

(Draft)
**MINUTES OF THE STRATTON STRAWLESS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD ON 14TH MARCH 2016 AT BURROUGHES HALL, PARISH ROAD**

Present: Cllr P Walker (Chairman of the Parish Council)
Cllr C Chamberlin
Cllr T Dann
Cllr A Johns
Cllr G Chamberlin
Cllr D Johns
Cllr L Drake
V Powell (Clerk to the Parish Council)

In attendance: District Cllr P Carrick
Kay Oglieve-Chan (BDC Housing Enabler)
John Whitelock (Saffron Housing)

Parishioners: 1

1. APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

2. MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held 9th March 2015 were agreed by all and signed by the Chairman.

3. ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

A fair amount of Parish time is taken up by what may be regarded as trivial items, litter, puddles on the road or the speeding of traffic, but these are not regarded as such by the Parish Council. This year, as many times before these were items that came before Council and were given as much attention as we give to bigger issues. Residents with a local problem are asked to contact one of their Councillors who will help if they can.

Sally Revell and John Sayer did not stand for re-election in 2015, resulting in the Council being three members short. After some hard work the Council was delighted to recruit Dianne Johns, Gill Chamberlin and Levi Drake to fill all three places. Thanks and appreciation was given to Sally and John for their work for the parish. The Chairman thanked all members of the Parish Council who give their time and turn out on sometimes dark and cold evenings to attend meetings. They all do a good job.

The deposition of £30,870 Section 106 money (money resulting from previous developments) was the most noteworthy business of the year. The possibility of a scheme utilising land at the rear of Burroughes Hall was considered by Councillors, but this land was unavailable. During the year two schemes were put forward, one to provide a children's play area in front of the village hall (which is now complete) and the other, provision of a bowls and activity centre on land between A140 and Easton's Coaches which is progressing.

A representative of Holly Springs (Mansom Plantation) gave a presentation to the Parish Council concerning a possible scheme on the land. The council felt that not enough information was provided to allow the council to form a view on the proposal. It was asked that the speaker return with a more developed plan, which would be put before a public meeting.

More recently the problems of Broadband speeds in Stratton Strawless, particularly along Shorthorn Road were brought before council. Cllr Gill Chamberlin has taken the issue on board and has been consulting with County Councillor, Dan Roper with regard to the issue. This is very much an ongoing problem.

At the end of the year Karen Medler, the councils' experienced Clerk handed in her notice to give her time to another organisation. The Council was fortunate in finding Vicky Powell to take on the role. The Chairman wished to thank Karen for all the work she did so efficiently and wish her every success in her new position.

The Chairman also thanked District Councillor Paul Carrick, County Councillor Dan Roper, for their help and support and PC Greig Shepherd for his regular attendance. .

4. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION FROM PARISHIONERS

The Parish Council was thanked for their continued support of the Village Hall Committee. It was noted that the children's play area was now complete, a grand opening and mini fete was scheduled for the warmer months. The Parish Council thanked the Village Hall committee for all their good work.

The meeting closed at 19:40