in February 2019. Strete PC needed

a plan for where the Monument should be moved to include carparking and access which might make Slapton PC more receptive to our proposals [RC]. KG replied that the SLP know of Strete PC's idea to move the Monument to the Strete Gate carpark site. Councillors wondered who was the best contact at the Field centre regarding Strete Gate and a couple of contacts were put forward: Andy Pratt [Head of Centre] and Lee Dennison.

KG then suggested a joint meeting of the parishes commemorated on the Monument: Blackawton, Chillington, East Allington, Sherford, Slapton, Stokenham, Strete and Torcross and outlying areas.

Resolved: The Clerk was asked to write out to these parishes with Strete PC's proposals on resiting the Monument. The Clerk to ask her contacts regarding the visit of the US representatives to the Tiger commemorations.

Conversation moved on to Strete Gate and the carpark and steps. LN wondered if contact had been made with Savills but KG said not yet. It was noted the agencies involved with the management of the site [Strete Estate, SHDC, DCC, Ley Centre and Natural England].

Resolved: KG to approach SHDC Helen Hardwicke to take up the replacement of the steps to the beach.

0419/9 ACCESS TO THE BEACH FROM THE PUBLIC TOILETS

The management of the site by SHDC had been taken over by Helen Hardwicke. Her line manager is Luke Rees.

Resolved that IC to make contact with Luke Rees at SHDC to discuss repair of the steps and Savills as agent for the landowner if necessary.

0419/10 VILLAGE PUMP

No action since the last meeting.

0419/11 UPDATE ON CONTRACTS

The Clerk reported on the WIFI in 0419/4.

Insurance. The Clerk noted that the renewal is due by 1st June 2019. The current insurer is BHIB but others would be looked at before making a decision.

0419/12 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

KG (Chair) Playpark. Reported on in 0419/5.

LN Transport and Roads. A number of minor issues such as buddleia in the road on the A379 but this was cut back. Also, ivy was growing on the bus shelter and may need to be stripped back. A parishioner had emailed Lisa Edmonds and cc'd LN on the deterioration of the Fuge/ Gara Mill Roads requesting any funds from the leftover Line works [£600,000] and the Community Enhancement Fund of £100,000. County councillor report in Minutes 21st February 2019 and earlier refer to these funds. Lisa Edmonds is the best contact for this.

IC had unblocked a few buddle holes. Another litter pick is planned down at Pilchards Cove and maybe the mule can be used to transport the litter back up the beach. **Resolved: LN to arrange another litter pick.**

DR Health and Safety. There was nothing to report.

IC Rights of Way, tree warden and Strete Gate. Rights of Way okay at Prideaux Lane and Landcombe. Tree warden. A notification of a Tree Preservation Order had been emailed to the Clerk for the trees at Blindwells. Councillors discussed this. **It was resolved [6 in favour] to support the confirmation as served. RC declared an interest and did not vote.**

Strete Gate: had already been discussed. There was doughnutting taking place at the middle carpark.

RC Planning and Neighbourhood Plan. Nothing more to add.

JV Village Green. Nothing more to add.

MH The VAS sign. This has already been discussed at 0419/4.

0419/13(a) FINANCE

The Clerk supplied the meeting with a list of cheques for payment

1642 – Kingsbridge websites for item put on website £10.00	1643 – Strete Parish Hall hire for March 2019 £30.00
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1644 – DALC membership for Strete Parish Council £113.78 plus VAT	1645 – DALC Elections training course for Clerk £33.49 plus VAT
1646 – Annual grant to St Michael’s Parish Church £200.00	1647 – Clerk salary April £244.25

It was proposed and AGREED by all present to authorise payments as enumerated above.

0419/13(b) FINANCE

A monitoring report for the first month of the new year [y/e 31st March 2020] had been circulated already along with a cashflow projection. The latest projection to the end of May is CR6,540.52. this includes the receipt of the first half precept of £6,000 for the year and the CTSG [Council Tax Support Grant] of £277.

The latest budget for 2019/20 and activity to date was also sent to councillors. RC wondered now the fencing works had taken place in the previous year whether we needed the £4,400 against the playpark. However, the funding of the fencing works in the previous year [which had been budgeted for in 2019/20 but paid in 2018/19] had been covered by a transfer of £4,000 from the Reserve Account which might be repaid from the £4,400 to make the Reserve account back to £14,273.23. Or else a smaller repayment could be made and the budget reduced to say £2,400. It was resolved to adjust the budget accordingly, make a smaller repayment to the Reserve Account and leave £2,400 in the budget for the Playpark. Budgets would be revisited in [say] three months.

Resolved the Clerk would make the adjustments as above and provide the monitoring statements for the website. KG was happy to visit NatWest Paignton with the Clerk again to arrange a temporary transfer of funds back to the Reserve Account to make it back to £12,273.

0419/13(c) FINANCE

Cash at bank – £9,961.05CR Current account at 12/04/19, £10,273.23CR Business Reserve account at 12/04/19.

0419/14 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence as listed was noted and a late addition received on 18th April from Dartmouth Town Council which is an invitation to the Chairman and Guest to attend the 75th D Day commemoration on 6th June 2019 in Dartmouth. Also, an email had been passed on by LN from a parishioner concerning the Fuge Road and funding available [discussed in 0419/12].

Resolved: The Clerk will reply to confirm attendance at the D Day commemoration.

0419/15 REPORTS

Councillors were asked if there was anything else to add. IC will look at 3 or 4 more buddle holes and commented on the poor state of some of them. RC has spoken to Phil Cruse re: installing dog bin and posts at Strete Gate. Phil has agreed to undertake the works. IC to contact Phil to discuss actual location requirements on site, etc.

0419/16 THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY 16 MAY 2019 IN STRETE PARISH HALL AT 5.45 PM. This will be the first meeting of the new council. The main Annual Parish Meeting is at 7pm on the same night.

THE MEETING WAS CLOSED at 9.05 p.m.

Signed: Cllr Kate Gill (Chair)

Dated: 16 MAY 2019

ACTION POINTS:

Clerk: to reply by letter to the chairman of the Parish Hall committee regarding the WIFI; to write out to parish groups and the police regarding the Parish AGM on 16th May; to chase Greenspace for invoices; to write to other parishes to request a joint parish meeting concerning the monument and its future location; to pursue contact with US personnel regarding the monument and where it is relocated ; to review and adjust 2019/20 budget for recent changes in expenditure and place on website.

KG: to request minutes of last Slapton Line Partnership from Alan Denbigh;

IC: to speak with Luke Rees at SHDC re the steps at Strete Gate; to approach Savills on this matter if needed; to clear three or four blocked buddle holes.

LN: to arrange another litter pick possibly at Pilchards Cove.

RC: to deal with the malfunction on the VAS sign and approach Westcotec concerning the warranty.