



# STRETEWISE

The Village Magazine

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<https://www.stretewise.co.uk>

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# Directory

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|--|------------|
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|                 |               |                    |               |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|
| NHS Direct      | 0845 4647     |                    |               |
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## AN OPEN LETTER TO THE GOOD PEOPLE OF STRETE

I am writing to you with my good wishes and my prayers for your health, safety and the life of this village.

As vicar, I also write on behalf of the Parochial Church Council of St Michael's.

This is not the happiest of ways to approach Spring but it is imperative that I alert you to the dire position in which we find ourselves. A little background ...

When I arrived to take up the post of vicar in 2010 I was struck by the warmth and welcome I received in Strete and that has continued - thank you. I have got to know more people in the community and have enjoyed meeting many of you at social events, and of course, walking the dog.

We have had many happy occasions at St Michael's - beautiful weddings and enchanting christenings and sadly, we have said our goodbyes to dear people too. All of these, together with carol services, Mothering Sunday, Easter, Remembrance and so much more, are part of the rich pattern of worship that shapes our lives. Worship that continues day by day, week by week in our precious church. Talking to local people, holiday visitors, guests at weddings, christenings and mourners at funerals everyone expresses appreciation for the church and its people and their loving care of it and they always comment on the warm welcome they receive and the peace and tranquillity of this sacred space.

BUT it has become more and more of a struggle to carry on.

The Parochial Church Council now has only five people, three of whom are over eighty. Those five people, together with me as Vicar, have all the responsibilities of maintaining the building, organising services, running the finances and all the administration of church and churchyard, necessary for its safe and legal running.

This has all become very difficult and while we are very grateful that one person has come forward recently to join us in the five, more support from the village is needed.

I would like to make it clear that this is NOT an appeal for money. Of course, every organisation has to be financed, but what I am saying in this letter is that without PEOPLE involved in the church, it's just a building.

CH CH what is missing ?

And a building without people to love it, to care for it, to pray in it, to appreciate what it is to the village, to really want it in their village - well, it might just as well not be there....

At the Annual Parish Meeting in 2018 I was invited to speak on behalf of the church, and I said something similar. I asked for your thoughts and comments, but received none. Please, if you want to see your parish church open and available for christenings, weddings, funerals, times for quiet reflection into the future, action needs to be taken now. If this is not of concern or interest to you, as residents of this beautiful village, then steps may need to be taken towards closing St Michael's Church. I would really like to know the feelings of my parishioners, the residents of Strete, so please write to me at The Rectory, Stoke Fleming TQ6 0QB or email:

[alishaw2001@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alishaw2001@yahoo.co.uk)

With my prayers and good wishes

**Alison**

## From the Rectory

I have always loved daffodils. They have always seemed to me to be a very cheery sort of flower, proud and confident with their bright yellows, contrasting with the deep green of their leaves and stalks. They also remind me of my mother, as she used to plant them in her garden, along with delicately beautiful lily-of-the-valley (as a remembrance of carrying them in her bridal bouquet in 1951).



The daffodil is strongly associated with Wales and their patron saint David, but above all I think the daffodil's bright colour brings a sense of warmth and



expectancy after the cold dreariness of winter. They bring a splash of colour amid the grey dullness of January and February. They announce loudly that spring is near, that the days are getting longer and the warmth will return again. There are better things to come, just wait!

This made me think of the message of hope that the Bible brings. Jesus's message was one of love and compassion to all people. He often spoke of the Kingdom of Heaven, a place where all are loved and all are at peace. Jesus knew that the world was not always a place of love and compassion.

He knew that many people were more interested in wealth, self-interest and were uncaring for others. During his own life Jesus went out of his way to talk to those who thought that they did not deserve God's love, or who had been cast out by the local community. He spoke with lepers, tax collectors and prostitutes, he healed and told them that they too could receive God's love. The Kingdom of Heaven is a place where all feel and experience the love of God and Jesus wanted all people to experience what heaven was like here on earth.

After his death and resurrection, Jesus entrusted his disciples to continue his work, to speak with those on the outside of the community and to show them that they are loved by God.

Like the daffodils that herald the coming of better times ahead, Jesus wanted the Church to be heralds of the Kingdom of God too. The Church does that by showing compassion and love to all, and by proclaiming the Good News of Jesus.

The question for all of us is how do we play our part in this?

How can we act like heralds of better things to come? Do we lift our heads high like the daffodils? That is what we should strive to be and do, so I pray that we may all find what someone has called 'our inner daffodil', proclaiming God's love for all and showing people the good things that are to come.

Love and peace **Reverend Alison**

# St. Michael's Church

Totnes Road Strete Dartmouth. **The Vicar is Revd. Alison Shaw.**

*The PCC consists of:* Church Wardens: Sally Green 01803 712 438 Brenda Range  
Andrea Phillips (Treasurer) Sally Green (Acting Secretary)  
PCC members- Sheila Kingsley Smith and Joan Kendall.



## Services are being held over the Easter Period

**4<sup>th</sup> April EASTER DAY Holy Communion by Extension with Peter Barker**

**11<sup>th</sup> April Holy Communion with our Vicar Revd. Alison Shaw**

**18<sup>th</sup> April Morning Worship – Jenny Harris**

**25<sup>th</sup> April Morning Worship – Peter Barker**

We have started holding services once again in our Church. The first one was on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March which was taken by our Vicar Revd. Alison Shaw. This was Mothering Sunday and lovely posies of flowers were blessed and then distributed with all the residents in Hynetown Residential Home receiving one.

Although services haven't been able to be held the Church has lovingly been looked after by a small number of dedicated people with cleaning, outside floral tubs etc.



1925 St Michael's church and school

78263 Strete Church and School.



## Strete Chapel



Greetings from the fellowship to all in the village!

Hooray! With lockdown measures beginning to ease and the with the progress of the vaccination program we are back meeting in person every Sunday. We are still running a booking system to plan seating and enable everyone who wishes to attend to have the opportunity to do so. If you would like to attend then please email us at [stretchapel@gmail.com](mailto:stretchapel@gmail.com). Please keep an eye on the noticeboard for up-to-date information.

Having experienced so much over this past year many have paused to think about what really matters to them, and with restrictions in place we have been challenged by our circumstance to consider what it is we need rather than just want.

### Our Greatest Need

**If our greatest need had been information, God would have sent us an educator.**

**If our greatest need had been technology, God would have sent us a scientist.**

**If our greatest need had been money, God would have sent us an economist.**

**If our greatest need had been pleasure, God would have sent us an entertainer.**

**But our greatest need was forgiveness, so God sent us a Saviour.**

**By Roy Lessin**

As we approach Easter, we can take time to remember the greatest act of love ever accomplished through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This year please take time to consider the true meaning of Easter.

### ★ Young Searchers Challenge ★

Young Searchers is a Christian children's club based on teaching the Bible through stories, games and craft. We thought we would set a challenge in Stretewise until we can meet together again. All children in the village are invited to take part. Please ask your parent/carer to send in the answers by email to [stretchapel@gmail.com](mailto:stretchapel@gmail.com).

**Well done to those who got the answers right to the last set of questions!**

Q. Who was the first person Jesus appeared to after he rose from the dead?

Q. Which springtime animal is often used as a description of Jesus?

Dear Lord, we give thanks that You sent Your Son, the Light of the World, to save us. That from the darkness of the tomb He rose, the true Son. Lord help us to keep our eyes centred on You. And let us remember that 'The Light shines in darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it' (John 1:5). Amen

# Stretewise Crossword

Solution on page 68

**Across:** 1: People or characters in video games.

3: Nut of the oak.

7: Hat tied under the chin.

9: A weasel with white fur.

10: Known as the "lost crop of the Incas,"

11: Someone who looks after the horses of people staying at an inn.

13: A deceptive outward appearance.

15: Without skill or aptitude for a particular task.

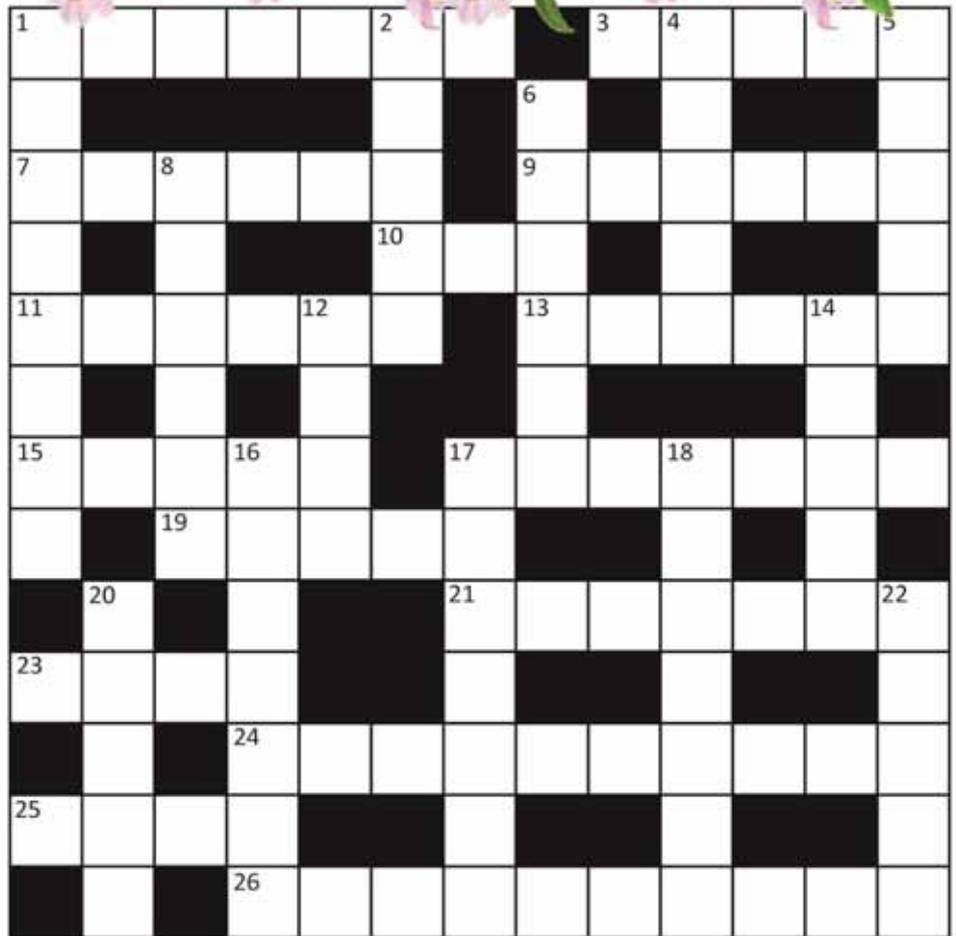
17: Put into practice.

19: Catch your breath

with an open mouth. 21: Able to achieve efficiently. 23: A long poem from ancient oral tradition. 24: Combine or unite. 25: One the Allium family.

26: Craft of decorating fabric.

**Down:** 1: Food or drink of the Greek gods. 2: Part of an alternator or electric motor. 4: A magazine that contains stories told in pictures. 5: A relative. 6: Cause someone to lose the power of hearing 8: A ground spice. 12: Light food or snacks. 14: Live in or at a specified place. 16: Batter fried on both sides in a pan. 17: Snake mackerel. 18: Completely fill a place or container to the point of overflowing. 20: A person who watches. 22: Used in powdered form as an abrasive.



## From the Holyhead Film Festival: Welsh film titles.

- ❖ The Full Ponty
- ❖ Dai Hard
- ❖ Independence Dai
- ❖ Cool Hand Look You
- ❖ Look back In Bangor
- ❖ A Fishguard Called Rhondda
- ❖ The Eagle Has Llandudno
- ❖ The Magnificent Severn
- ❖ Porthcawl Of The Wild
- ❖ Saturday Night Ifor
- ❖ 20,000 Leeks Under The Sea
- ❖ The Magnificent Evans



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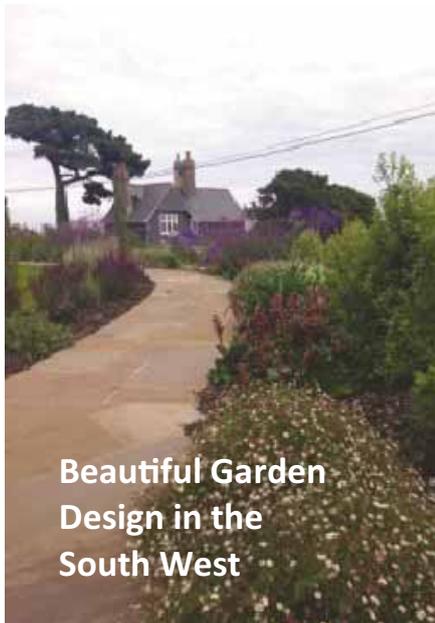
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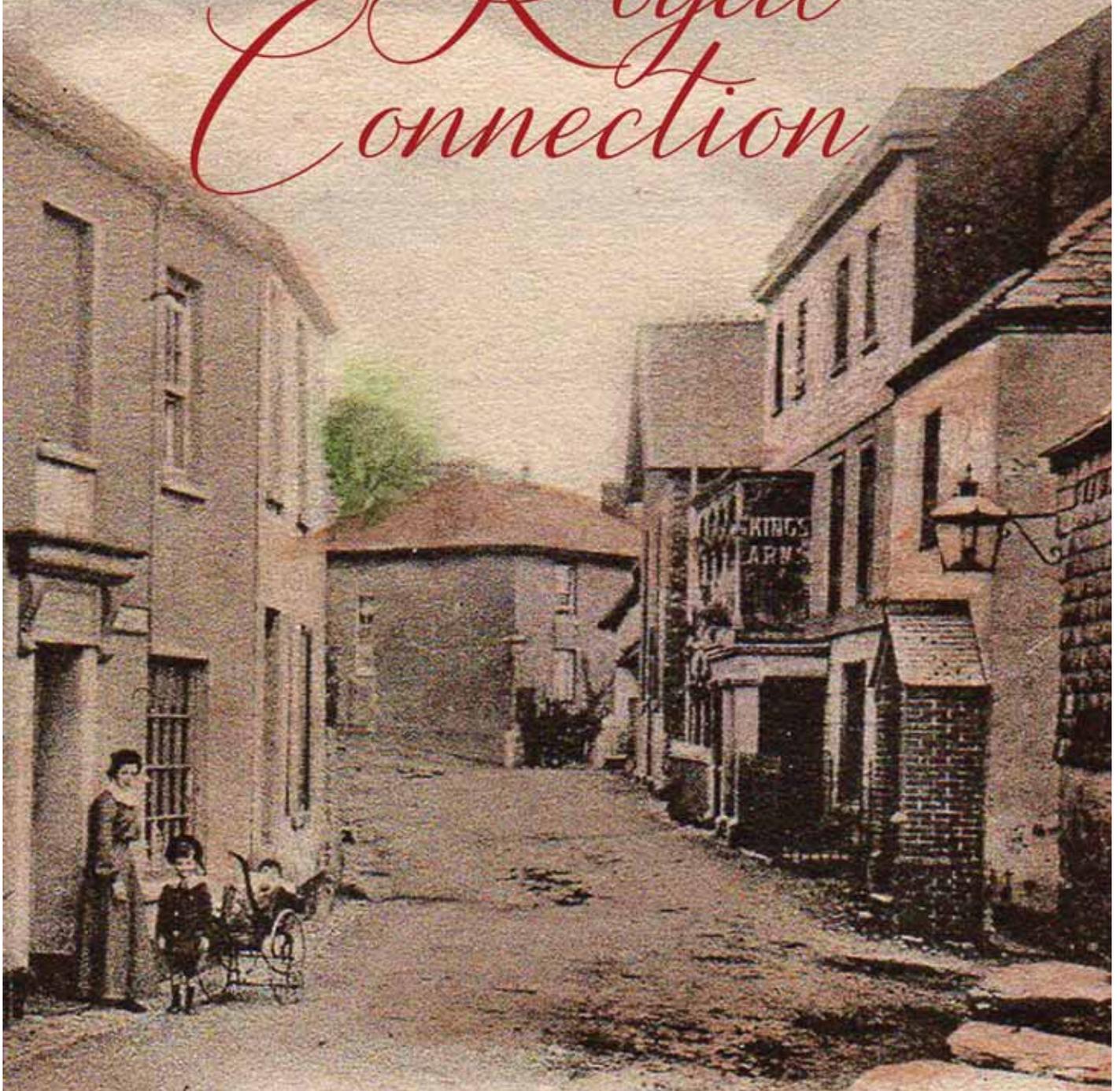
01803 770787

m 07989 564082

julie\_elliott@hotmail.com

Extracts from  
**Strete Past and Present**  
by Marion F. Smithies  
Dartmouth: R. Cranford & Son [1933]

*The Royal  
Connection*





played the violin and other instruments in the gallery of the church nearly 100 years ago.

The Wesleyan Chapel comes next to the garage, and then there is the entrance to the courtyard of the King's Arms, always well kept by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Perrin, and now by their son Mr. Rowland Perrin and his wife. The late Mrs. Perrin was always pleased to show the Prince of Wales' signature in her visitor's book, for he took tea sometimes at the King's Arms when he was a cadet at the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth.

Mr. and Mrs. I. Lanthorn now keep the shop and bakery

From Frogwell we mount up the steep old road to the Vicarage, well sheltered by its tall trees, and with a pleasant view down the combe by Shiphill rocks. Rounding the bend we see Mr. Bullen's neat white cottage, and on the left, a quaint little house which may once have been the turnpike. Here Mr. and Mrs. Rendle live, close to the large barns of "Strete Barton" which is farmed by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Trant and their sons. The R.N. College Beagles meet here during the winter, and on one historic occasion in the year 1932, Ex-King Alfonso of Spain came up with his son who was then a Cadet at Dartmouth. After having some refreshment in Mr. and Mrs. Trant's dining-room Don Alfonso took off his overcoat and followed the hunt on foot.

Mr. Henry Trant and his wife, the father and mother of the present farmer, were much liked and respected. After he retired from active work he became a School Manager and



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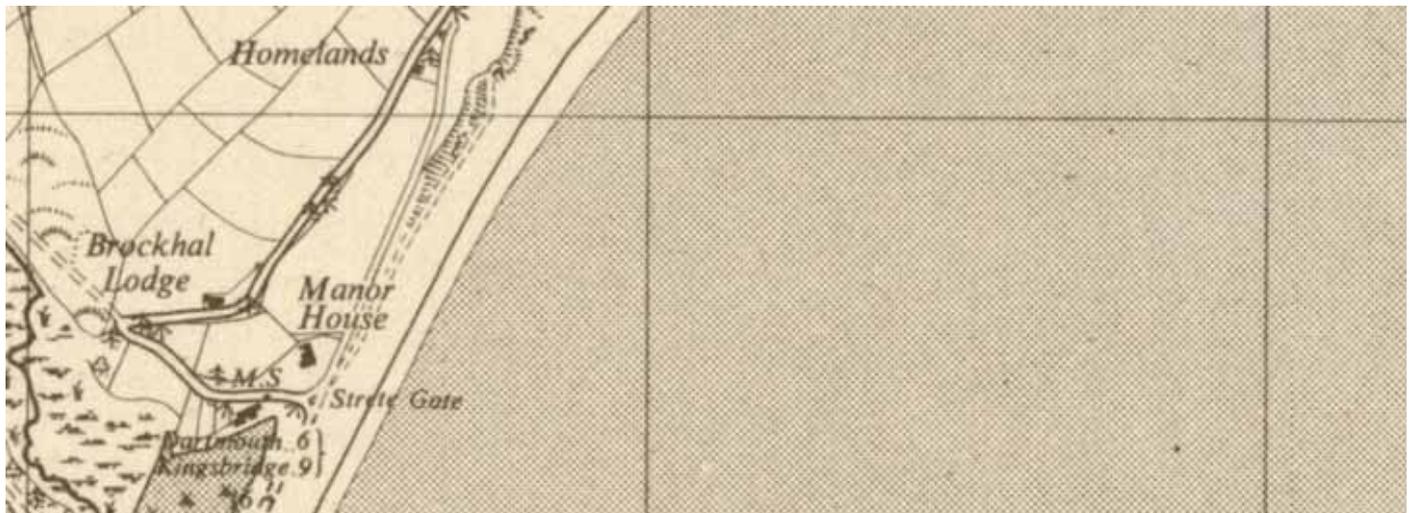
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Resort

FRONT OF HOTEL

The Hotel is beautifully situated on the famous SLAPTON SANDS, being well known as STRETE MANOR. Standing in its own grounds of about seven acres on the sea-shore, facing due south. It has a really remarkable climate, proof of which may be seen in the numerous sub-tropical plants which grow in profusion



The Manor House was built by Henry Limbrey Toll in the 1870's, then lord of the manor, at Strete Gate (now the picnic site). This elegant country home with stables and coach houses built nearby was popular with the family who supported village events and causes.

In the years between the Wars tourism was becoming fashionable with rail and road transport networks making the beautiful South Hams more accessible. It was during this expansion in tourism that Strete Manor became a thriving hotel and in fact was known as the South West's most beautiful hotel.

A brochure for the hotel pre-Second World War describes the hotel amenities:-

“The hotel stands in its own grounds of 7 acres amidst beautiful pine woods, on the sea shore facing due south it has wonderful sea and cliff views. Bathing is direct from the Hotel while Tennis can be played on a sheltered grass court in the grounds. Stables and Riding are also available and 3 golf courses are within easy reach. Sea fishing is excellent and freshwater fish in the Slapton Ley”

These are a few amenities advertised: -

“The Hotel is comfortable, H&C water, electric fires and reading lamps in bedrooms, ample bath accommodation and always hot water! There are luxurious lounges, sun lounge and beautifully situated Dining Room and a long-sheltered colonnade. The Hotel has its own fruit and garden produce and wonderful climate, together with its unique situation and excellent Devon cuisine making it the ideal hotel for rest or holiday being likened by many to the Mediterranean and Madeira”.



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Particular attention has been paid to the construction and seating to allow every one to enjoy the glorious view depicted on the opposite page, which, with the abundance of vegetables and fruit from our own extensive gardens and perfect Devon cuisine makes every meal a pleasure

---

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---



## Luxurious Contentment

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### **Value of £10 from 1932 to 2020**

£10 in 1932 is equivalent in purchasing power to about £702.62 today, an increase of £692.62 over 88 years. The pound had an average inflation rate of 4.95% per year between 1932 and today, producing a cumulative price increase of 6,926.19%. This means that today's prices are 70.26 times higher than average prices since 1932, according to the Office for National Statistics composite price index. A pound today only buys 1.42% of what it could buy back then.

The 1932 inflation rate was -2.41%. The current year-over-year inflation rate (2019 to 2020) is now 1.50%. If this number holds, £10 today will be equivalent in buying power to £10.15 next year.

### **Agricultural Wages**

Wages varied from industry to industry and job to job in Britain, as anywhere else, but some jobs had legally established minimum wages. For example, the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act 1924 established a base rate of pay for agricultural workers. In early 1930 this was £1 11s (shillings) 8d (pence) for a week of just over 50 hours, or roughly a shilling an hour. This rate declined slightly in the early 1930s, falling as low as £1 10s 8d in 1933-4, but had increased again by the end of the decade, standing at £1 19s 5 1/2 d by October 1939.

### **Industrial wage rates**

Wages in the industrial sector followed the same general pattern as the agricultural sector. In 1930 the average wage for a timework labourer in the engineering field was just under a shilling per hour; it dipped in 1933-4, then climbed again to around 1s 2d by 1938. In some cases, wage cuts were more severe.

### **In 1932:**

The October 1932 Olympia Motor Show introductory prices for the **Morris Ten** Chassis £127.10.0. Coach-built saloon with sliding head £169.10.0. A terraced houses in the London area could be bought for £395. The 1931–32 FA Cup Newcastle United won the competition for the third time, beating Arsenal 2–1.  
24 January – inmates at Dartmoor Prison mutiny.

1 March – Import Duties Act re-establishes protective trade tariffs.

1 August – Forrest Mars produces the first Mars bar in his Slough factory.

22 August – first experimental television broadcast by the BBC.

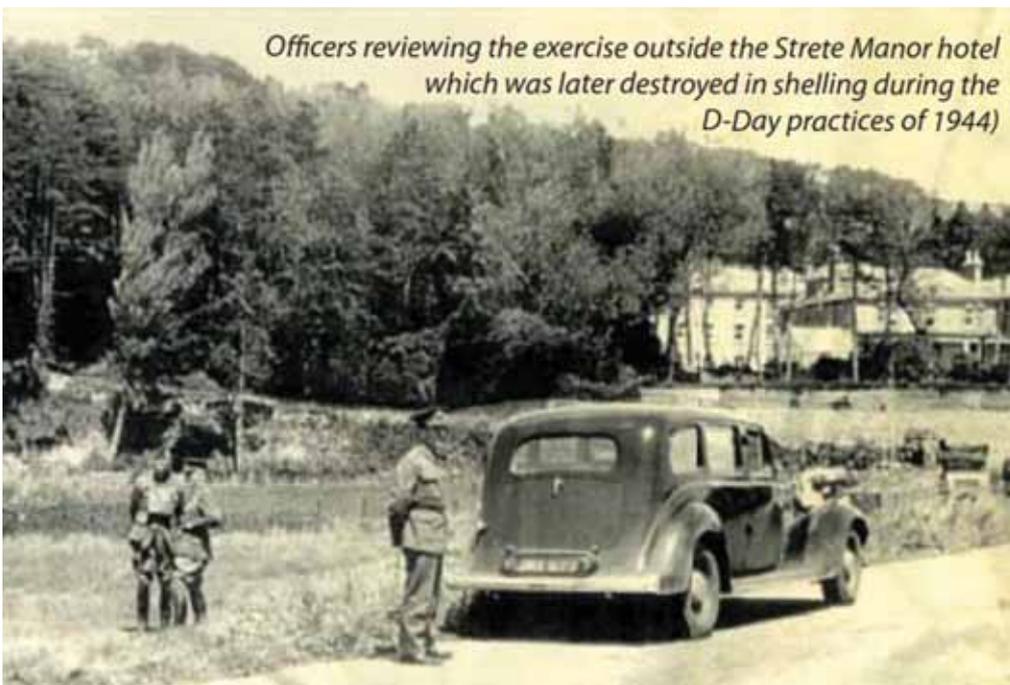
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## Situation and Amusements

AERIAL VIEW



The Manor House Hotel closed in 1939. As war broke out tourism ceased and the idyllic location became less attractive as the beach was being readied to fend off the anticipated German invasion. In 1943-4 The Manor House Hotel found itself on the front line with the American forces rehearsing with concentrated naval shelling



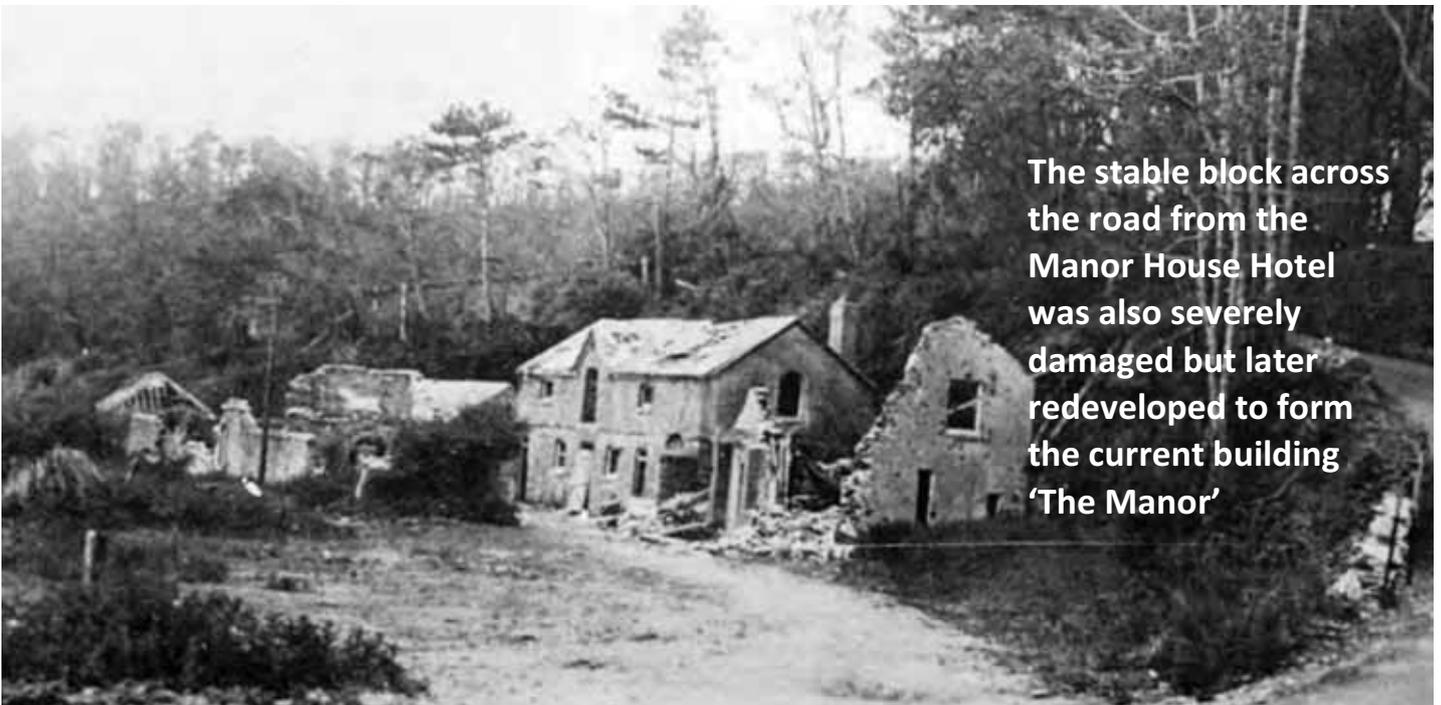
*Officers reviewing the exercise outside the Stretre Manor hotel which was later destroyed in shelling during the D-Day practices of 1944)*

and the use of live ammunition.

The Manor House Hotel as did it's neighbour the Royal Sands Hotel, half way along the line, took the brunt of the devastating impact of the shelling with both hotels damaged beyond repair.



**Remains of the  
Manor House Hotel**



**The stable block across  
the road from the  
Manor House Hotel  
was also severely  
damaged but later  
redeveloped to form  
the current building  
'The Manor'**



**The shell of the  
Manor House Hotel  
from the road above.**



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# Creative Corner



## Oil and Food Colouring

Cooking oil

Food colouring

Eye dropper

Small bowl

Fork

Shallow baking dish

Apron

Paper

Pour half a tablespoon of cooking oil into a small bowl. Add a teaspoon of food colouring and beat with a fork until it is well blended. Repeat with several colours.

Fill a shallow rectangular baking pan with just water to cover the bottom.

Suck up some of the colour mixture into the eye dropper and place drops onto the water. Use a toothpick and stir to create patterns and swirls.

Place the paper gently on top of the water. Let it sit for a about 30 seconds. Remove the paper and set aside to dry.

## Shaving Foam

Shaving foam (*must be foam not cream*)

Liquid watercolour paint, or watered down food colouring

Eye droppers

Shallow baking dish

Stir stick

Scraper, (a square piece of cardboard)

Paper

Cover the bottom of your baking dish with a layer of shaving foam.

Drop colours into the foam and drag your stir stick through to create a pattern.

Gently press your sheet of paper or card stock into the foam.

Lift the paper/card out and scrape off the shaving foam with your scraper. Set the sheet aside to dry.

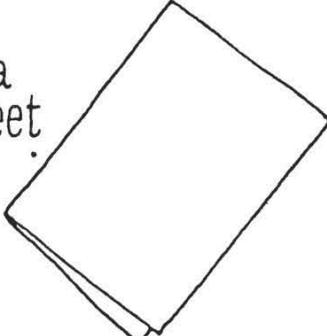


# PRINTER'S HAT

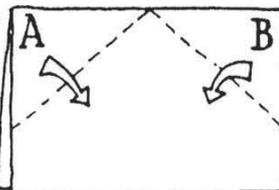
by courtesy of  
**Eyre & Spottiswoode Ltd**  
**Her Majesty's Printers**



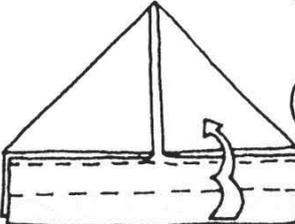
① Take a folded sheet from the newspaper



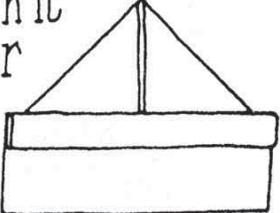
② Fold down the corners A & B along the dotted lines



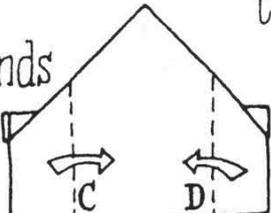
③ Fold in the top layer of the bottom edge twice...



④ Turn it all over



⑤ Fold the ends in along the dotted lines at C & D. For bigheads, C & D further apart



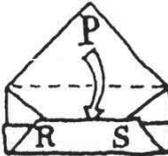
⑥ Fold the corners F & G inwards



⑦ Fold flap over as shown, tucking MN in beneath H K, then...



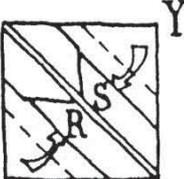
⑧ Fold point P inwards beneath R S



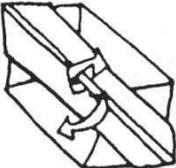
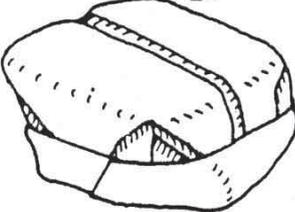
⑨ Insert thumbs into the bottom opening & open out until...



⑩ R & S meet. Fold in the tips X & Y beneath R & S



⑪ Then open out & ...

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 your uncle!

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## Stretwiser Factoids

- ❖ An average person will spend 25 years asleep.
- ❖ An octopus pupil is rectangular.
- ❖ A group of frogs is called an army.
- ❖ Instant coffee was invented in 1901.
- ❖ Women blink twice as much as men.
- ❖ Germany borders 9 other countries.



A farmer died leaving his 17 horses to his three sons.

When his sons opened up the will it read: My eldest son should get 1/2 (half) of total horses; My middle son should be given 1/3rd (one third) of the total horse; My youngest son should be given 1/9th (one– ninth) of the total horses. As it's impossible to divide 17 into half or 17 by 3 or 17 by 9, the three sons started to fight with each other. So, they decided to go to a farmer whom they considered quite smart, to see if he could work it out for them.

The farmer friend read the will patiently, and giving due thought, he brought one of his own horses over and added it to the 17.

That increased the total to 18 horses.

Farmer Math:

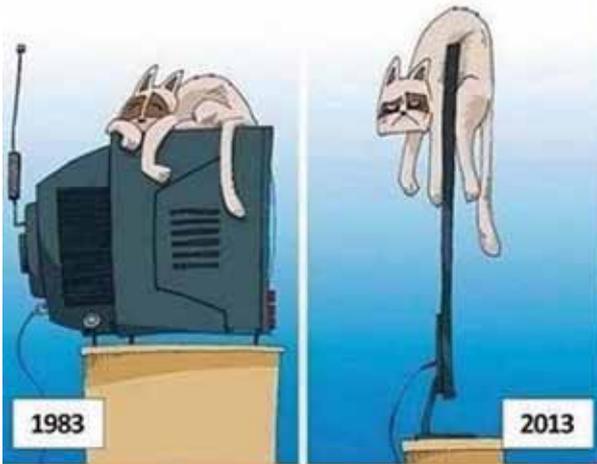
Now, he divided the horses according to the father's will.

Half of 18 = 9. So he gave the eldest son 9 horses. 1/3rd of 18 = 6. So he gave the middle son 6 horses. 1/9th of 18 = 2. So he gave the youngest son 2 horses.

Now add up how many horses they have: Eldest son 9. Middle son 6. Youngest son 2  
Total = 17. Now that leaves one horse over, so the farmer takes his horse back to the farm. **Problem solved. Thanks to Tony Crawford.**

- 
- ❖ "Do you ever get that when you're half way through eating a horse and you think to yourself, 'I'm not as hungry as I thought I was?'" - Tim Vine.
  - ❖ "I had a dream last night that I was cutting carrots with the Grim Reaper – dicing with death." - Tim Vine.
  - ❖ "To be or not to be a horse rider, that is Equestrian" - Mark Simmons
  - ❖ "Two aerals get married. The ceremony was rubbish - but the reception was brilliant" - Tim Vine.
  - ❖ "I've got a new job collecting all the jumpers left in the park at the weekends, but it's not easy. They keep moving the goalposts" - Darren Walsh.
  - ❖ A dyslexic man walks into a bra.





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# School Term Dates 2020-21 Academic Year

|           | Sep-2020 |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----------|----|----|----|----|
| Monday    |          | 7  | 14 | 21 | 28 |
| Tuesday   | 1        | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |
| Wednesday | 2        | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| Thursday  | 3        | 10 | 17 | 24 |    |
| Friday    | 4        | 11 | 18 | 25 |    |
| Saturday  | 5        | 12 | 19 | 26 |    |
| Sunday    | 6        | 13 | 20 | 27 |    |

|   | Oct-2020 |    |    |    |  |
|---|----------|----|----|----|--|
|   | 5        | 12 | 19 | 26 |  |
|   | 6        | 13 | 20 | 27 |  |
|   | 7        | 14 | 21 | 28 |  |
| 1 | 8        | 15 | 22 | 29 |  |
| 2 | 9        | 16 | 23 | 30 |  |
| 3 | 10       | 17 | 24 | 31 |  |
| 4 | 11       | 18 | 25 | 1  |  |

|   | Nov-2020 |    |    |    |  |
|---|----------|----|----|----|--|
| 2 | 9        | 16 | 23 | 30 |  |
| 3 | 10       | 17 | 24 |    |  |
| 4 | 11       | 18 | 25 |    |  |
| 5 | 12       | 19 | 26 |    |  |
| 6 | 13       | 20 | 27 |    |  |
| 7 | 14       | 21 | 28 |    |  |
| 8 | 15       | 22 | 29 |    |  |

|           | Dec-2020 |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----------|----|----|----|----|
| Monday    | 7        | 14 | 21 | 28 |    |
| Tuesday   | 1        | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |
| Wednesday | 2        | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| Thursday  | 3        | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |
| Friday    | 4        | 11 | 18 | 25 |    |
| Saturday  | 5        | 12 | 19 | 26 |    |
| Sunday    | 6        | 13 | 20 | 27 |    |

|   | Jan-2021 |    |    |    |  |
|---|----------|----|----|----|--|
|   | 4        | 11 | 18 | 25 |  |
|   | 5        | 12 | 19 | 26 |  |
|   | 6        | 13 | 20 | 27 |  |
|   | 7        | 14 | 21 | 28 |  |
| 1 | 8        | 15 | 22 | 29 |  |
| 2 | 9        | 16 | 23 | 30 |  |
| 3 | 10       | 17 | 24 | 31 |  |

|   | Feb-2021 |    |    |  |  |
|---|----------|----|----|--|--|
| 1 | 8        | 15 | 22 |  |  |
| 2 | 9        | 16 | 23 |  |  |
| 3 | 10       | 17 | 24 |  |  |
| 4 | 11       | 18 | 25 |  |  |
| 5 | 12       | 19 | 26 |  |  |
| 6 | 13       | 20 | 27 |  |  |
| 7 | 14       | 21 | 28 |  |  |

|           | Mar-2021 |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----------|----|----|----|----|
| Monday    | 1        | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |
| Tuesday   | 2        | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| Wednesday | 3        | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |
| Thursday  | 4        | 11 | 18 | 25 |    |
| Friday    | 5        | 12 | 19 | 26 |    |
| Saturday  | 6        | 13 | 20 | 27 |    |
| Sunday    | 7        | 14 | 21 | 28 |    |

|   | Apr-2021 |    |    |    |  |
|---|----------|----|----|----|--|
|   | 5        | 12 | 19 | 26 |  |
|   | 6        | 13 | 20 | 27 |  |
|   | 7        | 14 | 21 | 28 |  |
| 1 | 8        | 15 | 22 | 29 |  |
| 2 | 9        | 16 | 23 | 30 |  |
| 3 | 10       | 17 | 24 | 1  |  |
| 4 | 11       | 18 | 25 | 2  |  |

|   | May-2021 |    |    |    |  |
|---|----------|----|----|----|--|
| 3 | 10       | 17 | 24 | 31 |  |
| 4 | 11       | 18 | 25 |    |  |
| 5 | 12       | 19 | 26 |    |  |
| 6 | 13       | 20 | 27 |    |  |
| 7 | 14       | 21 | 28 |    |  |
| 8 | 15       | 22 | 29 |    |  |
| 9 | 16       | 23 | 30 |    |  |

|           | Jun-2021 |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----------|----|----|----|----|
| Monday    | 7        | 14 | 21 | 28 |    |
| Tuesday   | 1        | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |
| Wednesday | 2        | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| Thursday  | 3        | 10 | 17 | 24 |    |
| Friday    | 4        | 11 | 18 | 25 |    |
| Saturday  | 5        | 12 | 19 | 26 |    |
| Sunday    | 6        | 13 | 20 | 27 |    |

|   | Jul-2021 |    |    |    |  |
|---|----------|----|----|----|--|
|   | 5        | 12 | 19 | 26 |  |
|   | 6        | 13 | 20 | 27 |  |
|   | 7        | 14 | 21 | 28 |  |
| 1 | 8        | 15 | 22 | 29 |  |
| 2 | 9        | 16 | 23 | 30 |  |
| 3 | 10       | 17 | 24 | 31 |  |
| 4 | 11       | 18 | 25 | 1  |  |

|   | Aug-2021 |    |    |    |  |
|---|----------|----|----|----|--|
| 2 | 9        | 16 | 23 | 30 |  |
| 3 | 10       | 17 | 24 | 31 |  |
| 4 | 11       | 18 | 25 |    |  |
| 5 | 12       | 19 | 26 |    |  |
| 6 | 13       | 20 | 27 |    |  |
| 7 | 14       | 21 | 28 |    |  |
| 8 | 15       | 22 | 29 |    |  |

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| School Holidays                    | 8 |
| Bank Holidays                      | 2 |
| Twilighted Training Days           | 3 |
| Non-pupil days                     | 2 |
| Occasional days 26th and 27th July | 2 |





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# STRETE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Helen Darch

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## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF STRETE PARISH COUNCIL (PC) HELD ON ZOOM ON THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> January 2021 AT 7.00 PM

---

### PRESENT

Cllr Kate Gill (KG) (Chairman); Cllr Ralph Clark (RC); Cllr Louise Newman (LN); Cllr Ian Cumberlidge (IC); Cllr David Rothwell (DR); Cllr Graham Campbell (GC); Cllr Peter Hales (PH); Cllr Julian Brazil, County Councillor, Kingsbridge Division (JB); Mrs. Helen Darch {Clerk}, one parishioner.

### PUBLIC FORUM

A parishioner attended but did not wish to speak.

### COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Devon County Council is still in charge of the COVID initiative [the Local Outbreak Management Plan]. JB is not now told of an outbreak over three in the relevant area as these occur all the time now. He is still notified of any major incident in his area. There was a major incident today in Kingsbridge [gas main explosion under the road which was minor and no injuries].

JB offered to send an interactive map of COVID-19 cases to the Clerk. HM Government updates this daily with the COVID-19 cases in a very local area [Middle Layer Super Output Areas or MSOA]. So, councillors can see what is happening in their area. <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/details/interactive-map>

IC asked about 30 cases of COVID-19 in Dartmouth. JB responded Dartmouth has a higher number of cases than most of Devon but Devon as a whole is below 200 cases/100,000. LN asked about the Nightingale hospital in Exeter and whether it is being used. Military personnel are being used help to staff this.

JB also reminded councillors of the road closure on the A379 Stokenham [below Carehouse Cross] which is now expected to take 5 weeks. JB has visited the site and kept an eye on what is going on. Finally, JB confirmed he had chased up the permission by DCC as landowner to plant a tree on the Village Green. **The report was received.**

### DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

JB took the district council report. There is a district-wide introduction of the new recycling regime in March with some difficulties already reported. District councillors will be briefed next month on the new regime. The main change is the replacement of plastic bags by reusable plastic containers. More plastics can be recycled

and also glass will be collected. If collections are being missed go online [www.southhams.gov.uk/article/6185/Missed-Bin-or-Recycling](http://www.southhams.gov.uk/article/6185/Missed-Bin-or-Recycling) to report it and let JB know. The contractor FCC is fined for non-performance so reporting of failures gives good information for calculating the penalty due. PH thanked JB for responding to the problem of the water at Torcross he reported in December. The flood [blocked shingle in a drain] breached on New Year's Eve and has been fixed now with gates.

RC asked about the s106 [TCPA 1990] monies allocated to Stoke Gabriel. JB explained that s106 monies were usually related to a specific development where a developer agrees to set aside money as a condition when a scheme is approved by the District Council. This money then provides a public open space or other amenity in that area. The use is pretty specific when the permission is given and the s106 funds are used for that purpose. S106 monies are paid over to the planning authority in escrow to be drawn down when the amenity is developed.

[www.southhams.gov.uk/article/4066/Section-106-Funding-for-Open-Space-Sport-and-Recreation-Projects-](http://www.southhams.gov.uk/article/4066/Section-106-Funding-for-Open-Space-Sport-and-Recreation-Projects-)

JB explained the monies are required by law and have been appealed by developers on occasion. RC thought the developer for Blindwells had been asked to put aside an amount as s106 monies. JB asked councillors to get in touch on planning matters and he would try to answer these.

GC noted four anti-tank mines had been found on the beach at Strete Gate and blown up by the coastguard. **The report was received.**

**0121/1 APOLOGIES** – Cllr Richard Foss, District Councillor, Allington & Strete Ward (RF).

**0121/2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 17 December 2020**

The above minutes were AGREED as a true and correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

**0121/3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Parish Councillors were invited to declare any unregistered or other interest, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting. LN declared an interest in the School House if this was discussed as her land abutted the site. PH said he would have one if Blindwells was discussed.

**0121/4 PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS**

No planning applications were received. **2 Crestfields** was discussed. The owner had moved in recently and emailed the Council [RC and LN] to ask advice and guidance on plans they had for their garden and land. PH circulated the restrictive covenants on his property [on that 'estate' of five houses] though these may not be exactly those on the owner's property. PH thought it was a civil issue as it involved

covenants rather than a strict planning law matter. He picked out salient points in his covenants. So, there is a restriction on the green 'fringe' of land at the front which couldn't be built on. Most likely this condition concerns where the cables/ infrastructure for utilities are buried so providers can get access to do works. He didn't think planning permission is necessary now to build a wall though it is contained in his covenants.

GC noted the owner wanted to put a fence or a wall up at the front. RC said if that was the case there would have to be a visibility splay so road users could see clearly round the corner left or right. PH thought a wall or fence may require planning permission if it needed the involvement of DCC Highways in assessing the proposal. LN thought it was advisable to have a fence to contain children as mentioned in the original email but the council don't quite know what is intended. IC thought a fence would be less of an issue than a more substantial wall with its consequent foundations, consideration of existing utility infrastructure and so on.

PH commented that several houses on Hynetown Road already have fences or banks so it would be difficult to deny this one. RC reminded councillors of a recent situation where a fence had been an issue with neighbours. He suggested an approach might be to advise the owner that covenants are in place and to forewarn all their neighbours of their plans. Then the owner should approach SHDC with a planning application. PH also noted the owner should seek their own legal advice on this matter especially on the covenant and civil law matters.

IC asked if this was a second home but RC thought not. GC and KG noted the council shouldn't recommend anything as Strete PC is not the planning authority. RC confirmed the reply would not recommend one structure over another merely note one is less intrusive. He had already advised the owner that the parish council was a consultee on planning matters and SHDC made decisions. **Resolved: RC would write to the owner on this basis.**

**School House.** The owner approached the council with draft plans to get feedback prior to a planning application to build two houses on the site next to the house. LN observed she had declared an interest but wished to speak. She noted any buildings must be 'in keeping' with others in the conservation area; the houses must be very presentable as they are visible from the main road into the village. RC said the owner had confirmed the new houses would be in keeping with the area. IC remarked there might be an issue of access onto the A379. RC confirmed the owner had spoken with Richard Jackson at DCC Highways. DCC advised people must be able to turn their cars on the site. The plans discussed here include a turntable to allow the cars to park and then be rotated.

LN raised two other points these are the wall and the tree with a TPO on it. RC said the owner was aware of the TPO but felt that the benefits of affordable homes outweighed the loss of a tree [sic]. GC observed these [according to the plans

discussed] were tiny one-bedroom houses and basically bedsits. He felt two small houses was too much on that site. LN thought two houses would be an overdevelopment of the site.

PH thought, based on these plans, the houses could be situated such that cars could park and turn. He wanted to note that the houses should be built properly. The two properties were too small for fulltime use and may end up as two holiday bungalows. The council's priority is affordable homes for young families in the village rather than holiday lets. This would mean two-bedroom houses. RC stated the council would discuss with the owner what was best for the village especially size and affordability and thought the owner wanted to rent these to local people. **Resolved: RC respond to the owner with the concerns expressed over how this would work and the council would like to see some more detail.**

**0121/5(a) FINANCE**

Three cheques were listed for payment on the agenda. An additional two invoices were emailed to Councillors before the meeting, and all five invoices approved for payment at the meeting.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 1751 – Clerk salary January £261.  | 1752 – Information Commissioner annual registration fee £40.               |
| 1753 – Mr P Cruse additional works to bus shelter guttering £14.87 inc VAT.                            | 1754 – Brooking Hire Limited sweeper services November 2020 £350 plus VAT. |
| 1755 – Mr I Cumberlidge clearing buddle holes September 2020 to January 2021 £320. Christmas tree £60. |  |

**It was proposed and AGREED by all present to authorise the payment as enumerated above.**

**0121/5(b) FINANCE**

A monitoring report for 2020/21 had been circulated already along with a cashflow projection to the end of March 2020 of CR6,981.33. RC asked about the cost of buddle holes for 2020/1 and 2021/22 budgets as the £800 [January 2020 to January 2021] already exceeded the £650 budget allowed in 2020/21. IC explained the work reflected the heavy use of the road and the general state of the buddle holes. He had done a lot of work to sort out the drainage and remedial works and clearance of old rubbish/litter. The work should be lighter going forward and once the A379 reopens the Totnes Road should see less traffic.

The Clerk said the underspends on other budgets [grass cutting £203.80 and Prideaux lane £130] would cover this and would send the latest 2020/21 budgets explaining this to all. RC wanted confirmation on the yearly cost of buddle holes.

The Clerk suggested IC submit a realistic budget for 2021/22 and defer some of 2020/21 to the following year if IC submits another invoice before the year end.

DR asked about gully emptying down Norns Lane [Southwood Farm]. There is a link to contact DCC to request gully emptying <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/maintaining-roads/managing-the-network/flooding-and-drainage/report-standing-water-flooding-or-blocked-drains/>

RC commented he had reported a pothole outside Asherne and it was repaired within 4 days. **Resolved the monitoring statements would be put on the website.**

#### **0121/5(c) FINANCE**

Cash at bank – £9,147.40CR Current account at 11/01/21, £10,297.91CR Business Reserve account at 11/01/21.

#### **0121/5(d) FINANCE**

To firm up the detail budget for 2021/22. Councillors to review and refine their bids on the draft budget circulated in the week. **Resolved: councillors to come back with any amendments before the detail budget is published.**

#### **0121/6 CLERK'S REPORT**

Report submitted before the meeting.

Public Space Protection Order. Steve Mullineaux of SHDC still to arrange a conference call to put in place a PSPO for Spring and summer 2021. **Resolved the Clerk email Steve to remind him of this as half-term approaches.**

Census – 21st March. The clerk put a notice in Stretewise for parishioners who need a paper copy of the census return to contact her or use the telephone number which will be sent to households from February. **For note.**

Highway Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund [HMCE]grant. The Clerk submitted an application to DCC for £3,100 of grant funding or 50% of £6,200 which is the sweeping costs and hedge trimming quotes received in September and October 2020. DCC will respond by the end of March to confirm the outcome. **For note.**

The road warden scheme. The Clerk will investigate this for funding and report back. <https://www.devon.gov.uk/communities/opportunities/road-warden-scheme>

Coronavirus updates. Devon is in National lockdown. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>\_The DCC website on Coronavirus is <https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/coronavirus-data/>

The number of cases in the South Hams since the start of the pandemic is 1,479 at 30<sup>TH</sup> January 2021 and deaths in the South Hams to this date is 35. **For note.**

#### **0121/7 CHAIR'S REPORT**

**Report submitted before the meeting.** Chairs Report Strete Parish Council 21.01.21. Coronavirus –The current government slogan remains HANDS – FACE – SPACE. With what now seems to be several Covid variants in our midst please take

extra care. RISK ASSESS and STAY ALERT. On the brighter side quite a few people in our immediate area have had their first 'jab'. As a point of interest – last week two people were desperate to do some shopping in Dartmouth just as a shop was closing. They were down for a 'break' in a holiday house. The police were called and they were each fined £1,000, and escorted back to their accommodation where there were five more people. They were also fined and made to pack their bags. They were escorted to the A38 and sent home!!!

**Strete Gate and Slapton Line. Strete.** The coffee kiosk is currently closed.

**Slapton Line.** There have been a lot of runners and cyclists out for exercise, some of whom have not been very traffic wary or savvy. So please look out for 'stragglers'.

**Torcross.** Thankfully the flooding has now receded. I gather - with a considerable amount of assistance the blockage eventually cleared itself.

**Road closure at Stokenham.** If you need to travel to Kingsbridge or to your Doctor at Chillington there are several small back roads that you can use as a detour without going the long way round. Being able to reverse will be a great advantage.

**Slapton Line Partnership.** There is a 'remote meeting' on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January in the afternoon for the committee.

**Play Park.** There is nothing new to report on the Play Park. The moles are still having a good time.

**Kings Arms.** Currently in line with expectations it is closed. For any enquiries, please contact 07742 473 266 or <https://kastrete.touchtakeaway.net>

**The Chair's report was received.**

## **0121/8 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

**A report was submitted prior to the meeting.**

### **Neighbourhood Plan Report – January 2021**

On 17/12/2020 SHDC confirmed that all applicable documentation in respect of Strete Neighbourhood Plan had been submitted to the Examiner (Deborah McCann) with a request to commence its Examination.

The Examiner (Deborah McCann) submitted an examination report on 06/01/2021. This was subsequently reviewed by RC (SNP Administrator) and DS (SHDC NP Co-Ordinator).

The report is a 39-page document explaining all the procedures, regulations, etc.; that are required to be considered when examining the Plan together with details of the Examiner's responsibilities and qualifications.

The report also included the Examiner's recommended amendments to reflect this latest examination. To help locate these, the following should be compared with the September 2020 submission version that can be found on <https://strete.org.uk/neighbourhood/the-plan/>

- Page 6 – 1.6 – the word ‘original’ has been added after ‘The’ at the beginning of the paragraph.
- Page 6 – 1.8 – Word changes to the four basic conditions listed in the September 2020 version plus one additional condition to make 5no in total
- Page 15 – SNP4 policy - wording changed to reference the policy map and provide more clarity
- Page 16 – SNP6 policy - minor wording change in paragraph 1 - ‘is in scale’ is changed to ‘is of a scale’
- Page 17 – SNP7 policy – wording changes in paragraph 3 – ‘which at least’ is changed to ‘where necessary which, as a minimum,’ and the last sentence is changed to read ‘For residential development, where achievable, one car parking space per bedroom should be provided.’
- Page 20 – SNP11 policy – the word ‘Inappropriate’ is added at the beginning of paragraph 2.
- Page 21 – SNP12 policy – the word ‘ones’ is changed to ‘footpaths’.

Other recommended amendments included in the report are applicable to the ‘Basic Conditions Statement’.

A revised version of this has been uploaded to <https://strete.org.uk/neighbourhood/the-plan/>

- Paragraph 1.7 – ‘four’ is changed to ‘five’ and reference is made to the Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment (SEA) and The Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA).
- Paragraph 12.2 – Additional detail provided to explain the reason why a SEA and HRA are not required for the September 2020 version of SNP.

The Examiner has confirmed that, subject to the amendments being incorporated into the revised Plan, SNP meets with the legislative and regulatory requirements and can proceed to referendum.

DS has requested confirmation that the revised Plan, including the Examiner’s proposed amendments, meets with the approval and acceptance of Strete Parish Council so that SNP can be submitted for a delegated decision by representatives of SHDC. As soon as a delegated decision has been received, arrangements for a referendum would normally proceed. However, a referendum will not be possible until COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. This is unlikely until Autumn 2021 based on the latest information being proposed by central government. If the local elections go ahead in May RC saw it likely the referendum could also take place then. This will need the PC to get the notifications out for the referendum to go ahead. RC also thought there was grant funding to cover this though the £500 retained in 2020/21 would be enough to cover all of the work required.

RC informed the meeting four councillors with four from the SNP group have replied to say they are satisfied with amendments and it can be approved. KG and IC confirmed their acceptance at the meeting. Duncan Smith, once he has the confirmation of parish approval, will put this forward to be approved as a delegated decision. This will involve the district councillor who is absent at the moment. He will then approach more senior people in the council to get this agreed. The good news is that once a delegated decision has been confirmed, the policies in SNP should be referenced and observed in all planning matters within the Parish of Strete. **The NP report was received.**

**0121/9 UPDATES ON PREVIOUS AGENDA ITEMS.**

**No updates were received. Strete Gate is reported in 0121/11.**

**0121/10 UPDATE ON CONTRACTS**

**Report received before the meeting.** RC noted Brookings would be doing a village sweep on 9<sup>th</sup> February. **Resolved RC would schedule Brookings to do sweeps for 2021/22 as well.** The Clerk asked for confirmation the costs for budgeting would be [around] £350 plus VAT each time with 4 sweeps scheduled. The draft budget had a buffer of £100 to make this £1,600 for 2021/22. PH observed that Chris Ellis wouldn't be able to start work on the benches until after April.

**0121/11 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**Reports had been circulated prior to the meeting.**

**KG (Chair) Playpark. Reported in 0121/7.**

**LN Transport and Roads.** There has been a small amount of flooding opposite the pub car park as this water is below the level of the buddle hole and isn't draining. **Resolved IC would dig the buddle hole out.** A pot hole has been filled near the Asherne gate on the A 379. There is a lot of debris in the edge along the A379. Hyne Town Road all looks very clear. RC asked about the hedges from Landcombe [village] down past Landcombe House and the bend. LN explained these were cut by farmers who farmed the land next to the road.

**DR Health and Safety.** All the salt and grit bins have been cleared and topped up.

**IC Rights of Way, tree warden and Strete Gate. IC reported verbally. Tree warden.**

A large cluster of trees was taken down at Tallis Rock on Tuesday. It is not illegal and is just outside the conservation area but does follow a trend of depletion of trees at the moment. Particularly the road to Totnes Cross has a number of Ash trees being cut down. An Ash had been cut down albeit a stump of 4-5 feet retained at Matts Point. It was not diseased but listed toward the road. Two trees had been cut down at Landcombe. **Resolved IC would confirm with tree officers whether these trees should be replaced.**

**The Rights of Way** A small tree has fallen on Prideaux Lane opposite Seacroft. **IC will deal with this.**

**Footpaths** are being well-used. **IC** observed people are walking on the field farmed by Philip Knight up at the top rather than by the middle gate which is where the footpath runs. But traffic on the road is busy. **Strete Gate** has seen a clean-up of the hedges at the back of the carpark area. He noted the litter was building up despite it being cleared by SHDC.

**RC Planning and Neighbourhood Plan.** RC mentioned Blindwells. **Resolved the Clerk would chase the planning officer again to get an update on the new papers submitted.** He also mentioned GC had noted the apparent lack of progress in enforcement notices. These don't appear to 'move on' i.e., be enforced and he was concerned that enforcements wouldn't be done. So, the outcome would either be approval of the plans or it would lapse. **Resolved to put the general issue of enforcements on the agenda for the district councillor to comment on.**

**PH The VAS sign and local transport liaison. VAS Monitoring.** Nothing to report. Operation continues at the Totnes Road location.

**Local transport liaison.** Stagecoach have confirmed that subject to staff availability they will maintain the present winter timetables for Service No3 through lockdown, although they will scratch the duplicate school services. Face coverings are required to be worn onboard all services. Otherwise, there is nothing new to report.

**Climate Change Emergency.** Devon Carbon Plan

Following the launch event for the public consultation stage of the Devon Carbon Plan on 8<sup>th</sup> December, public webinar focus events are planned on

- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January (Food, Land and Sea)
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January (Community Groups)
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January (Energy Supply)
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February (Economy & Resources)

Further information is in the link here: - [Interim Devon Carbon Plan Webinar Series – Devon Climate Emergency](#)

The Plan will consider the earliest, credible date which should be set for net-zero emissions, together with the recommended ways to get there. All citizens are encouraged to become involved during the public consultation. There is a plenty of information and grant money for replacement heating systems and boilers. Other agencies in Devon are putting together responses to the emergency for instance the district council but this now needs action and response at the parish level. EV is part of this response to the emergency and PH would like to act on this.

**Strete Residents EV Survey.** Updates in bold.

1. Maintain a watching brief on the development of the public charging infrastructure in the local towns of Kingsbridge, Totnes and Dartmouth. Schemes have been announced but have not yet been implemented

**Status – ongoing, no visible progress at present**

2. Maintain a watching brief on the availability of grant monies to support rural charging infrastructure  
**Status – ongoing. Central government announced new money in December. As yet no more details are available.**
3. Insert a provision of £1,250 into the Budget for the 2021/22 financial year to fund a public charging facility, with an intention of having it up and running by the end of Q1 2022. **Status – done.**
4. Suggest to Strete Community Pub Limited that a business case for the acquisition of a public fast Charging Unit should be carried out, with a view to it being located in the Kings Arms car park and operated as a revenue stream for the pub. The business case should take into account the benefit of any future grant subsidies which might be announced which would help to make the venture viable (no subsidy is currently available).  
**Status – ongoing discussion. However, enquiries to date indicate that grant money is not currently available to support this if a revenue stream is to be provided. Continued research required.**
5. Share our survey and results with local neighbouring Parishes and look for synergies in approach.  
**Status – Completed. Slapton PC came back and shared the results of their own similar survey of residents which is in an appendix to these minutes. Slapton are interested in collaborating on EV issues with us in future. As a first step they have suggested a joint Zoom meeting to discuss items of joint interest.** PH noted this could also include the larger area of climate change, and the ongoing issue of Strete Gate/tourism on the Line. **Resolved: PH to set up a Zoom call hosted by the Clerk, with other councillors, and to work with Slapton PC on these issues.**
6. Provide a facilitation service to offer a conversation between prospective BEV purchasers and existing owners, with the aim of providing education about electric vehicles allaying fears about investing in this new technology.  
**Status – available upon request (PH)**
7. On a wider Climate Emergency point, carry out similar resident surveys aimed at raising the awareness of the availability of new technologies with grant subsidies, for example the phase-out of oil and gas fired boiler systems and their replacement with ground and air source heat exchangers, the widespread availability of Solar Photovoltaic (PV) schemes for heating and power and the availability of home insulation schemes. The PC could play a major role in assisting DCC and SHDC to achieve the aims of their Climate Challenge Declaration.  
**Status – to be discussed further as part of our response to the climate change emergency. There should be wider publicity in the village of the green**

**initiatives being promoted by DCC e.g., the collective purchasing scheme for Solar photovoltaic panels, the shift towards heat pumps as a source of home heating, and grant-funding.**

PH requested the climate emergency be a standing agenda item each month so that councillors can discuss the various initiatives and our responses as well as holding SHDC and DCC accountable for their resolutions. **Resolved to include climate change emergency as a standing item on the agenda.**

A discussion took place on solar panels and solar energy. There are two ways solar panels can be used and one is solar photovoltaic panels which are placed on the roof. Energy from the panel heats water and is an add-on to an existing heating system. DCC will grant money for these and recommend firms who will instal the panels. The energy generated from the panels can also be used to charge electric vehicles.

Councillors contributed their own experiences of solar energy including a solar powered toilet and how solar panels can be fed back into the national grid. This is a well-established source of energy. Payment is received by the householder for power fed into the grid and any power from this source used by the householder. Income from this is lower than in the past, but it is offset in part by the lower initial cost of the solar panels. Batteries can store the charge for later use and cost around £3,000. Main grid electricity can also be sourced from 'green' energy rather than fossil fuels. PH also noted DCC has a consultancy which will advise householders on energy including replacement boilers and grants. GC also informed the meeting that the local CAB has two specialists who will visits to advise householders on energy use and recommend improvements, and pass on the names of reliable agencies and energy companies. **RC suggested someone attend to make a presentation on this once the Hall is reopened. PH agreed to do this.**

**Parish Benches and picnic table maintenance.** A contract has been let to Chris Ellis with a target completion date of the end of April 2021 through this may have to be put back due to work commitments.

**GC Village Green.** The village green is being well used during lockdown. There is more dog muck on the field at the moment despite the emergency poo bags. It seems that people do not always keep an eye on their dogs to see when there is clearing up to be done. Recently one of the householders abutting the Green built steps leading onto the Green. This had been resolved with the householder who confirmed the steps were temporary. GC suggested to the householder it was advisable to check with the parish council before any structures appeared on the Green. **GC** was concerned that he had heard nothing from SHDC on the plans at the November meeting to tackle the spring and summer tourist visits to the beaches on the Line. **Resolved the Clerk would email Steve Mullineaux at SHDC to remind him of actions promised at that meeting including a January deadline for meeting and**

reporting to committee and a Zoom meeting with the three parishes on the Line. Reports were received.

#### **0121/12 CORRESPONDENCE**

RC had uploaded information on COVID-19 cases and mortality to the website. GC said the COVID-19 cases in Dartmouth were mainly at the care home at Townstal. RC noted there had been a positive case in Strete who is self-isolating.

**This was noted.**

#### **0121/13 OTHER BUSINESS**

LN wondered what had happened with the list of volunteers which had been useful during the first lockdown and whether this needed to be resurrected. GC confirmed Dartmouth Caring was still providing assistance to villagers by shopping and collecting prescriptions.

RC asked about activity down at Cox's Farm Field. KG confirmed that the garden was being tidied up so it could be let. GC raised a point about attendance at primary schools in the area which are shut. He observed it appeared schools were fuller this lockdown with the children of key workers than before and he wondered whether this was to do with a 'loosening' in criteria for parents who are essential workers. IC was concerned at the cost of the additional planned highways works which were budgeted at £4,256. RC confirmed these would only take place if the grant bid for [HMCE] was successful. LN will arrange a litter pick once lockdown ends. **The Clerk confirmed she would seek other grant monies from the district and county councillors toward the planned highways works.**

**0121/14 THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY 18<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7.00 PM. THE VENUE IS LIKELY TO BE ON ZOOM UNLESS OTHERWISE ADVISED. THE MEETING WAS CLOSED at 8.30 p.m.**

Signed: Cllr Kate Gill (Chair) Dated: 18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021

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## **A Very Special Spring**

Moonflower has flowered in the UK. Saturday 20 February 2021. 5.00pm



The bloom of an Amazonian Moonflower is believed to be the first time the Moonflower has flowered in the UK. The *Selenicereus wittii*, a cactus within the collection at Cambridge University Botanic Garden, has a blossom that only lasts 12 hours - the white flower measuring 11ins (28cm) long by 6ins (15cm) wide.

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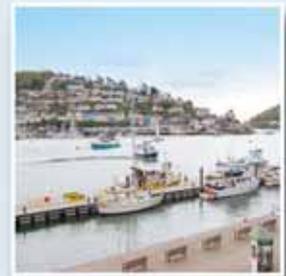


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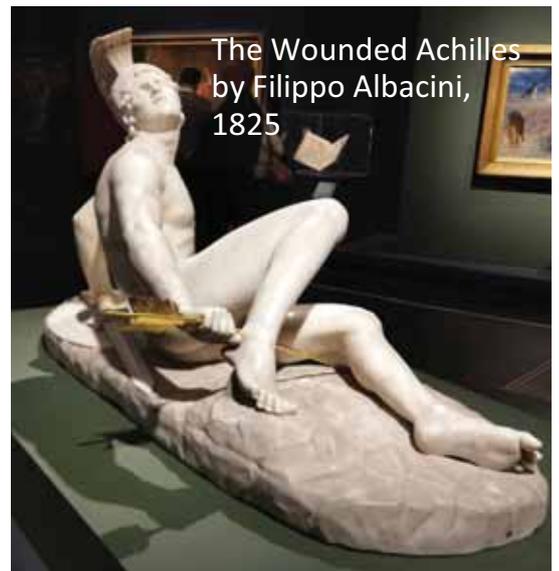
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## A letter from Malcolm.

In a few weeks' time I will have been locked down, or shielded or protected for a year. That will be a year without being able to invite anyone for supper, afternoon tea or even a drink. A year of not even being able to invite people in – so that a caller at the door checking our wellbeing, or dropping off a book or other item cannot be invited in, even if there is snow or rain pouring down. This anti-social behaviour has resulted in our stepping off the pavement as someone approaches, irrespective of age, sex or ethnic origin. At first it seemed prejudicial to step away from skirted Muslims, black business people, or mothers with prams. We were avoiding, but not due to prejudice, save the avoidance of contact and to keep our two-metre separation. The runner and joggers got an even wider berth less their expiration carried further and infected us.

The first two months of the year were a hectic exploration of all the major exhibitions, attending meetings and eating out – with many lunches in the Crypt next to the national Gallery, to the odd sushi establishment bumped into in our walking from one venue to another. The exhibitions ranged from Freud, Van Gough and Cezanne to Rembrandt and Da Vinci. The exhibitions of content going from display to examination. The single Leonardo in the National Gallery was fascinating for their exploration of the original sketch layout for the painting and how that was changed, with the Virgin being given greater prominence that had originally been envisaged. This all revealed by the X-raying of the painting to see the various layers and how changes occurred, right back to the sketches on the canvas at the beginning. It was not until we visited the Troy exhibition in early March at the British Museum that masks began to be evident. In most cases it was amongst the Asian visitors, and from travelling in many of those countries, masks were common to deal with traffic fumes. How were we to know that would be our life for the following year?



Limited to short periods of exercise, we had to rule out our usual wander through the Common behind our home, as the vast amount of runners and walkers meant that there was no hope in keeping our distance – so we took to walking the streets, looking at all the houses and the wide range of styles, revelling in the Victorian splendour of the temple to water that is the Southwark and Vauxhall water works, and noting the disrepair and damage that had occurred, whether due to movement, bays inadequately supported or general lack of care and attention.

So how has the pandemic affected us with so many people suffering depression, and watching more TV? The absence of being able to meet with friends has been

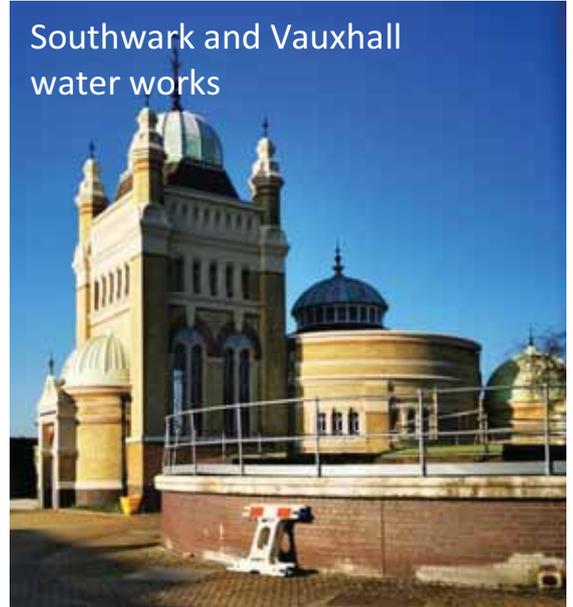
circumvented by holding Street Parties, the first for VE Day, and the other on Christmas Day. On both occasions the weather was brilliant, and the photographs taken at the time show happy children and parents revelling in the occasion as the street became a playground, cars being shunned if they entered the road.

We are lucky living in a street where the community has grown and become more evident over the weeks, starting with the evening support for the NHS – all standing outside our homes to cheer on and ring bells and clap to show support. There has been the filing, putting

away – in places one hopes that one can find them in the future – bits and pieces that for so long have cluttered up rooms in piles for sorting, books read and unread, letters (remember them) and slides (remember them) which were in boxes. And then you come across lecture notes from some bygone year – and amongst them a reference to Covid – a word I had not remembered but now enters into every conversation – in relation to tracking the spread of the flu epidemics of the post first world war. The SARS epidemic in 2002 that I talked about in China, and Cholera in 1854. In a way the pandemic has not touched us- although it is a year without going into shops – almost – there have been the odd sorties to buy flowers or foodstuff that escaped the weekly shopping list for Waitrose. But then we asked the Waitrose delivery driver on Sunday how he was and what the state of the traffic was, and how other people doing the same job were faring. ‘Well’ he said ‘we have lost three due to Covid 19’. We had known of the first victim through earlier enquiries – he had been overweight, and had underlying health problems – which is not to undermine the pain of the death but perhaps to highlight the greater risk for those in that condition. The other two drivers were young, and fit. The every week deliveries of groceries did not come without pain and suffering. Then the South African variant came closer with the area selected bounding at the Water works whose extravagant buildings we had walked past so many times in our exercise ritual. The boundary, which saw an area being locked down in an even more draconian way than we had experienced, had almost got up to our front door.

Life is fragile thing, such that the only event we have attended was in a group of 30 who were allowed to attend a funeral. And as we look into our second year of lockdown – we are aware of the sacrifice of the many, not only the nurses in the NHS, the health workers, the care home support staff and inhabitants, but also those doing daily deliveries of those very elements of our on-line adventures into shopping. **Malcolm Hollis**

Southwark and Vauxhall water works



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## A Very Big Thank You to the Stretewise delivery team

Brenda Range, Liane Baldock, Colleen Seymour, Heather Robinson, Joan Kendall, Pauline Pearce, Chris Burne, John Goldring, Rosemarie Stevens, David Wall and Trudy Rothwell and not forgetting Monica, Andy, Sally at the Strete Post Office and Stores.

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# The Kings Arms Update



OK, we can stop pretending now. Sure, it was fun this time last year but not any longer. We no longer have to pretend that we enjoy going for walks with no end destination. We no longer have to pretend we enjoy the supermarket beer and wine. As much as we love them, we no longer have to pretend that our family provides 100% of the social nourishment we need.

Because come April the 12<sup>th</sup> we can walk to, and sit in, a pub garden again with people from outside our household, and enjoy a lovely drink.

Something that once seemed so trivial, now takes on a meaning of almost incomparable importance. Roles will be reversed as children have to tell their parents to calm down.

As it stands, the rule of 6 will apply, meaning we can meet up to six friends or family. Then on May the 17<sup>th</sup> people can meet inside the pub, providing specific Covid-19 conditions are met.

And then, from the 21<sup>st</sup> of June, the government hopes to lift all restrictions. Imagine that...

In fact, there is talk about a very busy summer in the South West. It's an opportunity for the hospitality industry after such a torrid time. To make the most of this opportunity, the management committee has taken the decision that it is necessary to re-structure the operational approach a little. It is felt that the best approach is to have a dedicated head chef running the kitchen and an experienced Front of House manager to manage upstairs, and this would include improving the way our wonderful volunteers are managed.

We have begun talking to candidates, whilst also running recruitment ads, and plan to have confirmation on personnel soon. Craig has decided that he wants to focus on his own business and we wish him well with that and thank him for his efforts in what has been a challenging time.

A word on the volunteers. The people who volunteered when the pub was open did a brilliant job, without exception. We've had feedback and we know that, moving forward, volunteers need better training and more support. This is being planned. The vision for the pub has always had volunteers at the heart of things, they are what makes it feel like a *community* pub as opposed to a corporately run pub. We are reaching out to everyone who previously volunteered and want them to know more will be done to support them, and volunteering will be more on their terms rather than the managers. We are also looking for new volunteers. You might be uncertain about what you can do or how much you can do.

Don't let that put you off. Please get in touch and we will make it work for you.



Finally, we are already seeing tables being booked for when the garden reopens on the 12th of April. So please, to be certain you can get a table, please book ahead online using our new booking tool at: <https://kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk>

So, in summary, these are the key dates:

Now: takeaway service is available Wednesday to Sunday.

April the 12<sup>th</sup>: the garden is open

May the 17<sup>th</sup>: the inside of the pub re-opens with restrictions.

June the 21<sup>st</sup>: back to normal

You might want to cut out and keep these dates.

You might want to tattoo them.

Either way, we can't wait to see you soon.

You can contact the pub once it is open again at:

Tel: **07742 473 266**

Something to look forward to.....



# STRETE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Helen Darch

Homer Park, Strete, Dartmouth TQ6 0SJ streteClerk@gmail.com

01803 770018 www.strete.org.uk

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF STRETE PARISH COUNCIL (PC) HELD ON ZOOM ON THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> February 2021 AT 7.00 PM

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### PRESENT

Cllr Kate Gill (KG) (Chairman); Cllr Ralph Clark (RC); Cllr Louise Newman (LN); Cllr Ian Cumberlidge (IC); Cllr David Rothwell (DR); Cllr Graham Campbell (GC); Cllr Peter Hales (PH); Cllr Julian Brazil, County Councillor, Kingsbridge Division (JB) (arrived later); Cllr Richard Foss, District Councillor, Allington & Strete Ward (RF); Mrs. Helen Darch {Clerk}, one parishioner.

### PUBLIC FORUM

A parishioner [Mr Findlay] attended to discuss the two car park spaces attached to Rose Cottage which he was in the process of buying. He confirmed the s95 [Localism Act 2011] notice that had been served by South Hams District Council [SHDC] on Heavitree regarding the disposal of the carpark spaces was issued in error. On re-view it was recognised the two spaces did not come under the current ACV and so the s95 notice could be disregarded. He mentioned the possibility sometime in the near future that the two spaces could be offered [in some fashion] to the Council for electric car charging points. **This was noted.**

### COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

JB spoke on the Line to say it won't be around, maybe not in 5 years' time. There are two reasons Devon County Council [DCC] and SHDC can't do anything though they will lobby. The first is the SSSI designation by Natural England. The SSSI is on the moving of the sandbank, so it relates to a geological process. This would have to be removed for structural works to be done to secure the road. Second, the budget to do this is tens of millions [£] funded by the Environment Agency. He noted that something will have to happen quickly or else the road will decay further. PH wondered if the SSSI would lapse if the sea is allowed to overrun the road. JB explained the SSSI is a geological process and not on flora or fauna. RF informed the meeting that primary legislation had to be agreed to change the designation of the SSSI so even central government couldn't interfere here. Anthony Mangnall [MP] might influence government to bring in legislation but it is a lengthy process.

JB referred to the list of questions raised by Strete this week, and responded to by Steve Mullineaux, on the Strete Gate issues he presented on in the November meeting. **JB recommended the PC go through the responses and reply to SHDC on these.**

The decision will be with SHDC on what they can reasonably do but RF and JB will be a full part of that. PH noted there would have to be toilet facilities at the central carpark even if portaloos were not recommended [*Slapton PC had tried to instal some in 2020 but was told by Natural England they couldn't on account of the SSSI and the fear of chemical leakage*]. JB agreed. RF and he had advised officers that if there are no toilets at the central car park, they would have to be enhanced at the two car parks on either end of the Line.

IC thought visitors would ignore the prohibition on chemical loos and empty their tanks at the central carpark if they had already paid to stay there. RF hoped the four new officers would patrol the area and prevent people from doing this. IC asked if these officers would work after 10pm. RF confirmed this as rotas would be seven days a week including bank holidays. LN asked where the officers would be located. RF said they would focus on the main busy areas to include the main holiday areas such as Salcombe and the Line.

RC asked if there was any central government funding to assist. It was unfair local people had to pay for services to manage visitors who were causing a burden on local amenities down to numbers and their behaviour. JB stated the Slapton Line Partnership had been asked to draw up costed schemes and plans to submit to central government as the Adaptation Plan for the current situation with visitor numbers and pressure on local services. JB and RF wanted Steve Mullineaux to draw up a plan which could go to Anthony Mangnall to promote at Westminster. RF commented that a post had been earmarked with a budget of £50,000 left over from the road repairs budget to do this type of work last year. This has not been done. GC observed very little had been done since November's meeting with Steve Mullineaux. He felt a set-up similar to Blackpool Sands would be better with an organised site and a central entry point. Also, there should be Police powers to stop people parking on the freeway. RF thought 2021 would see similar busyness to 2020 with more people holidaying in the UK. **RF recommended Councillors email the MP, Andy Bates at SHDC and John Hart at DCC individually to complain and ask why the £50,000 set aside for an officer to do this work has not been used. Councillors should enrol the press and Spotlight to make clear their views especially toward visitors' behaviour.**

JB and RF said they had lobbied for expanded facilities at the two end carparks for motor homes and to leave the central carpark for day trippers and small cars only. RF commented if the monument was moved to Strete Gate this would see an increase in visitors who would come to see the monument. However, locals for instance fishermen who use the central car park may feel they aren't catered for.

**DCC Budget setting.** Council tax has been increased by 5% [4.99%]. This is made up of 2% on core activities and 3% on adult social services. JB noted that DCC had seen £280m taken from their budget by central government. He commented that it

would be difficult for any administration to balance the books in these circumstances. Revenues can be raised but this is an ongoing debate with central government.

**The report was received.**

### **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

RF thanked the Council for their support on his recent bereavement. He noted both JB and he had worked to get the road cleared over the previous weekend. He also noted he was lobbying the MP to support the Line remaining open rather than being left to succumb to the sea.

RF had attended a presentation on the new refuse collection system which is being phased in from 8<sup>th</sup> March. Information will be circulated very soon on how the system is to work. *SHDC sent posters out to Clerks for circulation on 22<sup>nd</sup> February.* One new feature is glass will be collected at kerbside. Cardboard and newspaper will be separately recycled. RF didn't know when Strete would get the recycling containers yet but the system is being rolled out over time in the South Hams.

**The SHDC Budget was approved on 11<sup>th</sup> February.** This is a balanced budget. Certain areas are earmarked for spending in particular to help people after COVID-19. **Council Tax has increased overall by 5.01% [Band D £2,090.55] across all authorities.** This includes for SHDC a maximum allowed of £5 [Band D of £175.42] on bills or 2.9%. The Fire brigade has increased by 1.99% [Band D £90.00] and Police by 6.73% [Band D £236.56] and are uncapped unlike SHDC and DCC. DCC has increased by 4.99% [Band D £1,511.28]. RF advised parishes to precept for extra works and activities not covered by district and county Councils. Parishes had precepted an average 8.77% increase [Band D £77.29]. RF stated things won't get done as money is not there to do it.

PH asked if the current glass collection bank will be taken away once the new collection system starts. He thought tourists would still need a central recycling facility. JB confirmed they will remain in place. RC asked to write to RF about the budget he had read about in the press and wanted some explanation particularly on the share of the total Council tax bill that goes to SHDC. RF thought SHDC gets 9% [9 p in the £] and the rest goes to the other authorities. RC commented that he felt it was a problem that Strete [for instance] was paying for bodies that should provide services but weren't and so Strete was having to precept or find money themselves. RF noted there was a certain amount of 'winding down' of services at county and district level. **The report was received.**

**0221/1 APOLOGIES – none were received.**

**0221/2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 21 January 2021**

The above minutes were AGREED as a true and correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

### **0221/3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Parish Councillors were invited to declare any unregistered or other interest, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting.

### **0221/4 PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS**

Two planning applications has been received for comment as a neighbouring parish.

**0069/21/ARC Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3 and 4 of planning application 3623/20/LBC Dormouse Cottage Hansel Devon TQ6 0LN.**

**Councillors had no comments to make.**

**0119/21/FUL Provision of grain store. Agricultural building at SX829 492. Blackawton.**

A full debate took place. Councillors were unhappy about the prospect of heavy road traffic at a spot on the Totnes Road which was already busy and narrow for traffic. They appreciated the need for the development but observed that the current state of the road which is narrow and rural would not support the likely additional farm traffic. Perhaps something akin to a s106 planning condition could be requested of the applicant. RF suggested that Strete PC write and request that the road be improved at this point as a condition on approval of the application. **Resolved the Clerk draft a letter to circulate which would be sent to SHDC Planners which set out these conditions.**

**Discussion on SHDC policy on enforcements of planning decisions and breaches.**

RF was mindful of the concerns Strete PC had over the efficacy of planning enforcement. Councillors observed the same enforcements have been on the enforcement lists a long while. RF explained an applicant can get round enforcement by submitting another planning application and then enforcement has to cease until the new application has been decided. RF explained a lack of staffing and lack of funds didn't help. **Resolved: RF will call Pat Whymer [head of planning at SHDC] and bring up any improvements that can be done to the way enforcement activity is carried on.**

### **0221/5(a) FINANCE**

Five cheques were listed for payment on the agenda, invoices circulated before the meeting and all five invoices approved for payment at the meeting.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1756 – Clerk reclaim cost of Arnold Baker law textbook 12 <sup>th</sup> edition. £119.99.               | 1757 – Clerk salary February £261.   |
| 1758 – Citizens Advice Bureau grant £50. Agreed minute 0120/10.   | 1759 – Mr R Clark reimbursement Kingsbridge Websites annual hosting fee £70, print costs £8.32 plus VAT. |
| 1760 – SLCC Enterprises Ltd, Clerk attendance on planning course on 18 <sup>th</sup> February. £30 plus |  |

**It was proposed and AGREED by all present to authorise the payment as enumerated above.**

## **0221/5(b) FINANCE**

**Resolved the monitoring statements would be put on the website.**

## **0221/5(c) FINANCE**

Cash at bank – £8,046.40CR Current account at 10/02/21, £10,297.99CR Business Reserve account at 10/02/21.

## **0221/5(d) FINANCE**

**Budgets 2021/22.** PH asked about the 2021/22 budget for maintenance on the memorial [£500] and whether this would be spent given COVID restrictions which had put on hold any plans. The Clerk suggested a lodgement for say £200 in case the monument was in place by the end of 2021/22. Maintenance relates to ongoing upkeep of the site. DR asked about the contributions of other parishes. KG confirmed one of the eight parishes hadn't agreed to this yet. **Resolved: The Councillors would come back with changes for next month.**

The Clerk informed Councillors that the Highways Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund grant would be decided in March and she would know by then if the grant had been made for the highways works. The Clerk has asked JB for funds from his 2021/22 Localities budget as well.

## **0221/6 CLERK'S REPORT**

Report submitted before the meeting. *Census – 21st March.* Notices are coming out in February with contact details for paper census forms if people want to complete these. **For note.**

*Annual parish meeting and meeting of parish electors.* A discussion took place on whether the annual meeting of the Parish Council [APM] should take place before the 'remote meeting rules' expire after 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021. On 4<sup>th</sup> April 2020 HM Government had passed regulations that permitted Councils to meet remotely before the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021. Thereafter they had to return to in-person meetings to ensure their meetings were legally convened. No extension to the regulations has been received to date. DALC had given advice to Clerks to consider whether to conduct their APM before the regulations expired on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021 or conduct the APM in person thereafter. The APM must be held during May in the year to, as a minimum, elect a chairman to the Council and confirm meeting dates for the year. The annual meeting for Strete PC would be on 20<sup>th</sup> May and would be held in the Parish Hall in normal times. A risk assessment is in place to meet in the Hall and can be updated. Councillors were in favour of meeting on the scheduled date of 20<sup>th</sup> May in person if regulations permitted. **Resolved the Clerk speak with the Parish Hall chairman to discuss the practicalities of having a meeting in the Hall in May.**

The Annual meeting of parishioners was also discussed. This is held between 1<sup>st</sup> March and June 1<sup>st</sup> each year. The regulations do not cover this meeting and DALC had advised Councils not to hold it in 2020. However, as it has not been held since May 2019 Councillors discussed whether to make arrangements to hold this

meeting. **Resolved the Clerk would look into how local societies felt about meeting either remotely or in person and report back to the next committee.** There are also local elections on 6<sup>th</sup> May so purdah may have to be observed. This means it may be inadvisable to convene this meeting before the elections have been held.

**Recent events on Hynetown Road with a farmer using the road to transport slurry.**

GC noted the road mess was mud rather than slurry. Some Councillors wondered whether an alternative route for the tractors/lorries could be used through the back of the village. Perhaps the farmer could drive along the edge of his fields and out the back. KG explained that there was not much margin between the crop and the edge of the field typically. IC said the volume of slurry was untypical and the timing was unfortunate straight after a road clean. He also explained the farmer couldn't exit by the playpark which is quite narrow. The Cox's Farm field entrance is simply the best entrance for all the fields which have to be accessed for this activity. IC admitted the tractors were too fast.

RC said that if farmers were going to deposit mud on the roads, they should clean it up afterwards. If they don't clean it up the PC will do so and charge them for it. A debate took place on whether the PC should sweep the road at that time of year. KG and LN noted as people are also cutting hedges to the end of February this is creating a mess on the road and the activity of farmers and others should really be co-ordinated. PH asked if it is predictable to say when slurry spreading will take place. IC replied that the activity is dependent on the weather.

PH suggested the PC liaise with farmers who drive through the village and find out when they are likely to do slurry work. The PC can then plan its road sweep around this. KG explained much of the activity is under contract and so farmers are focused on getting work done. **Resolved: The Clerk to provide details of farmers in the locality so we can let them know when we plan to do sweeping.**

Coronavirus updates. Devon is now in National lockdown and there is a review of the success of the lockdown on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>. The DCC website continues to update and inform on local Coronavirus matters. <https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/coronavirus-data/>. The number of positive cases in the South Hams since the start of the pandemic is 1,564 at 15<sup>th</sup> February. Deaths at 37 to that date.

**Daily summary | Chillington, Torcross & Stoke Fleming (data.gov.uk)**

**The report was received.**

**0221/7 CHAIR'S REPORT**

**Report submitted before the meeting.**

**Coronavirus** – So far, we have been fortunate in Strete – I'm not aware of any cases in the village and the South Hams has a very low count of cases. We still need to be vigilant with all the recommendations of last month. In my view the tighter we adhere to the restrictions the sooner lockdown will be eased, especially now that the

over 70's vaccinations are more or less complete. Don't forget, take up your offer of a 'jab' appointment: it's a breeze!!!!

Two days ago, as I exited from my home a police car came down the road towards me, I pulled in for it to pass. The policeman was looking for a property which allegedly had holiday makers in it. I was able to assure him that the occupants had moved to a different property and that the builders had moved in to do repair work. **THANK YOU** to the Police for working to keep us all safe.

**Strete Gate and Slapton Line. Strete Gate.** The coffee kiosk has been taken away to do some more repair work. **Slapton Line.** Since the last meeting travelling on the Line has been a nightmare. The 31<sup>st</sup> January saw the line closed because of a bomb which was blown up by the disposal squad at about 5p.m. I gather it was up near the road and moved onto the beach for detonation .... I quote "It left a b.... y big hole!!!" when I spoke to those who had closed the road. I understand 5 bombs have been washed up in the recent storms. Everyone will know that the Line was closed over the weekend because of shingle rocks and debris – now thankfully removed.

**Prideaux Lane.** The hedge banks at Start Bay Park end have now been trimmed.

**Play Park.** There is nothing new to report on the Play Park. The weather hasn't allowed any maintenance to be carried out.

**Let's look forward to a Happy Healthy Spring.**

**The Chair's report was received.**

## **0221/8 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

**A report was submitted prior to the meeting.**

### **Neighbourhood Plan Report – February 2021**

Following acceptance of the revised Neighbourhood Plan by Strete Parish Council on 21/01/2021, that included the Examiner's proposed amendments, the Examiner's report and revised Plan was submitted for a delegated decision by representatives of SHDC.

Delegated approval of the Examiner's report was confirmed on 27/01/2021. The Referendum Version of the Plan was fully checked and confirmed to be compliant on 28/01/2021 allowing the Regulation 18 Decision Statement to be issued and placed on SHDC's website. Unfortunately, due to the lack of administrative support it has not been placed on the website yet. However, it has been confirmed that this does not prevent placing the Referendum Version of SNP onto Strete website with the revised accompanying documentation. Nor does it affect the status of SNP which now has substantial material weight despite a Referendum not being held. It is hoped this will appear on SHDC website in the next few days.

As previously advised, a referendum will not be possible until COVID-19 restrictions for elections are lifted and, although there is a suggestion that elections will take place in May, a referendum may not be possible until Autumn 2021. RC confirmed

at the meeting that the referendum will take place on May 6<sup>th</sup> and he is preparing materials for publicity to go to the NP committee for approval. He will then get prices for printing. The NP cannot recommend how villagers should vote merely inform on the process. There is a purdah period of 28 days before the referendum date so 8<sup>th</sup> April for canvassing on the referendum.

The good news is that now a delegated decision has been confirmed, the policies in SNP must be referenced and observed in all planning matters within the Parish of Strete.

It has been suggested that when the PC responds to SHDC on planning applications that a standard note is attached relaying the status of SNP and to reference the policies in SNP that any comments made are based on.

This is a culmination of almost six years of volunteer work to bring about the Vision, Objectives and Aspirations of the community for the future of the parish.

RC also referred to local publicity on the draft plan in the press and online. He spoke to the editor of the newspaper and he will pass on RCs details to the article writer who works for the BBC. For those of you who may not have seen the online article about Strete <https://www.devonlive.com/news/devon-news/how-small-village-outstanding-sea-4984189>

The Devon Live article is taken from the Strete Neighbourhood Plan document. **The NP report was received.**

#### **0221/9 CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY**

PH introduced this item. The intention is to start a discussion on the climate change emergency and actions that can be taken by the Parish. The Council could for instance to look at tree planting, and green energy sources. Also, Strete can look at what is happening in other parishes and offer to collaborate. Councillors offered ideas. LN thought new build housing should be sustainable. Heating could use solar or air source heat pumps. Modern air source heat pumps are generally quieter than they used to be but require very good insulation. Insulation is generally good in modern buildings. RC spoke on his ground source heat pump which is efficient but quite expensive and also required building down into the ground. These forms of energy, sustainability and insulation see implications for building control and planning policy. RC noted the draft NP has policy on sustainable buildings. PH noted there is grant money available for these initiatives and for energy sources such as photovoltaic batteries.

LN advised sustainable materials and policies are often more expensive so government needs to support this movement or else people can't or won't use these materials when they build. PH noted new building regulations were coming in that required an electric charge point in all new build properties but this is expensive. GC asked what the Council's climate change policy would be and what the PC would like to support. He mentioned assistance to parishioners on energy consumption for

instance. What elements of the district and county policies could Strete adopt? The parish is fairly limited in what it can do but there are some measures for instance electric vehicles and tree planting which has a good effect on the environment. IC noted in his experience as tree warden it has been very difficult to plant trees in Strete without some criticism. RC wondered if the Council should learn from what other Councils had done. **Resolved: PH to research existing plans for a framework toward a plan and policy for Strete PC. All to contribute to this process.**

#### **0221/10 UPDATES ON PREVIOUS AGENDA ITEMS.**

**The memorial tree.** A report had been sent to Councillors outlining the consultation with DCC as landowner and the neighbours under the Management Agreement. IC had spoken with the parishioner who wanted to plant the memorial tree and there was another location which should be acceptable to people. The tree could go on the land below the Village Green opposite the Skerries. The Highways department would need to assess this for visibility. RC asked how big the tree would grow. The tree grows slowly to around 20 feet.

GC suggested that one of the failing trees on the plantation up at the top of the Green could be replaced with the new tree. The parish Council could then draw up guidelines for planting trees in the Village and Green. PH referred to the report circulated earlier. As there had been so many objections, the Council would have to opt for B:

*To decline the request to plant the tree in the Village Green. Minute the decision to make clear that the Village Green is protected and has covenants with the neighbours on 'nuisance etc'. This does not preclude planting trees elsewhere in the Village once suitable locations have been found that adhere to location, traffic and maintenance requirements. Again, a policy can be drawn up to help with future requests.*

PH wondered if the tree could go in Blackbird Wood. KG said she would ask the trustees of the Melroe de Smithes Trust who look after the Wood. However, this Wood is quite dense already; but IC thought the Wood should be curated and new trees introduced but that decision belongs to the Trustees.

DR who has an interest in the matter noted the family had been offered a place to plant the tree in the village which won't impose on anybody. It will be where family can sit and reflect. He will update Councillors on this decision. He observed he hadn't anticipated the response this request generated and was disappointed as a long-term villager in that. He stated that the family wouldn't now consider the Village Green.

LN noted Harry Fenton, a previous Councillor, had planted several trees on the Village Green however she thought it was maybe in 2015. GC thought the Village Green status dictated any tree planting that could be done now and it had to

conform to that as well as the management agreement with DCC. **Resolved: The Clerk would have a word with Richard Jackson of DCC Highways on whether the tree could be planted down opposite the Skerries.**

Strete Gate had been discussed already under the report of the County Councillor. **Resolved GC to draft a letter to Steve Mullineaux of SHDC and send it to the MP and the Press as well.**

### **0221/11 UPDATE ON CONTRACTS**

**Report received before the meeting.** RC had sent round an email on sweeping costs for 2021/22 recently. Greenspace are still to confirm their contract for 2021/22. LN thinks the Ellis' will continue with strimming work.

### **0221/12 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**Reports had been circulated prior to the meeting.**

**KG (Chair) Playpark.** KG was approached to look at having a hedge planted in the playpark so children were protected from the wind which sweeps across the playpark. KG had explained the playpark was on a lease with The Strete Estate and trees couldn't be planted in the playpark. GC asked if the Parish could check with the owner whether this could be looked at. IC explained he had spoken with the Strete Estate when the playpark was first built and they were quite firm that they didn't want trees in the playpark.

**LN Transport and Roads.** As noted already the roads were swept and then the farmer came and spread slurry on the fields leaving mud on the road. There is a notice saying the road between the shop and School House will be closed from 23 February until 3 March. Andy at the Post Office says the work to put a pipe into the new house which is being built is only likely to take a day, this will affect the buses. The line was closed from Friday 12 February until Monday 15 February due to very stormy conditions with shingle and large stones landing on the road. There appears to be no damage to the Strete end or the Torcross end when I visited it.

A minor accident happened on the brow of the A379 as it comes down from Dartmouth into Strete above Frogwell. A piece of wall juts into the road and was knocked as a driver passed [*an interest here as LN's brother-in-law did it*]. This is not the first time and she wondered if something could be done about the wall. DR thought this was caused at times by drivers going too fast over the brow of the hill into the village. He thought if the wall was reduced people would speed up anyway.

**PH offered to move the VAS down to that area again.**

RC had used the DCC Report a problem website recently for full gullies in the Village. Lisa Edmonds replied to say she will look at this next time she is in the area. A drain is blocked at the bottom opposite the Laughing Monk and may need to be dug out. He also wondered if IC had spoken to the landowner on the passing bay up opposite Blackwell Cross. IC said the landowner isn't bothered about it so anyone could go and fill it with spare tarmac. RC had suggested to the contractor who was

moving site material out of the Old Vicarage that he could dump it down in the holes there. IC said the only problem is the big farm vehicles that pull in at this spot and would gouge out the holes again. **The Clerk said she would look into the road warden scheme this and speak with Slapton PC who has enrolled in this scheme.** <https://www.devon.gov.uk/communities/opportunities/road-warden-scheme>

**DR Health and Safety.** DR had nothing to report.

**IC Rights of Way, tree warden and Strete Gate.** IC had reported elsewhere in the meeting on the memorial tree [0221/10] and Strete Gate [County Councillor report]. IC asked for confirmation on the keyholders for the barriers at Prideaux Lane. GC listed a number of keyholders including the Clerk and himself.

**RC Planning and Neighbourhood Plan.** The parishioners at No 2 Crestway are speaking with their neighbours on their plans as discussed last month. [0121/4]. RC had also spoken with the owner of the Old Schoolhouse on his correspondence and plans to build two affordable houses [0121/4] and was awaiting a response.

**PH. VAS Monitoring.** Nothing to report. Operation continues at the Totnes Road location.

**Local transport liaison.** Nothing new to report.

**Climate Change Emergency. Devon Carbon Plan.** The public consultation stage of the Devon Carbon Plan closed on 15th February. The Plan will consider the earliest, credible date which should be set for net-zero emissions, together with the recommended ways to get there. The comments will now be assessed and the plan will be finalised. A February newsletter is available.

**Strete Residents EV Survey** Updates in bold.

1. Maintain a watching brief on the development of the public charging infrastructure in the local towns of Kingsbridge, Totnes and Dartmouth. Schemes have been announced but have not yet been implemented.

**Status – ongoing, no visible progress at present.**

2. Maintain a watching brief on the availability of grant monies to support rural charging infrastructure.

**Status – ongoing. Both SHDC and South West Water have announced the availability of grant monies for Community Projects linked to climate change.**

3. Insert a provision of £1250 into the Budget for the 2021/22 financial year to fund a public charging facility, with an intention of having it up and running by the end of Q1 2022. **Status – done.**

4. Suggest to Strete Community Pub Limited that a business case for the acquisition of a public fast Charging Unit should be carried out, with a view to it being located in the Kings Arms car park and operated as a revenue stream for the pub. The business case should take into account the benefit of any future grant subsidies which might be announced which would help to make the venture viable (no subsidy is currently available).

**Status – Rose Cottage is being sold to a private buyer complete with two car parking spaces in the Kings Arms car park. It is possible that an agreement could be negotiated with the new owners for the siting of a vehicle charging point near them.**

5. Share our survey and results with local neighbouring Parishes and look for synergies in approach.

**Status – Following the identification of obvious synergies between the two Parishes in this matter a date of 4th March has been set for an exploratory Zoom meeting to discuss how we might work together. An agenda for the meeting has been agreed and circulated to all attendees. These will include PH, GC, LN and the Clerk for Strete.**

6. Provide a facilitation service to offer a conversation between prospective BEV purchasers and existing owners, with the aim of providing education about electric vehicles allaying fears about investing in this new technology.

**Status – available upon request (PH).**

7. On a wider Climate Emergency point, carry out similar resident surveys aimed at raising the awareness of the availability of new technologies with grant subsidies, for example the phase-out of oil and gas fired boiler systems and their replacement with ground and air source heat exchangers, the widespread availability of Solar Photovoltaic (PV) schemes for heating and power and the availability of home insulation schemes. The PC could play a major role in assisting DCC and SHDC to achieve the aims of their Climate Challenge Declaration.

**Status – standing agenda item from the February meeting onward.**

**Parish Benches and picnic table maintenance.** Nothing further to report.

**GC Village Green.** GC had little to report. He had asked Greenspace to confirm they will be carrying on the contract for grass cutting. No reply to date. The planting of the memorial tree was discussed under 0221/10. **Reports were received.**

### **0221/13 CORRESPONDENCE**

This has been forwarded to councillors as it was received.

### **0221/14 OTHER BUSINESS**

PH referred to an article in the Dartmouth Chronicle on planning applications and a certificate of lawfulness applied for by a parishioner. The Parish is not consulted on this matter. The parishioner was quoted in the article.

**0221/15 THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY 18<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021 AT 7.00 PM. THE VENUE IS LIKELY TO BE ON ZOOM UNLESS OTHERWISE ADVISED. THE MEETING WAS CLOSED** at 9.10 p.m.

**Signed: Cllr Kate Gill (Chair) Dated:18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021**



### **A bit of history to start this edition!**

Did you know that between 1955 and 1989 the hall was leased by the Youth Hostel Association for eleven weeks every summer? It was known either as Strete or Start Bay Hostel.

When the hostel at Gara Mill closed in 1949 the YHA scouted around the coastal area for other premises. Strete Parish Hall became available through the onetime baker's assistant who used to deliver bread to Gara Mill. He was now the owner of the bakery and Chairman of Strete Parish Hall Committee. He suggested to his committee that an approach was made to the YHA to find out if they would be interested in the use of the hall for the summer months.

On receiving this information the YHA sent Mr Charles Allen, the regional secretary, to visit the hall with a builder friend, Sid Endean. They realised the position was ideal and drew up a sketch plan, showing the erection of light portable partitions that could be erected in the hall to form the dormitories and common room. There were already toilet and kitchen facilities available for use. The YHA Committee agreed to the plan, a rental agreement was also reached with the hall and within three months the hall was fitted up with the partitions. Dartington Hall made a gift of a portable building, that was erected at the rear of the hall, to serve as a member's kitchen and the hostel opened in July 1955.

The seasonal warden with the longest service was Joan Williamson of Bridgewater. Mr Allen used to travel over to Bridgewater each year to collect Joan, with everything but the kitchen sink. Each year she used to bring a dozen large paintings, the work of her husband, which were hung in the common room and quoted as The Strete Hostel Paintings Exhibition by visiting members. Joan was warden there for eight years. She made good friends with members of the hall committee and helped establish a good feeling towards the YHA in the village. Additional costs were incurred in 1988 because the lack of volunteers meant that a paid warden had to be used for part of the season. The beds and blankets were quite elderly and, along with all other items of equipment, had to be dismantled and stored in the roof space during the winter. Generally the facilities offered were primitive and far below the minimum standards then required by the YHA. Considerable time was also needed to establish and then dismantle the facilities each year. If the YHA were to continue the annual operation it would have to replace beds, bedding, all equipment and partitions. Adequate and safe kitchen facilities along with additional toilets were also needed. The whole exercise for such a short amount of time was proving impractical and it was decided to bring the agreement to an end in 1989.

**\* If anyone has information about the Strete Youth Hostel, please let me know \***

## EVENTS

**VILLAGE DAY: sadly this has, once again, been cancelled.**

There are still too many “what ifs” to make it all worthwhile. However, there are two social events, to be held at the Hall, we should like to bring to your attention.

**1: COFFEE MORNING + STALLS: SATURDAY 26th JUNE:** (all restrictions are due to be lifted on Monday, 21st). There will be a stall for your plants and produce.

Also, if you would like to make a cake, that would be most welcome.

**2: VILLAGE BBQ: SATURDAY, 18th SEPTEMBER:** Many of our summer visitors will have left by then so this event will be for the village to celebrate coming out of all the restrictions we have endured for so long. A Jazz Band has been booked and there will be a bar to help provide the party atmosphere.

**\* More information of both these events will follow in due course but keep these dates free for a return to NORMAL village fun! \* Penny**

**THOUGHTS FROM A VILLAGE MILLENNIAL:** Lockdowns have brought with them a plethora of purging problems: depriving people of their beloved company; tearing away vital capital for businesses and a plunging list of other adversities that could quite possibly scrape the bottom of the Marianas Trench. This all deeply saddens me, but with the arrival of our third national lockdown, I have managed to find a real atmosphere of complete bliss. Yes, like the other lockdowns I have reverted to my true nature: being a back-bedroom casualty. However, even within the confinement of the four-walled world of my bedroom, the single act that should have had an adverse effect on my well-being turned out to be the key to a world of peace.

**I turned off my phone!**

Although our phone keeps us within the circle of mangled madness that is our world and we know and see all that goes on whether it be good or bad - mostly bad - I truly believe that all this negativity and information are such burdens to carry on one's mind. I know personally that seeing the vast array of saddening situations COVID-19 forces on our country every single day has pulled me down to the darkest depths of my mind. So, with all the courage of a soldier at Rorke's Drift,

**I turned off my phone!**

For me, being an 18-year old millennial, it was quite a bizarre experience, but, after dusting off some cobwebs, all was fine. Within my four-walled world I left the complexities of the rest of the world in my phone and many hours of literature and music ensued. I found being lost in a book was an enthralling experience instead of being warned of a future war on Channel 4! The weight of the world could wait another day as, for now, my mind was at ease. What I want to gain from this article is the sense that I have encouraged others to realise their phone is not always a necessity in their life. It could be very much a squawking beacon of negativity that batters the mind every waking moment of every day!

Please, in this time of isolation, treat your mind to its own company - not the rest of the world's. Pick up a book, turn on your stereo and sink into your chair until life's complexities have slipped away into the furthest reaches of your mind. It may just save your life!

**NATHAN** (This was a letter from Nathan printed in the Dartmouth Chronicle a few weeks ago)



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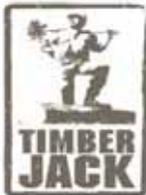
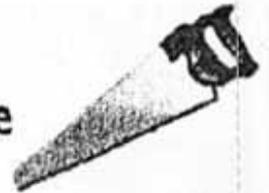
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# DISCOVER WELLBEING

"IT'S GOOD TO TALK"



Hi, my name is Trish Robertson and I live at The Laughing Monk here in Stretre. I am absolutely delighted that Dave Jones, editor of Stretwise, has invited me to be included in the magazine. In this article we have a wonderful chat with Kevin Hooper from Stretre Barton House, an open invitation to you all to join my wellbeing classes online and a yummy recipe for culinary wizards. The sunshine is returning to us, the leaves are renewing themselves and look out for the many wonderful spring flowers that are appearing on the many delightful walks around the village.

## *"MY DAYS IN CUPS OF TEA"*

### A CHAT WITH KEVIN HOOPER FROM STRETE BARTON HOUSE

#### **Where is your favourite place to be with a cuppa in Stretre Barton House?**

Sunday morning whilst reading the papers with Classic FM or Radio 4 on in the background, sitting in the garden on a sunny day accompanied by scones or putting the world to rights with friends. However, I can think of one particular time when a brew is especially welcome; after doing some back breaking work in the garden and you have a five minute respite to put your feet up to enable the tea's medicinal properties to reach your aching parts.

#### **What is your favourite receptacle and where did it come from?**

It was a large, slightly dated, Wedgwood bone China mug, with a green tartan print on the outside and a small picture of a classic car in the inside. About six months ago however, I heard a crash in the kitchen followed by my partner, Stuart, coming into the sitting room looking crestfallen. He had dropped my precious mug.

The importance of the mug was such that I still have it, albeit missing a handle and with a large chunk missing from the top. I think Stuart's guilt is such he will either (a) forever be on the lookout for a replica, or (b) is waiting for the time when he will take up pottery to craft me another.

#### **Do you think about taking your time and being Mindful when drinking a cup of tea?**

Every time! There is something about a cup of tea that instils restfulness, whether it is a few seconds after having a quick slurp whilst working or having the joy of a flask, on the beach listening to the rolling of the waves.

#### **Do you drink different teas?**

My Devon childhood has meant that I have never ventured that far from the regular black tea. However, I often have a cup of Earl Grey as I do find it refreshing.

#### **Biscuits or cake? And are you a dunker?**

Afternoon tea with biscuits or cake is essential. Growing up I was certainly a biscuit dunker; the optimal dunking biscuit was the digestive biscuit – firm and strong and fully capable of the job, unlike Rich Tea which, frankly, was not up to the task.

#### **And finally, milk or tea in the cup first?**

I understand that historically, pre-refrigeration, milk was put in the cup first to check that the milk was not off. In my opinion, in modern times putting in milk first seems to go against the grain. I like to gauge the colour of the neat tea before diluting it with milk

*"A treat a day keeps the doctor away"*

## Earl Grey Biscuits

- 175g (6oz) plain flour
- 50g (1¾oz) icing sugar
- 2 tbs Earl Grey tea leaves
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 100g (3½oz) butter, softened, plus a little extra for greasing
- 1 medium egg yolk

1. Put the flour, icing sugar and tea into a food processor. Add the baking powder and butter and whizz to form a soft dough. Shape into a ball, wrap in clingfilm and chill for 20 minutes.
2. Meanwhile, preheat the oven to 190°C / 375°F / gas mark 5, and lightly grease 2 or 3 baking sheets.
3. Remove the dough from the fridge and lightly flour a work surface. Roll out to a 5mm (¼in) thickness, cut out shapes with a 5cm (2in) cutter (or various sizes) and space apart on the baking sheets.
4. Bake in the preheated oven for 8–10 minutes until lightly golden. Leave to cool on the sheets for a couple of minutes before transferring to wire racks to cool completely. These biscuits keep for up to 4 weeks in an airtight container or sealed packet.

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## Online Zoom Classes

1. Group Meditation: minimum of five people  
£10 per person  
Wednesday evenings from 6pm - 7pm
2. Mindfulness Classes: minimum of five people £10 per person  
Mondays 8pm - 9pm  
Tuesday 6pm - 7pm  
Wednesday 1.30pm - 2.30pm  
Thursday 9am - 10am  
Friday 9.30am - 10.30am
3. Energycare and Wellbeing  
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## *Breathing Exercise*

Breathe through the nose for 7 counts then breathe out through the mouth for 11 counts. Repeat as many times as necessary.

When you breathe deeply, it sends a message to your brain to calm down and relax. The brain then sends this message to your body.

Breathing exercises are a good way to relax, reduce tension and relieve stress.

## Stretewise Crossword - Answers

**Across** 1: Avatars 3: Acorn 7: Bonnet 9: Ermine 10: Oca 11: Ostler 13: Facade  
15: Inept 17: Enacted 19: Gasps 21: Capable 23: Epic 24: Amalgamate 25: Leek  
26: Embroidery

**Down** 1: Ambrosia 2: Rotor 4: Comic 5: Niece 8: Nutmeg 12: Eats 14: Dwell  
16: Pancake 17: Escolar 18: Crammed 20: Spier 22: Emery

### Strete Short Mat Bowling Club

It is with great sadness that we have to announce the sad passing of Bryan Seymour.

Bryan was a founder member of our Club and is without question the only reason that the Club is in existence today.

Although an accomplished bowler in his day, his passion and enjoyment of the sport of bowls in general led him to not only take control of the day to day running of the Club, arranging hall bookings and team fixtures, but he was also the Secretary and Treasurer for many years.

Now more than ever it seems fitting that his name will be forever associated with the Club by the recent naming of the Bryan Seymour Room at the Village Hall.

Bryan will be much missed, not only by those who knew him well from the bowling world, but also the wider community where he took an active role.



THURSDAY, 4th March 2021 13

## A slight understatement



... were used water from a local hydrant to prevent the fire from spreading further.

The rear of the campervan was partly destroyed by the fire, the cause of which is believed to be accidental.

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Withdrawals or deposit of cash can be made via your card (and PIN number).

#### **All contributions to the magazine are welcome:**

Recipes, Crosswords (not cryptic) articles, letters,

but the editor reserves the right as to whether to include, edit or adjust the content. Contributions should be sent to [stretewise@outlook.com](mailto:stretewise@outlook.com) or hard copies of contributions can be left at the to the Post Office or delivered to the Editor: 27 Start Bay Park, Strete, TQ6 0RY.

#### **Copy deadline for the next issue June-July will be 23rd May 2021.**

Stretewise is either £1 per copy purchased from the shop or £4 for a yearly subscription of six issues.

To subscribe for 2021, send £4 to the editor, Stretewise, Strete TQ6 0RY, pay your distributor or pay at the Strete Post Office and Stores. Please provide your name, address and the date you paid.

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