

STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL



Chair Matt Garner

Clerk Wayne Lewin

Minutes of Stratton Parish Council Full Council Meeting Tuesday 13th January 2026 starting at 7:00 pm in Stratton Village Hall

Present:

Cllrs Gill Slade, Ali Tong, and Rosie Barfoot
Cllr David Taylor (Dorset Council)
7 members of the public

FULL COUNCIL

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr's Matt Garner and Simon Joslin sent apologies.

2. Declarations of pecuniary and other interests

No declarations were made.

3. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th November 2025

These were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Parish Council matters arising

The Clerk confirmed that all tree works had been completed on the Village Green.

It was also noted that the overgrowth at the Playing Field have been removed and the tree works finished along with two additional Ash trees that were dead (at no extra cost).

Rolls Landscaping has accepted the grass cutting contract.

The finding of the owner of the land of which a second defibrillator had identified was becoming particularly difficult.

Members agreed that the next course of action was to sit down with HEART and identify an aligned direction of travel.

All grants had been paid.

5. Update from the Chair and correspondence

Due to issues at Lloyds Bank, the account had yet to be closed and transferred to Unity Trust Bank. A massive thank you was given to Dave Cartwright for the donation of the Christmas Tree and for organising a very successful Children's Christmas party.

Many thanks were given to Pamela Clark-Simpson for the purchase of the 2 female 'Tommy'.

The Parish Council also wished to thank the Summer Fete Committee for the donation of £175, which originally was to purchase the Tommy but instead would be used to buy a new sign for the Children's Play Park.

6. Parish Councillor updates

Cllr Slade was delighted to say that the sticker requesting 'no dog waste' in the bin next to the bus shelter had arrived. This would be placed in situation the next day.

It was agreed that this would be monitored over the next few months and reviewed at a future meeting.

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Cllr Tong was disappointed that some of bolts and caps had been found on the floor by the rope bridge equipment of the Play Park. The reasons for this were unclear and the installation company were coming back to repair this issue.

On a lighter note, Cllr Tong produced two options for the new Play Park sign. Members agreed the option 2, which it was felt was warmer and more welcoming.

To conclude, Councillors welcomed the works on the A37 and wished to pass this gratitude back to Dorset Council.

However, a few questions still reminded as outlined in minute 7 below.

7. To receive a report from the Dorset Council

Cllr Taylor read out an email from Neil Turner of Dorset Council.

Councillors still requested answers to the following:

Why the curbing did not extend around the junction

When would the high friction road surf be done (provisional answer was winter conditions were not suitable).

Would the PVMS be back for the winter.

Cllr Taylor was still looking for answers to the leaking railway bridge to stop the flooding.

Also, solutions were being looked into to create a runoff from the fields.

Speed reduction through the bridge were also being looked into and new pumps to replace the broken.

In addition, a crossing had been proposed to be installed across the A37.

To conclude, plans for the first phase of the North Charminster were imminent.

Members requested that Cllr Taylor ensured that Stratton Parish Council were made consultees when the plans do arrive.

8. Public participation period (items on the agenda)

It was asked if the Sycamore tree by Sawyer Close (next to the Highway) could be looked at. The Clerk would contact Dorset Council.

9. Planning

No new planning applications had been received.

10. Financial update

a. Payments for authorisation

There were **9** payments (**PV's 52-60**), totalling **£ 8121.48**, that were approved and authorised for payment.

b. Q3 budget report

The Clerk confirmed that the Q3 budget spend was **50.84%**. However, it was noted that the largest spend (grass cutting) was due in Q4.

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c. Bank reconciliation as of 31st December 2025

The bank account(s) totalled **£ 31009.10**.

11. Routine maintenance plan for green spaces

Members agreed not to commit to a formal plan, but for the next year deal with areas of growth or issue that occurs. Areas of note were the drainage ditch, hedges and tennis court.

12. Repairs and/or removal of noticeboard(s)

It was agreed that the Parish Council noticeboard on Dorchester Road was beyond reasonable repair.

Members agreed to remove this in due course.

13. Removal of assets from Asset Register

Members agreed to remove:

Dorchester Road Noticeboard	Beyond repair	£ 530.00
Lap Top	Broken	£ 640.00

14. Setting the Precept for 26/27

Members agreed to hold the Precept at **£ 13200.00**

15. Community discussion (not for resolution)

It was asked if anything could be done about rodent control as it was noted that seed was being left out for birds and attracting the said creatures.

It was suggested to contact Environmental Health at Dorset Council.

It was asked if the inconsiderate parking at the junction to the A37 could be addressed.

It was suggested that Dorset Police via 101 were contacted.

16. Items and date for next meeting

10th March 2026

Review of grants and donations policy.

There being no further business,

Meeting closed at 20:35

Matt Garner

Chair

Signature
