



# STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair Matt Garner

Clerk Wayne Lewin

## Minutes of Stratton Parish Council Full Council Meeting Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2025 starting at 7:00 pm in Stratton Village Hall

### Present:

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

### FULL COUNCIL

#### 1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Simon Joslin, Cllr Rosir Barfoot and Cllr David Taylor (Dorset Council) sent apologies.

#### 2. Declarations of pecuniary and other interests

Cllr Tong declared an interest in agenda items 11 and 19 and was given dispensation to speak and vote.

Cllr Garner declared an interest in agenda item 9 and was given dispensation to speak and vote.

#### 3. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2025

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

#### 4. Parish Council matters arising

There were no matters arising that are not on the agenda.

#### 5. Update from the Chair and correspondence

The Chair confirmed that curb improvements on the A37 were likely to start on 11<sup>th</sup> November. Dorset Highways have also confirmed that a high friction surface treatment on the bend was also being planned, although timescales were as yet unknown. The resin injection treatment to the bridge abutments has been considered as not feasible at this time.

Dorset Council Highways still had the capacity to impose a temporary 30mph speed limit by the bridge.

He continued by confirming that a positive meeting had been had with Wrackelford Farms with a view to extending the allotment lease and making the progress much simpler.

Cllr Garner was delighted with the positive feedback with regards the new play park improvements.

Many thanks were given to the Defibrillator Group on the efforts to locate a suitable position for a second defibrillator in the village. Unfortunately, the preferred site was encountering some practical issues.

The Chair thanked everybody for the continued support as to the installation of an EV charging point, which was occurring at this time. Another excellent addition to the village.



# STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair Matt Garner

Clerk Wayne Lewin

## 6. Parish Councillor updates

Cllr Tong wished to publicly thank all the staff at the Saxon Arms for looking after the installation team who were working on the Play park and also the Village Hall for supplying utilities at such short notice.

On the Play Park, it was mentioned that new signage would be put up in due course.

She also stated that the noticeboard 'in the hedge' was in a poor state.

**It was agreed to review these at the November meeting.**

Mr Hutchings mentioned that the noticeboard at the Village Hall had been fixed.

## 7. To receive a report from the Dorset Council

There was no report from the Ward Councillor.

## 8. Public participation period (items on the agenda)

There were no matters at this point.

## 9. Planning

P/HOU/2025/05962

7A Furbers Paddock Stratton Dorset DT2 9TR

Erect single story rear extension

**The Parish Council supported this application.**

## 10. Financial update

### a. Payments for authorisation

There were **15** payments (**PV's 22-36**), totalling **£ 27751.62**, that were approved and authorised for payment.

### b. Budget update for 2025/26

It was confirmed that the overall budget spend for 25/26 was **32.50 %**.

There were no concerns on any expenditure line at this time.

### c. Bank reconciliation

It was confirmed that the overall balance as of **30<sup>th</sup> September 25** stood at **£ 34818.97**

Lloyds **£ 11663.75**

Unity Trust Bank **£ 4671.03**

Unity Bank **£ 43844.42**

Outstanding payments **£ 25360.23**

## 11. Tree works on the Village Green and Playing Field – financial year 2025/26

Members agreed to obtain quotes for all those items listed on the Dorset Council inspection report that needed urgent work within 3 months.

**It was agreed that a decision would be made out of council and ratified at the November meeting due to potential H&S concerns.**



# STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair Matt Garner

Clerk Wayne Lewin

## **12. Dorset Council Local Plan Consultation 2025**

It was noted that no development for Stratton was included in Dorset Local Plan consultation, so no response was required from the Parish Council.

All residents were encouraged to look and complete the consultation in an individual capacity.

## **13. Removal of bus shelter on A37 at Ash Hill from asset register**

Members agreed to remove from the asset register.

## **14. New bus shelter on A37 at Ash Hill**

Councillors decided that the new mono bus shelter as quoted by Externiture, was the most appropriate for the location.

It was also agreed that following representations from residents of Ash Hill we would request enhancements to the bus stop area to improve visibility & safety.

**The Clerk would inform Dorset Council of these decision & request improvements.**

## **15. Waste bin near to Manor Close bus shelter**

All were content that a 'no dog waste' sign could be placed on the bin.

**Cllr Slade would draft this polite reminder.**

## **16. Additional surfacing for play park**

Members agreed to proceed with this project at the quote provided.

**The Clerk would inform School Playground Specialists Ltd.**

## **17. Christmas Tree on the Green**

Members unanimously agreed to this request. Mr Cartwright would obtain the tree and be repaid accordingly.

Cllr Slade updated members on the children's Christmas party to be held in the Village Hall.

## **18. Chalk Stream communications**

Councillors agreed that resolutions and actions of the Parish Council would be of benefit to the community to be published on the Chalk Stream magazine.

**The Clerk would draft the first edition.**

## **19. Future Green Spaces work**

### **a. Grass Cutting**

For excellent continuity of service, it was agreed to ask Dorset Council for a further 5-year contract.

### **b. Tree Works**

It was agreed that once the works as agreed at agenda item 11 were completed, that a procurement process be undertaken to start the next phase of work.

### **c. Ditch Clearance**

It was agreed to ask Dorset Council for a quote for this year, and to incorporate this in a future package of works.

### **d. Hedges**



# STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair Matt Garner

Clerk Wayne Lewin

The hedges had been completed for this year, but members agreed for this to be included in a future package of works. It was suggested to seek advice as to ensure the hedges are future proofed and kept maintained and healthy.

**e. Miscellaneous Overgrowth Work**

It was agreed that over the years, many areas of the Parish had not been maintained adequately enough that resulting in dense under and overgrowth in these sections. Councillors decided that a one-time overhaul of the spaces was needed, with a view to annual maintenance after that. Particular attention should be given to the tennis court area, and the brambles / ivy on the bank of the playing field.

**The Clerk would proceed with a formal procurement process with a view to deciding on a contractor at the November meeting.**

**20. Community discussion (not for resolution)**

It was suggested that a list of people who were willing to do odd jobs could be held.

**It was agreed that this idea had merit and would be reviewed in due course.**

It was confirmed that the Parish Council would support the idea of public transport in Stratton, subject to any feasible scheme coming forward.

It was agreed that the Unknown Tommys would come out for Remembrance.

**Cllr Garner would speak to Mr Joslin.**

It had been noted of the increase in dog fouling and dog assaults in the village.

**The Clerk would post on FB with links on how to contact the dog warden.**

**21. Items and date for next meeting**

Review of Noticeboards

Review of second defibrillator

Tree work procurement

Overgrowth work procurement

S137 grant funding

Initial precept discussion

**17<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at **2030 hours**

Matt Garner

---

Chair of Stratton Parish Council

Dated

---