# Draft minutes of a meeting of Stretton-on-Fosse Parish Council held on 7 March 2023 at 7.30 p.m. in the village hall

**Present: Izzi Hazelwood [Chair; IH], Penny White [PW], Chris Longleather [CL], Richard Eedle [RE], Jon Holdback [JH], Sue Finlay [clerk]**

***M22.64. Apologies:*** Jo Barker.

***M22.65. Approval of minutes of last meeting:*** Approved.

***M22.66: Matters arising:***

1. *Update of village map:*  IH reported that Ron Taylor has redone the original village map, with some corrections and additions. She suggested that it be copied to A3 size and put in the top notice board, when the lock can be fixed. CL asked about walks maps. IH replied that David Passingham had done these and was having them copied and laminated
2. *Request from WHRA for a housing needs survey:* It was felt it would be a better idea to ask as a council about housing need. IH proposed putting an email around at some point [S, PW]. Approved.
3. *Coronation:*  IH has ordered coronation coins to be given to all children in the village aged 16 and under, the remainder to be offered for sale to the rest of the village. RE and JH are involved in organising the event. As it coincides with May Day they propose to amalgamate the two with the May Queen crowning and teas. CL suggested a cake decorating composition and offered for the SSI to arrange the teas.
4. *Gated road:* IH has sent photos to Highways to ask for the road to be repaired.
5. *Local history display:*  RE had enquired about purchasing a phone box to house an exhibition on the history of the village. As one would cost about £4000 it was felt this was too expensive and an alternative site should be found. CL said that interest had been expressed in taking on the history elements of the village currently with Donald Holdsworth and suggested a history evening. He suggested using the pictures as decoration in the village hall once it has been insulated.
6. *Climate change and Stretton Sustainability Initiative*: CL reported that things were very quiet at the moment, but there was a meeting on 8 March. The apple juice fund was paying for repairs to the churchyard.
7. *Ellen Badger Hospital:*  Re the building and facilities of the hospital: the Parish Council expressed disappointment at the confusion and lack of movement and the fact that Jo Barker had not attended the meeting or sent any information.
8. *Cost of living leaflet:* IH had handed out the leaflet [shown Appendix I]. There had been a couple of requests to the Stretton Charity who had the good idea that any correspondence to them could be posted into the letterbox at the village hall.
9. *Village Hall insulation:* IH reported that the committee were awaiting quotes at the moment for the work.

***M22.67. Planning applications***

*New*

23/00472/HRN, for Mr C. Knight, Buildings At Badgers Poor North And South Tredington Shipston On Stour, CV36 4PW. Removal of a section of hedgerow, 102metres in length, located to the west of an entrance track to farm buildings, Badgers Poor, North and South, Tredington, off the B4035 highway. O.S. grid reference SP 2275 3982. It was agreed that IH and RE would view the site. There was concern over such a long stretch of hedge being removed.

*On-going*

*Pitstop*: The owner is still Mr Guest as he only leased the Pitstop to Rowborough Filling Station with an option to buy, which they did not take up. The owner is now looking for a new tenant/purchaser

*Approved*

22/03375/TREE, Mr M. Whittaker, Holly Cottage, Stretton-on-Fosse, Moreton-in-Marsh, GL56 9SG. T1 - horse chestnut - Reduce crown from 11metres in height by 1-2.5metres and reshape.

22/02710/LBC, Mr S Hudson, Town Farm School Lane Stretton-On-Fosse Warwickshire GL56 9SB. Replace painted front and rear softwood doors with glazed oak.

***M22.68: Finance:***

1. *Approval of expenses since last meeting:* Approved.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Supplier** | **Item** | **Income** | **Outgoings** | **Balence** |
| 16/01/2023 | P. Robinson | Allotment rent | 25.00 |  | 10455.83 |
| 16/01/2023 | Anna Pike | Allotment rent | 25.00 |  | 10480.83 |
| 18/01/2023 | Whitakers | Allotment rent | 25.00 |  | 10505.83 |
| 19/01/2023 | Elson H | Allotment rent | 25.00 |  | 10530.83 |
| 21/01/2023 | Elson V | Allotment rent | 25.00 |  | 10555.83 |
| 26/01/2023 | Sue Finlay | Clerks salary & exp. |  | 205.69 | 10350.14 |
| 30/01/2023 | Becky | Allotment rent | 25.00 |  | 10375.14 |
| 03/02/2023 | Stretton VH | Hall hire 23/01 |  | 10.50 | 10364.64 |
| 03/02/2023 | Christine | Allotment rent | 25.00 |  | 10389.64 |
| 08/02/2023 | Insignia | Coronation coins |  | 387.60 | 10002.04 |
| 27/02/2023 | Sue Finlay | Clerks salary & exp. |  | 134.05 | 9867.99 |

1. *Interest account:* The clerk had found aLloyds instant access business savings account: Interest 0.60%; amount that can be deposited £1 – 5,000,000; A return on £1000 - £6.02; can be opened online within 1 month.

The PC thought that the Lloyds option would probably be easiest as we already had a Lloyds account and we had a relatively small amount that we could invest.

***M22.69. Council reports:*** None.

***M22.70. Any other urgent business***

1. *South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP) - Issues and Options Consultation:*  IH said this was a difficult read
2. *Parish Council Election 4th May*: The current councillors said they were all willing to stand again and no one else had so far come forward.

***M22.71. Date of next meeting:*** The next meeting was arranged for the 26th April at 7.30, in the hope that the clerk would have the accounts ready to present.

## Appendix I

**Stretton-on-Fosse Parish Council**

**WE ARE IN A COST-OF-LIVING CRISIS…**

**ARE YOU OR IS SOMEONE YOU KNOW**

**STRUGGLING TO COPE?**

**HERE ARE WAYS TO GET HELP NOW**

**NB all public website and email addresses, telephone numbers etc. are listed** **at the end**.

**In Stretton –**

**Food:** on Monday evening, about 9 – 10 pm, a lady called Fe turns up at the village hall with a van full of surplus food from M & S and Waitrose which is otherwise be thrown away. She works for the charity Fairshare. Fe can put you on her Facebook link (Fe’s Food on Messenger or phone her to arrange contact on 07977 447250).

**The Stretton Parish Charity:** HardshipPayments are available and winter fuel payments are made in December to anyone over 65, who has been a resident in the Parish for 3 years or more, and to households with at least one pre-school child. If you missed out receiving a payment in Dec 2022 let us know. Drop a note with your contact details into the post box at the village hall entrance, for either payment.

**The Parish Council:** we will try to point you in the right direction for help. We can provide internet access with our Parish Council computer at the village hall (and help to use it if needed). Contact any member of the Parish Council (list on bus stop noticeboard)

**The Soup Lunches:** currently every 2nd Wednesday, 12.30 onwards – come and have some lovely hot soup, stay for a chat and a hot drink. If you need transport to get to the hall or have any queries, contact Geri on 07968 338848. If you have no internet at home we can provide internet access in the meeting room with our Parish Council computer (and help with accessing information if needed) during the event.

**Transport:** A Pulhams bus, **Number 51**, passes through Stretton (bus stops at crossroads by village hall or the church). Its route is Stratford, Ilmington, Shipston, Stretton-on-Fosse, Todenham, Moreton. Timetable online or in bus stop. Until 23rd March 2023 the fare is only £2 (flat rate) or always free to pensioners (apply to Stratford District Council for a bus pass). **Shipston Link** on Tuesdays. To Moreton at 10.25, return from Moreton at 12.30. **Ubus:** Mon – Fri, to and from Stratford. If you cannot access public transport (no car, disability etc.)

**In Shipston -**

There is a **Foodbank in Shipston** at St Edmonds Church, Saturdays, 10.30 - 12. You can just turn up – no referral is necessary. If you need transport ask the Parish Council to help.

**In Stratford –**

**Citizens’ Advice Bureau (CAB)** – you need to phone first. Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm. Help on benefits, debt, housing, employment, family, health, consumer, education, tax, law, rights.

**Stratford District Council Offices** – Help with housing, council tax, will point you in right direction for other help. Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford CV37 6HX

**Help by internet or telephone –**

**Warwickshire County Council** – a really easy-to-use, clear website called: **costoflivingwarwickshire.co.uk** or telephone 0800 408 1449: lots of practical advice and help, with links to Stratford District Council help too.

**Warwickshire Rural Community Council (WRCC)** Have you got oil central heating? If so, do you know about the WRCC’s Energy Oil Buying Syndicate? This could save on the price of your oil. The office is open from 9am till 4pm, Monday to Friday).

**Act on Energy Warwickshire** Advice on energy-saving in the home.

**Are you receiving your £400 energy vouchers**? This should be automatically deducted from your electricity bill in six instalments of £66 or £67 from October 2022 till March 2023. If you have a pre-payment meter you should receive vouchers. If the electricity is paid for by your landlord they may be passing this on to you. Phone your energy supplier for advice.

If you’re in debt to your energy supplier, you might be able to [get a grant to help pay it off](https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/get-help-paying-your-bills/grants-and-benefits-to-help-you-pay-your-energy-bills/#h--a-name-grants_to_help_pay_energy_debts-a-grants-to-help-pay-off-your-energy-debts). From Stratford District Council you may be able to get other kinds of support, including:

* a £650 [Cost of Living Payment for households on means tested benefits](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cost-of-living-payment#low-income-benefits-and-tax-credits)
* a £300 [Pensioner Cost of Living Payment](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cost-of-living-payment#pensioner-cost-of-living-payment), to be paid alongside the [Winter Fuel Payment](https://www.gov.uk/winter-fuel-payment)
* a £150 [Disability Cost of Living Payment](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cost-of-living-payment#disability-cost-of-living-payment) for people who get certain disability benefits
* help from the Household Support Fund

**\*\*AND IF YOU ARE CONFUSED ABOUT WHERE TO TURN, WE ADVISE THE WARWICKSHIRE COST OF LIVING WEBSITE OR PHONE NUMBER!\*\***

**Important Website, Email Addresses and Telephone Numbers**

Stretton-on-Fosse Parish Council: [strettononfossepc@btinternet.com](mailto:strettononfossepc@btinternet.com), Parish Clerk – 01608 661157, Izzi Hazelwood (Chair) 01608 661816 (list of councillors on noticeboard at bus stop)

Shipston Food Bank: [sarah**\_**edmonds@btinternet.com](mailto:sarah_edmonds@btinternet.com) or phone Jo Barker 07748 968712

Citizens Advice Bureau: 0800 144 8848

Stratford District Council: [www.stratford.gov.uk](http://www.stratford.gov.uk), 01789 267575,

Warwickshire County Council: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk), 01926 410410

Warwickshire Cost of Living Advice: costoflivingwarwickshire.co.uk, 0800 408 1449

Warwickshire Rural Community Council: wrccrural.co.uk/services or 01789 842182

Act on Energy Warwickshire: actonenergy.org.uk, 0800 988 2881

Shipston Link: shipstonlink.co.uk, contact Izzi Hazelwood on 01608 661816 for phone no.

Ubus: Phone 01789 264491

**And while you are reading this**….

**Have you ever thought of volunteering to help the community?**

There are lots of possibilities and this is a great way to get to know others in the village:

grass-cutting for those who can’t, litter-picking, general maintenance, driving someone to hospital or doctor, helping with the village hall, joining the Parish Council, etc. etc. If you would like to help our Stretton community please contact: Izzi Hazelwood (01608 661816, 11 The Green, [ihazelwood@hotmail.com](mailto:ihazelwood@hotmail.com)) or talk to any other member of the Parish Council

February 2023