

Stretton Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 11 May 2026 at 6.45pm, in Stretton Village Hall.

In attendance: Councillors: M. Clarke, T Gray, R. Horton (chair), B. Hunter, and J Thompson.
Also in Attendance: Councillors A. Cooper (NEDDC); K. Gilliott (NEDDC) and D. Muizelaar (DCC).
Kath Gruber (Parish Clerk)
Apologies: Councillor J. Maxwell

FC/0526/01 Election of a Chair

Councillor Horton was proposed as Chairman of the Council. **Resolved:** That Councillor Horton be elected Chair of the Parish Council for 2026/27. Councillor Horton duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

AM/0525/02 Election of a Vice-Chair

Councillor Thompson was proposed as Vice-Chairman of the Council. **Resolved:** Councillor Thompson be elected Vice-Chair of the Parish Council for 2026/27. Councillor Thompson duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

FC/0526/03 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor J Maxwell (work commitments)

FC/0526/04 Variation to Order of Business

None

FC/0526/05 Exclusion of the Press and Public

None.

FC/0526/06 Declaration of Members Interests

None

FC/0526/07 Public Participation

DCC Councillor Darren Muizelaar.

- A freeze on councillor allowances has been approved, with intended funding diverted towards councillor community funding.
- New County Plan agreed with focus on SEND.
- Gave details on enhanced portfolio of Deputy Leader.

NEDDC Councillor Kevin Gilliott

- Local Plan feedback being considered with likely outcome that more information will be requested in relation to recreation.

FC/0526/08 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

The Council **Resolved:** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9 March 2026 were a correct record under the provisions for approval.

FC/0526/09 Standing Orders

Resolved: to adopt standing orders.

FC/0526/10 Financial Regulations

Resolved: to adopt financial regulations.

FC/0526/11 Council and Officer Subscriptions

The Council reviewed the list and **Resolved:** to accept all subscriptions carried into 2026/27

FC/0526/12**Assets and Insurance Cover**

The Council reviewed the Asset Register, noting the playground equipment would be added once complete. In addition, insurance cover was considered and it was **Resolved**: to request that the Council's insurer increase the insured value for the sheds to £60,000 or alternatively confirm and apply appropriate full rebuild cost cover.

FC/0526/13 Council Policies

The Council considered the policies and **Resolved** to adopt the following:

- Complaints Policy
- Risk Management Policy
- Press and Media Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Dignity at Work Policy
- Councillor Code of Conduct
- Privacy Notice (updated version)
- Freedom of Information – Council Publication Scheme

FC/0526/14 Annual Governance & Accountability Review 2025/2026

- a) Council's Systems of Internal Control – the Council noted the result of the Internal Audit held on 28/04/26 and considered the recommendations. It was **Resolved**:
- To improve Council transparency by recording the reconciled bank balance figure in the minutes when receiving the Bank Reconciliation
 - Formally recorded the quote in the minutes when acceptance decisions are made.
- b) Governance statement – the Council reviewed the systems of internal control and **Resolved**: sound controls in place and statement signed by the Chair and Clerk.
- c) Accounting statement – the Council **Resolved**: this had been completed in accordance with JPAG guidance and to be approved by the Chair.
- d) Exercise of Public Rights – the Council **Resolved**: to confirm the dates for the period for the exercise of public rights as 3 June 2026 to 14 July 2026.

FC/0526/15 Village Matters

- 1 Speed Indicator Devices (SID) – Councillor Gray confirmed that the equipment had now been received and that installation would be arranged shortly.
- 2 a) St Mark's Church Defibrillator – the Council **Resolved**: to accept location proposed by Councillor Hunter subject to Church approval and arrange for installation.
b) Handley Defibrillator - the Council **Resolved**: to arrange for installation using electricity from the farm.
3. Jubilee Playing Field:
 - a) Play Equipment - Councillor Hunter gave an update on progress being made and advised that additional space, for safety, was required to position swing securely. It was **Resolved**: to accept DCM Surfacing quote of £2000 for 36.6m² additional flooring.
 - b) Project Income & Expenditure – Project funding confirmed as £60,150 with expenditure expected to be £60,000.
4. Cemetery Update:
 - Lodge Maintenance - The Council discussed the shower repairs and **Resolved**: to undertake further enquiries to satisfy itself that there are no conflicts of interest or governance concerns in relation to the arrangements for the works.
 - Cemetery Records – it was noted that access to the records of burials in the old part of the Cemetery was needed and Council **Resolved**: to check what is held at DCC records office.
 - Drainage– the Council **Resolved**: to contact Ashfield Effluent to establish what the survey had revealed and what works were required.
 - Tenant Lease - The Council discussed the existing tenancy arrangements and **Resolved**: to obtain quotations from suitably qualified solicitors to prepare an updated tenancy agreement reflecting the changes introduced under the May 2026 renters' rights legislation.

5. Woolley Moor Show – The Council considered its donations to the Woolley Moor Show and **Resolved:** to donate £250 towards the show and £100 for prize money
6. Temperance Hill Land – The Council discussed the land at Temperance Hill owned by Northeast Derbyshire District Council and **Resolved:** to explore the possibility of securing a lease of the land to support its ongoing protection from future development proposals.
7. Lamppost Testing – The Council noted the issues with the structural report and the implications for the Council's hanging basket/floral display licence application, it was **Resolved:** to raise formal concerns regarding the inconsistency of the approach being applied; authorise Clerk to seek quotations for any additional structural testing or engineering assessments required; and defers payment of the current testing invoice pending further clarification and discussions with the contractor.
8. Complaints/Requests - The Council considered the complaint regarding an alleged sewage smell from the Pavilion septic tank and **Resolved:** to note that investigations found the tank to be full of water with no obvious sewage odor detected

FC/0526/16 Planning

The council considered planning application 6/00158/FL circulated on 8/4/2026 and **Resolved:** to make an objection based on limited space.

FC/0526/17 Finance

- a) Accounts for payments – the Council reviewed and approved the payments as at schedule 1.
- b) Income –noted
- c) Bank Reconciliation– The Council received and noted the Bank Reconciliation as of 30 April 2026 showing reconciled cashbook and bank balances of £104,188.72.
- d) Budget Summary – noted.
- e) Scheme of Delegation – the Council consider the delegation arrangements for 2026/27 and **Resolved:** to put the arrangements, as in Schedule 2, in place for 2026/27

FC/0526/18 Correspondence & Consultations

- a) Dalc circulars March, April & May 2026 - noted.
- b) General correspondence - noted.
- c) Resident correspondence – noted.

FC/0526/19 Report of the Clerk

The Council noted the action plan which had been circulated with meeting papers and agreed to:

- a) Delegate response to further enquiries from NEDDC on the Local Plan to Chair & Clerk
- b) Delegate approval of additional structural testing of lampposts to Chair & Clerk.

FC/0526/20 Next Council meetings

- a) Council Meeting in 2026/27 – the Council **Resolved:** to accept dates of meetings in 2026/27 as in Schedule 3.
- b) Next Meeting - **Resolved:** the next meeting of the Parish Council to be on Monday 13 July 2026 at 7pm in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

Schedule 1 PAYMENTS

Description	Supplier	Net		Gross
Utilities	British Gas	17.87	0.89	18.76
Staff Costs	Employee	336.10		336.10
Cemetery Grounds Maintenance	Ash Wood UK	342.00		342.00
new playground costs	Net World Sports	767.50	153.50	921.00
new playground costs	Ash Wood UK	514.95	102.99	617.94
new playground costs	Ash Wood UK	150.00		150.00
BG HomeCare	British Gas HomeCare	59.53		59.53
PAYE	HMRC	664.76		664.76
Planning Fees	Derbyshire County Council	110.00		110.00
Utilities	British Gas	19.70	0.99	20.69
Bank Charges	Unity Trust Bank	6.00		6.00
Mileage	Employee	7.30		7.30
Subscription Costs	Adobe	33.28		33.28
Postage	Royal Mail	1.66		1.66
Dog Bins	NEDDC	212.38	42.48	254.86
HP Printer Cartridge	HP Ink Services	21.65		21.65
Staff Costs	Employee	335.70		335.70
BG HomeCare	British Gas HomeCare	59.53		59.53
Utilities	British Gas	24.77	1.24	26.01
Bank Charges	Unity Trust Bank	6.00		6.00
Total		3,690.68	302.09	3,992.77