



Chair Matt Garner

Clerk Wayne Lewin

Minutes of Stratton Parish Council Full Council Meeting Thursday 17th July 2025 starting at 7:00 pm in Stratton Village Hall

Present:

Cllrs Matt Garner, Gill Slade, and Ali Tong
4 members of the public,

FULL COUNCIL

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr's Joslin and Barfoot sent apologies, along with Cllr David Taylor (Dorset Council)

2. Declarations of pecuniary and other interests

No declarations were made.

3. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th May 2025

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

4. Parish Council matters arising

There were no matters that were not on the agenda.

5. Update from the Chair and correspondence

The Chair wished to thank Jan Grocott and the team for all the work on the planters.
Also, thanks to Iain Dalton for conducting the internal audit.

The Chair was delighted to see the public at the Summer Fayre and that the Village Green being used for its intended purpose of Community Events.

The Chair was also pleased to announce that Dorset Council have an approved and funded scheme to enhance pedestrian safety on the A37. In brief the work comprises the installation of specially designed 'trief' kerbs along the A37 which are designed to stop vehicles mounting the pavement. Works are likely to start in October 2025 and will take around four weeks.

In addition, a ground penetrating radar survey showed 'voids' around the bridge which may be a cause of water seepage in this location. This would be filled with a specialised foam compound. A further update will be provided once received from Dorset Council – a commitment has been made to provide us with a firm date for the works by the end of July.

Members of the public wished to thank Cllr Gill Slade for her determination to ensure this matter remained current, and to Cllr Matt Garner for his perseverance and results from Dorset Council.

6. Parish Councillor updates

Cllr Slade noted that due to the lack of committee members, no decisions on Village Hall matters were made. See agenda item 12.

Cllr Tong mentioned that the noticeboard in the hedge was somewhat fragile.

It was agreed an inspection of all noticeboards should be conducted with a view to removal and / or replacement at the September meeting.



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7. To receive a report from the Dorset Council

The only point of note was that the housing allocation for the Dorset Council area has risen to 3200 homes per year for 5 years (up from 1800).

8. Public participation period (items on the agenda)

The Parish Council confirmed a commitment of £3000.00 to the electric supply for a new defibrillator.

It was reiterated that vehicles obstructing the highway was a (Police) 101 matter and that the Parish Council had no power in this.

9. Planning

There were no new applications to discuss.

10. Financial update

a. Payments for authorisation

There were **9** payments (**Payment Vouchers 13-21**), totalling **£ 1821.91**, that were approved and authorised for payment.

b. Q1 budget update

The Precept budget spend at the end of Q1 was **21.83%**

c. Bank reconciliation

Lloyds Account	£ 11672.25
Unity Trust Bank	£ 6687.92
United Bank	£ 43844.42
Less Outstanding Payment	NIL

Total Worth **£ 62204.59**

d. Closure of Lloyds bank account

Members agreed to close this account upon receipt of the second payment of Precept at the end of September.

To ensure the smooth running of the Parish Council, the following conditions were agreed:

Councillors could spend up to **£100**, after permission had been granted from the Chair, Vice Chair or the Clerk. Monies to be refunded by BACS on production of a receipt.

Members of the public could spend up to **£50**, after permission had been granted from the Chair, Vice Chair or the Clerk. Monies to be refunded by BACS on production of a receipt.

All payments would be declared at the next meeting.



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11. Transfer of funds from deposit account for new play equipment

It was agreed that the full cost of the new play equipment would be met from the reserves. Funds would be transferred on completion of work and on production of an invoice.

12. Purchase of a community wheelchair

Members agreed in principle to this subject to satisfactory access and storage questions.

13. Tree inspection costs for Village Green and Playing Field

It was agreed to ask Dorset Council to conduct both inspections.

14. Tree works on the Village Green and Playing Field

This would be discussed at a later meeting, subject to the finding at minute 13.

15. Installation of a BBQ in Village Green

Councillors stated that in principle this was an excellent idea but felt there were too many complicated issues to manage including those around maintenance and safety, therefore, agreed NOT to proceed with this project.

16. Village Green Play Park inspection report

The only major issue was that of the multi play unit which is due to be replaced in September.

17. Playing Field inspection report

The condition of the zip wire seat (too low) was raised.

Cllr Tong would ask the new play park installers to have a look when they are next on site.

18. New grass cutting contract and additional works

The current contract is due to expire in March 26.

Members were asked what they would like from the new contract, with the possibility of additional work such as hedge cutting, relief channels clearing etc, as well as grass cutting.

This would be looked at again in September.

19. Transfer to gov.uk email system

It was agreed to transfer to the new system at the earliest opportunity.

20. Internal audit report

The audit process is now complete.

One minor note was that the bank reconciliation should be made available to the public.

See minute 10c

21. New Parish Council logo

This was fully endorsed and would be used on all official correspondence.

22. Community discussion (not for resolution)

It was requested if the tennis court could be enhanced.

STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL



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23. Items and date for next meeting

Review of noticeboards

Grass cutting contract

Feasibility study on tennis court area

Tree works

09th September 2025

There being no further business,

Meeting closed at 20:23

Matt Garner

Chair

Signature
