



# STRETEWISE

Price £1

August - September  
2022 Vol 31:04

Published with support from the Captain Pearson Memorial Trust,  
Advertisers, Strete Parish Council, individual donations and our readers.  
Printed by Parish Magazine Printers.

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**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**

When it comes to how to mark seventy years as your Queen, there is no guidebook to follow. It really is a first. But I have been humbled and deeply touched that so many people have taken to the streets to celebrate my Platinum Jubilee.

While I may not have attended every event in person, my heart has been with you all; and I remain committed to serving you to the best of my ability, supported by my family.

I have been inspired by the kindness, joy and kinship that has been so evident in recent days, and I hope this renewed sense of togetherness will be felt for many years to come.

I thank you most sincerely for your good wishes and for the part you have all played in these happy celebrations.



THE QUEEN'S  
PLATINUM JUBILEE  
BEACONS  
2<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2022





THE QUEEN'S  
PLATINUM JUBILEE  
BEACONS  
2<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2022

























## Strete Chapel

Greetings once again from Strete Chapel. We continue to meet every **Sunday at 11am** for our weekly service. We enjoy fellowship together as well as interesting and challenging messages from our visiting speakers. Please come and join us!

### **Date for the diary!**

Harvest Thanksgiving Service

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2022**

Followed by a shared meal in the village hall.



### Young Searchers Children Club

We have had a great term at the Young Searchers club learning more about the miracles of Jesus; from healing the sick to feeding the five thousand. We have played lots of games; with hide and seek and the marble run being firm favourites with the children. We have also done craft each week to test our creative skills. These are photographs of the models we built and painted.



We will be meeting again on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

It is 6-7pm every **Thursday**. If interested please get in touch for more information or just come along!

At this time of year we see an increase of visitors to the area and are also thinking about holidays ourselves. Having time out from our busy lives can be important to our health and relationships. Seeking rest is also a biblical principal, but it is only through God that we find peace. Jesus says...

**"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."**

This is Strete chapel's prayer for you today.

# St. Michael's Church

'Dear friends'

Change can be hard and disconcerting but I hope these words can bring a sense of an important and continuing journey for us all; some thoughts, not originally mine, but words that truly resonate with me.

A Life that Matters

*Ready or not, some day it will all come to an end.*

*There will be no more sunrises, no minutes, hours, or days.*

*All the things you collected, whether treasured or forgotten, will pass to someone else.*

*Your wealth, fame, and temporal power will shrivel to irrelevance.*

*It will not matter what you owned or what you were owed.*

*Your grudges, resentments, frustrations, and jealousies will finally disappear.*

*So, too, your hopes, ambitions, plans, and to-do lists will expire.*

*The wins and losses that once seemed so important will fade away.*

*It won't matter where you came from or what side of the tracks you lived on at the end.*

*It won't matter whether you were beautiful or brilliant.*

*Even your gender and skin colour will be irrelevant.*

*So what will matter? How will the value of your days be measured?*

*What will matter is not what you bought but what you built; not what you got but what you gave.*

*What will matter is not your success but your significance.*

*What will matter is not what you learned but what you taught.*

*What will matter is every act of integrity, compassion, courage, or sacrifice that enriched, empowered, or encouraged others to emulate your example.*

*What will matter is not your competence but your character.*

*What will matter is not how many people you knew but how many will feel a lasting loss when you're gone.*

*What will matter is not your memories but the memories of those who loved you.*

*What will matter is how long you will be remembered, by whom, and for what.*

*Living a life that matters doesn't happen by accident.*

*It's not a matter of circumstance but of choice.*

*Choose to live a life that matters.*

*Michael Josephson (2003)*

I want to say a huge thank you to you all for the love and support - and from those who do - your prayers too - over the last 6 years.

Thank you for your recent kind words, cards and gifts as my retirement comes ever closer.

I shall miss you all very much.

I've loved living amongst you and haven't we been through it over the Covid Years... but we've done it together and the South Hams will always have a very special place in my heart.

Thank you for living lives that matter.

Every blessing **Reverend Alison**



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# Strete Social Club

A warm friendly welcome will be given to guests

## Social Club - Jubilee Meeting.

Dorothy Teal welcomed members to the Jubilee meeting. Tables had been set out with red cloths and union jack serviettes. Members were asked to recall if they had met the Queen or seen her at anytime. Heather Robinson gave us an amusing and very entertaining account of her visit to a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. Heather had been invited for her tremendous efforts over many years in organising the collection and despatch of shoe boxes, filled with essential items, abroad to countries in need. The most important thing was "what to wear". She found a dress in turquoise and then to her surprise a matching fascinator. As she was not sure of the weather an umbrella with matching turquoise trim was also found. She was set to go!

A colleague went with her and they arranged for a driver to take them on the day. A special permit was arranged for the driver to park in the Mall. They walked to Buckingham Palace and were escorted down

some steps to the garden and then suddenly they were ushered to one side and there was the Queen at the top of the steps, dressed in turquoise with matching umbrella! Although they were not invited to meet the Queen they were able to see her very clearly. They had a marvellous tea and as they had had a good view of the Queen, they decided to have a walk around the grounds



making a comfort stop at the Royal Portaloos before heading back to the car. Heather was really impressed with the Royal Portaloos, really luxurious! The heavens then opened and the grounds were flooded and she recalled seeing men rolling up their trousers and beating a hasty retreat from the grounds. The Mall became flooded as they made their way back to the car. However it was a very special day and one she will never forget.

Rita Mansfield told us that she was given the task in 2011 of organising the invites to the Queen's visit to Royal Shakespeare Theatre at Stratford upon Avon. The theatre had undergone a major restoration which was much needed. There was an enormous crowd waiting to see the Queen and as she approached the Centenary Gardens the band struck up the National Anthem and the crowd cheered. As the noise was so great the Queen turned to the person escorting her and said "what are they playing" and he replied "they are playing your tune Ma'am".

Anne Blacoe remembers the Queen visiting her son's school and was delighted that she was sitting directly opposite her Majesty but was greatly impressed as she noticed that during her time sitting there the Queen gradually turned her head slightly from left to right so that everyone could see her.

Dorothy thanked everyone for their contribution and wine was poured and the Queen was toasted. Tea and cake was also served.

# Strete Social Club

A warm friendly welcome will be given to guests

**Social Club - Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June.**

Quickly any business was dealt with and our speaker for the afternoon was introduced.

Mr. Jeremy Wilson who owns the Camelia business at Strete Gate returned to talk to us about the History of Tea. He had brought along two small tea plants one being a small leaf which the very tips are picked from and this quickly shoots again and a larger leaf plant which comes from India (Assam).



He told us how the terms of Char and Tai came to be names to be associated with tea.

There are six basic teas, some of which e.g. white tea, that most of us had never heard of. He had samples to show us the different forms in which these were presented from tightly rolled very very small ones to a brick formation.

In around the 1700 tea was first sold in coffee houses in London of which there were 3,000 of them.

Tea became a popular drink as it was very dangerous to drink water and beer was the drink, even children drank this, and with boiling the water to make the tea it was then safer to consume.

There was a heavy tax on tea, this is why only the wealthy had it and it was kept in a tea caddy which only the head of the household held the key to. These drags were then used again by the servant to brew tea and then were used again by people outside the wealthy peoples.



An interesting fact was that it was £10 tax for one pound of tea. (119%) It was only in 1964 that paying tax on tea was stopped.

Seventy percent plus of tea was smuggled into this country.

How we came to have tea in bags was really by accident from samples that were sent in little bags and the recipient put the complete bag with the hot water instead of removing the tea from the bags to brew.

An interesting fact was that Castle Drogo, Drewsteignton was built from wealth made by the tea trade. Another one was that you do not need boiling water to make the perfect cup of tea but water just off the boil.

All present hadn't heard of this for tea only coffee.

We do have tea plants growing in this country, Cornwall, Devon and Scotland.

He illustrated his very well presented and interesting talk with slides.

Dorothy gave the vote of thanks and then we enjoyed our usual cups of tea and biscuits served by Rita and Chris.



# STRETE BBQ

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# Strete Social Club

A warm friendly welcome will be given to guests

## Strete Social Club on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022

The meeting was well-attended with sixteen members who listened to an informative talk by Keith Langworthy of the Coastguard Agency. Keith is the station officer at the Dartmouth Coastguard based in Bidders Close Stoke Fleming.

Keith took us through the history of the Coastguard Agency, what the Agency does in its bicentennial year of 2022, the local Coastguard and what is entailed if someone volunteers for the Agency.

**History** The Coastguard Agency was established on 15<sup>th</sup> January 1822 to tackle the prevalent smuggling along British coasts at that time. There were 3,000 men appointed to catch smugglers and they wore uniforms and carried muskets.

In 1854 the Merchant Act gave them a wider role in sea rescue. Equipment consisted of a horse and cart, rope and canvas floatation jackets buoyed with cork. They also acted as a backup for the Royal Navy in its work around the British Isles.

At the start of World War I the Coastguard was assigned to three cruisers [Cressy, Aboukir and Hogue]. Unfortunately a German U boat torpedoed the cruisers and 1,400 men perished. Then between the two world wars the Coastguard continued in its rescue role mainly taking people off stranded ships.

When World War II was declared, the Coastguard was deployed to work in intelligence gathering and reporting the movement of ships and airplanes along the coasts. They covered mainly the East and South West coastlines. They also cleared mines and rescued grounded aircrew. Many of the 4,500 coastguards were retired naval men and they were issued with fairly old equipment such as pre-World War I arms.

By the end of the 1940s technology had improved and helicopters were brought into service. The Navy, RAF and Coastguard each had rescue helicopters with distinct livery. The Navy copters were green, the RAF were yellow and the Coastguard were red and white. This air cover enabled the three services to cover more area and more effectively.

**Today** The members of the Coastguard include women, first admitted in 1970, who go out on operations as well as being based in command stations. There are twelve operational stations. These are located around airports and bases such as Newquay, Solent and Swansea which can scramble helicopters to go to rescues. There are also six fixed-wing twin-engine aircraft used to survey and report on incidents such as oil spills and monitor shipping movements. A Boeing 737 is also maintained to carry equipment for oil spills. This includes booms to contain the spill and soak up mats. Drones are now in use to explore hard to reach areas with a local drone station based in Paignton.

The Dartmouth unit or team is in area 10 which covers Beer to Mevagissey. Area 10 has three senior operational managers who oversee four teams of 11 to 15 personnel each. The local station is based at Bidders Close Stoke Fleming. Some coastguard stations see nearly daily rescues for instance on the Wirral. Torbay has around 250 rescues a year and Dartmouth sees between 40 and 45 call outs each year. There have been 25 in this year so far.

There are a number of specific activities performed by different coastguard stations and this depends in part on the local terrain. For instance Morecambe Bay specialises in mud rescue and the personnel can be called anywhere to use their specialist skills in mud rescue. Water rescue involves entering the water to snatch people to safety, cage rescue which is often used in rivers, and throw rescues using ropes to haul people into safety. Cave rescue is another specialist activity but often teams liaise across specialist roles



to assist each other in a rescue. Flood rescue is a newer activity which will be manned by the end of 2022.

The local team in Dartmouth specialises in cliff rescues and the eleven members train to rescue off cliffs. Keith observed the need to rescue people from below cliffs had declined since the coast path was opened. Much of their work now involves rescuing walkers who have slipped on paths. They have a range of equipment carried in a front sack to attend an incident. The equipment includes bandages, splints, straps, pain relief and oxygen. There are wrap round and sledge style stretchers used to carry casualties. Dogs are the most common animal casualty and can be rescued in a carry sack which is then hauled up. The Coastguard don't tend to do farm animal rescues.

Search is now the biggest aspect of the role of coastguards and they have received training from experienced search and rescue teams based in the US, Canada and Australia/New Zealand. The search adopts a hub and spoke approach searching from a last known-point outward. When a search takes place, this involves a number of agencies including the police and ambulance. The local team can go anywhere in Devon from the moors to coasts of the county.

The Dartmouth team is kept occasionally busy with handling World War II ordnance. The most recent memorable example of this is the bomb discovered in Exeter last year on which the team assisted. They also deal with discoveries on Slapton

Sands where easterlies and southerlies can uncover old bombs.

The Coastguard then isolates these before bomb disposal experts from Plymouth blow them up. In recent times the Coastguard has taken on a role helping casualties until the ambulance arrives.

**Training and volunteering** The Coastguard is staffed with volunteers. Training takes place weekly and covers aspects of the work for instance cliff rescue, first aid and animal rescues.

Other training takes place with the Navy in a multi-agency approach. They also work with the RNLI on rescues. They don't send teams abroad at present.

The Coastguard is funded through the Maritime and Coastguard Agency around £100m a year. Keith explained the Coastguard Association is a separate charity which cares for coastguards. At the end the Club made a donation to the Coastguard Association toward their benevolent work.



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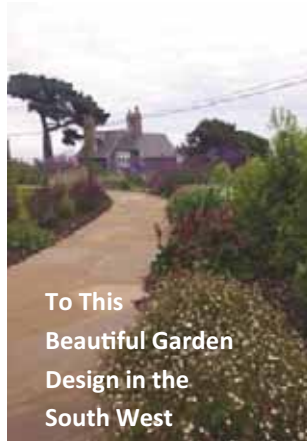
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# Strete Social Club

A warm friendly welcome will be given to guests

## Strete Social Club on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022

On a very hot summer afternoon there was a good attendance at the Strete Social Club with two male guests joining us.

The business was dealt with and our speaker for the afternoon was introduced. Pete served in the Royal Navy for 13 years and decided he would like to join the Police, much to his father's delight.

After his training was sent to join the Thames Valley Police and although not his favourite choice was given a post in Slough in Berkshire.

On the table was displayed his police helmet, truncheon and a pair of the old style handcuffs which were linked with a chain, nowadays this is a solid bar. We couldn't try these on as he did not have the key to unlock them!!!

He told us many interesting cases that he had been involved in and of the progress that had been made e.g. in 1990 DDNA was introduced, cases that have been solved after twenty or more years.

He served for a time in the C I D which he found very interesting and gave him many more opportunities to further his career. He answered the many questions that arose and the talk was enjoyed by all present. Karen warmly thanked him for the talk and for his service to the community.

We were treated to homemade buns to enjoy with our cups of tea served by Judy and Rosemarie.



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## THE DARTMOUTH and KINGSWEAR SOCIETY AUTUMN TALKS – LUCIEN PISSARRO 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022

The Society's first autumn talk will be held in the Flavel at 5 p.m. on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September. Our speaker is Dr. Andrew Jackson of Bishop Grossetest University, Lincoln, who will be talking



about the French impressionist Lucien Pissarro (eldest son of Camille).

Dr. Jackson contacted the Society for help in his research on Lucien Pissarro and his Dartmouth and Blackpool Vale paintings. In return for our assistance, largely from our President Sir Geoffrey Newman and committee member Liane Baldock, Dr. Jackson readily agreed to give us a talk.

The Mill House, Blackpool, Devon 1913



# Strete Social Club

## AUTUMN PROGRAMME 2022

A warm friendly welcome will be given to guests

Meetings are usually held in Strete Parish Hall on alternate Tuesdays at 2.30PM

September	6th	Tea and Chat - Members
	20th	Music and Quiz - Karen Hales
October	4th	Wellbeing - Georgina Lewis
	18th	Musical Interlude - Trish Robertson
November	1st	Bees, Butterflies and other Insects - John Tucker
	15th	Christmas Crafts - Yvonne Temple
	29th	Christmas Flowers - Linda Mabey
December	8th	Christmas Lunch at Kings Arms NB on Thursday.
	13th	Wine and Mince Pies





## **The Kings Arms. Your Community Pub.**

The main announcement this month is the launch of a second share offer for the pub. The Chair and the Treasurer have written on the following pages about the reasoning for this. But for Covid, the pub would not need to do this: however, funds were required to address the challenges created by Covid and its consequences, especially the staffing crisis. These funds need to be replenished if the pub is to be secure. A share offer prospectus will be published in the coming days and the offer will be open through the summer. After a vote by members, it was decided to make the minimum investment one share, at £50, with the hope that this opens up investment to a wider range of people.

A rough calculation suggested that if half the village visited the pub once more each month, the pub would be in profit. It has not been an easy time for all of us but things are now looking better and, as we move forward, if people do visit more regularly, we would have a vibrant pub at the heart of the village for years ahead.

There have been some great events since the last Stretewise. The Jubilee was a massive success, especially on the Friday when the sun shone, and even with the somewhat dismal weather on Saturday it was one of the pub's busiest days. The BBQ towards the end of June rocked, with acoustic rocker Terence Waldstadt leading the singing. There's another Summer BBQ with live music in July and in August.

Since then, the weather has been great and, to make the most of it, the Kings Arms is now open seven days a week. Unfortunately, like many in hospitality, the pub is still facing staffing shortages, especially in the kitchen. We have been advertising for a commis chef for some time now, hopefully the summer will bring some interest but if you do know of anyone, please mention this to them.



There are now gazebos and parasols up in the garden, so whether it's too sunny or there are showers, the garden is the perfect spot to take in the views and meet friends.

August is our quietest month for events but there are still a few:

Friday 12th Fishy Friday 5.30-8.30pm with market specials and Start Bay cod & chips.

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Art Fair in the garden. Local artists will be showcasing their work in a garden exhibition.

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> Book Club 8pm. The new book club continues.

Contact Alice Lee if you are interested: [alice.eliz.lee@gmail.com](mailto:alice.eliz.lee@gmail.com)

Friday 26<sup>nd</sup> Fishy Friday 5.30-8.30pm, second of the month for this popular night.

Saturday 27th Summer The final BBQ of the summer, with live music and a BBQ specials menu.

September will see the return of the monthly pub quiz and monthly village lunch.

So, as it stands opening hours are:

Monday & Tuesday: 12-11pm bar only – the kitchen will open if we can hire someone.

Wednesday to Saturday: Open 12-11pm with food served 12.30 to 2.30pm and 5.30 to 8.30pm (although we are also hoping to keep the kitchen open longer if staffing allows)

Sunday: Open 12-9pm with food served 1-5pm.

To book or find out about events, phone 01803 770027

or email: [bookings@kingsarmsatstrete](mailto:bookings@kingsarmsatstrete)

For other enquiries, please contact: [info@kingsarmsatstrete](mailto:info@kingsarmsatstrete)



## The Kings Arms: A Message from the Chair

**The Kings Arms needs you!** We have been open as a community pub for two years, offering a fantastic and vital community asset in the village, with great food, a lovely atmosphere, fine artwork and far-reaching views from the garden; indeed, many of the [Stretewise](#) readers are regulars or volunteer behind the bar, in the gardens or at key events but we need more help!

As most Stretewise readers will be aware, it's not been plain sailing. Covid has cast a long shadow for all of hospitality, there have been industry wide staffing difficulties and rising costs have acted as a drag on the business. We have managed to keep our heads above water (just) using the cash reserves from our first share offer and various grants. There are sufficient signs that the Kings Arms will be a sustainable operation as a community pub - normal life seems to have returned after Covid and turnover is growing.

However, any profit made this summer will not be nearly enough to recover the money lost due to Covid and its repercussions and, as importantly, will not provide the buffer required to mitigate the annual poor winter trading that the pub will face in the winter ahead. Therefore, the Strete Community Pub Limited Committee is launching a Second Share Offer this July.

We will be offering single shares for sale for £50 per share, accessible to everyone, and people can invest as much as they wish. These funds raised will give us a buffer against winter trading and allow for investment into ideas that can increase turnover.

Without this there is a danger that the pub will become insolvent before it has a chance to establish a solid financial basis for the long term. It is pleasing to know that a number of people have already offered to invest, but please spread the word!

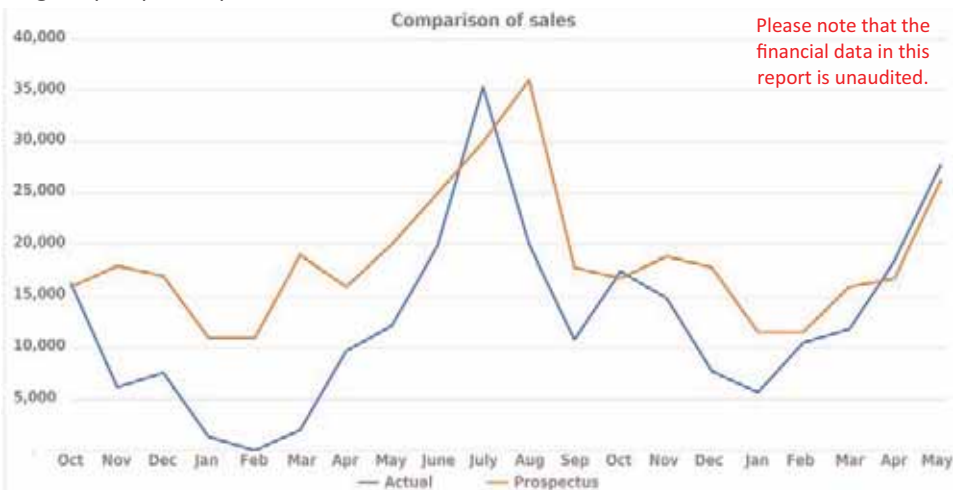
The aim is not to make a significant return for investors, but to keep alive a vital community asset in the village - something that adds value to our lives, our community and our properties. The purpose of the share offer is to maintain a prudent cash reserve and invest in the things that will keep the pub at the centre of village life. If we can't raise this investment, the Kings Arms may disappear – and most people realise that once a pub goes, it is gone forever.

**Nicola Cullen – Chair SCPL**

## Kings Arms: Financial Report form the Treasurer

1. Since opening in October 2020 there have been numerous periods of Covid related restrictions and the Covid impact has lasted far longer than any of us expected. After a complete closure that winter, we saw the restart of trading In April 2021 but only outdoor. Restrictions and scares continued into 2022. Since then there has been various indirect impacts from Covid, not least it has been one of the key contributors to the extremely challenging staffing crisis faced by the UK hospitality industry, with chef recruitment and retention in particular.

2. Despite this, the chart below shows that in the months when the Covid impact has been reduced, actual sales performed reasonably well compared with the forecasts made in the original prospectus plan.



3. Challenges continue to persist and Strete Community Pub Limited, in common with the hospitality sector generally, has battled through summer 2022 with staff shortages and rising costs.

4. Inevitably Covid has had a significant impact on SCPL's financial resources despite grant support from South Hams. The prospectus forecast a profit of £2,691 for the first year of trading whereas the actual performance for the same period (year ended 30 September 2021) was a loss of around £9k. For the year ended 31 March 2022 the actual result is a loss of approximately £45k as the full impact of Covid was felt, in terms of restricted opening times, staff shortages and customer fear, along with the drain of winter trading.

5. Overall, to the end of March 2022 our assessment is that Covid has caused a loss of sales of around £120,000 and a loss of contribution of nearly £50,000 even after grant support. We were very fortunate that the original share offer was oversubscribed and the additional funds raised enabled the Kings Arms to survive the unprecedented Covid crisis until now.

6. Trading continues to be challenging with the ongoing staffing crisis and instability about constantly changing costs – for example a 51% increase in electricity rates. As a result, the profit made over this year's summer season will not be enough to recover the money lost due to Covid or mitigate the poor winter trading we know we will face in the winter ahead.

7. Turnover continues to increase and with appropriate staffing levels it will increase further. Cost instability is expected to stabilize later this year. A number of potential areas for investment will make a material difference to turnover.

8. With a successful share offer, the appropriate level of cash surplus would be maintained through winter and the investment opportunities could be realised. Without it, there is a danger that as winter approaches the Kings Arms will face insurmountable difficulties.



# STRETE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Helen Darch

Homer Park, Strete, Dartmouth TQ6 0SJ streteClerk@gmail.com  
01803 770018 www.strete.org.uk

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF STRETE PARISH COUNCIL (PC) HELD AT STRETE PARISH HALL ON THURSDAY 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022 AT 8 PM

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**PRESENT:** Cllr Peter Hales (PH) (Chairman); Cllr Kate Gill (KG); Cllr Ian Cumberlidge (IC); Cllr Louise Newman (LN); Cllr Ralph Clark (RC); Cllr Graham Campbell (GC); District Councillor Richard Foss (RF); Mrs. Helen Darch {Clerk}; two members of the public.

### **0522/1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR 2022/23**

Peter Hales offered to stand as chairman. There were no other nominations. Peter Hales was elected chairman by a unanimous vote.

### **0522/2 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN FOR 2022/23**

Ralph Clark offered to stand as vice chairman. There were no other nominations. Ralph Clark was elected by a unanimous vote.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

Mr. Green spoke on a letter he had previously sent. This concerned application **1245/22/FUL** which is listed on the agenda to be discussed by the Parish Council. The intention is to demolish the existing barn and replace with one in the same footprint but with a more level roof. The new barn would be in keeping with the other barns alongside and be nicer in appearance. It will be used to store equipment. Councillors asked questions on the materials to be used which are a steel frame to replace the existing wood frame. The barn would have roller doors and glass to keep the wind out. The barn has power already but would have a water supply put in to clean the equipment.

### **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

**The County Councillor sent a report to be read out.** It's been another strange year but it's good to be meeting face to face again. A massive thank you to the Parish Council, community groups and local parishioners who have carried us through the pandemic. Without the help and support from the local community things could have been a lot worse.

The County has increased council tax by 3%. With the lack of support from central government there was little choice. The government had choices but chose to see council tax rises – hardly levelling up! There will be extra spending on children's and adult's services which is welcome. However, this extra funding is from reserves and therefore a one off. Worrying times.

Children's services still have many improvements to make. This is very disappointing as this has been the case for over 10 years. There is a new head of children's services, and I am confident, with the right support, she will bring about the changes required.

The County has changed its policy on 20-mph zones and Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS.) Local communities can now ask for these without having to qualify through various strict criteria. (With a 20-mph limit already, this does not affect Strete so much.) Thank you to the PC for progressing further traffic calming options, especially on the Totnes Road. RC commented he was still awaiting a response from DCC Highways on the Gateway Scheme which had been submitted to them earlier this year. **Resolved PH would ask the County Councillor to chase up the decision on this scheme.**

Any news on the Slapton Line will probably have been updated at the preceding meeting but again a special thank you to the Chairman Peter on his hard work on pushing forward the maintenance

plan for the memorial. I've been very happy to support the Parish Jubilee celebrations from my locality budget. **The report was received.**

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

RF reported on the resumption of the green waste service [brown bins]. Strete had missed its collection this week. He noted only 3 of the 7 rounds in any day were being collected. People need to still report missed collections to the website to [www.southhams.gov.uk/misssedcollection](http://www.southhams.gov.uk/misssedcollection) or telephone 861234. There is a meeting with FCC, the contractor, in June to try to resolve these issues.

RF noted the government's Levelling Up Agenda did not appear to benefit South Devon. The Planning department is very short of planning officers and is being revamped to adjust for this. He noted the Government idea to let neighborhoods resolve some planning issues [*Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill*). There needed to be more weight on local neighborhood plans. RC observed one issue was to get planners to interpret the neighborhood plan when making planning decisions. RF informed all he is now chairman of the Development Management [planning] committee.

RF spoke on the memorial which is being relocated to Strete Gate. South Hams are waiting for DCC to submit a planning application before the move and its new location can be agreed.

He concluded by offering locality [Sustainable Community Locality Fund] money for projects. The Clerk asked if the Biodiversity Fund was still open and this was confirmed.

**0522/3 APOLOGIES** – Cllr David Rothwell; County Councillor Julian Brazil (JB);

### **0522/4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2022**

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

### **0522/5 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.

**No interests were declared.**

### **0522/6 PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS**

**Planning applications consulted on. To discuss and respond to South Hams District Council on:**  
**1317/22/HHO** Householder application for extensions and alterations, detached garage, relocation of oil tank (resubmission of 0135/22/HHO). Blossoms Pasture Hynetown Road Strete TQ6B ORS.  
**Resolved to support.**

**1245/22/FUL.** Demolition of existing barn and construction of replacement barn/outbuilding, Landcombe House, Strete TQ6 ORH.

**The meeting was closed for a parishioner to speak.** She noted there had been considerable time spent on consulting with planners over this and other applications. She felt planners gave conflicting advice when they were consulted. She had requested pre-application advice and spoken with the Duty Officer. RF promised to speak with the Head of Planning on this.

**The meeting was then reopened.** Councillors then **resolved to comment** as follows:

**Councillors have some concerns the building is not a like for like replacement but is enhanced in terms of interior double glazing and insulation to the extent it would be easy to repurpose as holiday accommodation.**

**Other planning matters.** Tree at Blindwells [1600/22TEX]. The application will require a replacement as the tree is one included in TPO983. IC noted he was concerned about the other trees at the site. The Clerk confirmed application 0606/22/HHO will be held over until the June meeting.  
**RF then left the meeting.**

**0522/7 UPDATES ON STANDING AGENDA ITEMS**

**Council targets agreed for 2021/22 year.**

No	Project	Target	Resolved - latest
1	Night Landing Site for Air Ambulance.	Operational by May '22	PH has spoken with the land agent for the Strete Estate. There is no further information until the estate is sold. DAAT has closed their latest grant round. They will work with the parish in future funding bids. <b>This is a long-term goal now.</b> £1,010.47 is earmarked in reserves toward the project.
2	Enhanced vehicle Speed Control measures in the village.	Operational by May '22	A VAS is on order paid for by the Vision Zero grant of £2,345. DCC Highways to site the machine.
3	Raise Awareness of any forthcoming Green Grants for domestic heating, insulation etc.	When grants are available	Drop-in event in Village Hall awaits CAB grant advisors and their availability. PH has requested £400 from RF's Biodiversity and Climate Change
4	Secure electric vehicle public charging facility in the village.	Operational by May '22	Need a volunteer.
5	Identify sites for tree planting in the village.	Plant trees in winter 21/22	Sites offered include Manor Farm. The Church will plant a crab-apple tree in the Churchyard to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee. IC suggested room for two [silver birch] trees below the Village Green. DCC Highways would need to be consulted on suitable trees and upkeep/ insurance issues.
6	Agree and sign up to an Action Statement on the Climate Change Emergency.	<b>Target met at the October 2021 meeting.</b>	It was resolved at the October meeting to endorse the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill going through parliament.

**Other matters.** There has been a fair amount of noise down at Strete Gate. The suggestion is to contact the local police if this happens again. The Sgt at Dartmouth is Ollie Abercrombie and his details are published in Stretewise.



**0522/8(a) FINANCE**

The conditions on the Vision Zero grant award of £2,345 required the Council to liaise with Devon Highways on the type of VAS machine and where it should be located. The Messagemaker machine put forward for approval is that recommended by Highways and was acquired in a group bulk buy scheme. **The Council resolved to approve the purchase of a VAS machine £2,348.75 plus recoverable VAT funded by £2,345 Vision Zero grant.**

**0522/8(b) FINANCE**

**The Council resolved to approve the renewal of insurance for the Council for the year 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023 with BHIB Ltd £336.83.** Under Financial Regulation 8.2.1 two quotes were requested and obtained. The quote from Zurich Municipal was £300 but omitted individual assets such as the playpark and the war memorial. A revised quote was sought to include itemised assets but not received by the meeting.

**0522/8(c) FINANCE**

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

1839 – Clerk salary for May £271.	1840 – BHIB Ltd Insurance renewal for y/c 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2022. £336.83.
1841 – Hall hire for April 2 meetings £40.	1842 – Stocksigns Limited ref Messagemaker VAS machine £2,348.75 plus VAT.

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

**0522/8(d) FINANCE**

The Clerk presented the initial monitoring statements for 2022/23 which cover the two months to May 2022. Year to date total income of £9,889.78 less total expenses of £6,154.86 gives a net surplus of £3,734.92 to the end of May 2022. The receipt of the first half precept £7,000 and grant from Vision Zero of £2,345 were noted. **It was resolved the monitoring statements would be put on the website and the noticeboards.**

**0522/8(e) FINANCE**

Cash at bank – £17,046.32CR Current account at 6/05/22, £11,310.48CR Business Reserve account at 6/05/22.

**0522/8(f) FINANCE : Resolved to receive** the Annual Internal Audit Report 2021/22 of the independent examiner for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

**0522/8(g) FINANCE**

**It was resolved to receive and approve [in order]:**

- i. the Annual Governance and Accountability Return Section 1 [Annual Governance Statement 2021/22];
  - ii. the Annual Governance and Accountability Return Section 2 [Accounting Statements 2021/22].
- These were then signed and dated by the Chairman and the Clerk [Section 1 form] and the Chairman and the Responsible Finance Officer [Section 2 form]. These will be uploaded to the website for information.

**0522/8(h) FINANCE: It was resolved to note the dates for the public inspection of accounts as 13<sup>th</sup> June to 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022.** This notification will be uploaded on the website and on the noticeboards to comply with the Transparency Code.

### **0522/9 UPDATE ON CONTRACTS**

The map of buddle holes in the Parish is being updated for the outlying areas. The sweep contractor will visit on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> to do a sweep in the village and Fuge. RC will confirm the farmer is available to take the sweep. The Clerk will research WIFI contracts for the Hall as the current contract expires on June 5<sup>th</sup>. **These were all noted.**

### **0522/10 PLATINUM JUBILEE**

The 72 jubilee mugs have arrived and are with PH for safekeeping. A cheque of £75 toward bunting costs was paid over to the Parish Hall committee in April. A parishioner who works for a highways firm has very kindly offered to oversee the closure of Hynetown Road for the Jubilee tea party. This is being done pro bono although the Clerk had asked for a quote and requested the parishioner claim expenses. The opportunity to do so will be left open as the Council budgeted £200 for this. £450 in grants have been received toward jubilee costs. KG will confirm with Stretewise the timings for the beacon lighting on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. These are currently from 7pm with live music and food. The beacon will be lit at 9.45pm.

### **0522/11 DISCUSSION AND UPDATE ON OF VARIOUS LAND MATTERS**

This item has been held over to the June meeting and PH and the Clerk have drafted a paper to be circulated.

### **0522/12 CLERK'S REPORT**

**Report submitted before the meeting. Banking.** The Council is now live for Bankline and it is intended subject to the updated signatories to be used from next month to make payments online. Real-time balances can be downloaded but the system will need to update signatories which requires [yet another] form.

**Road safety measures.** The £2,345 grant for road safety measures has been received and will be used to pay for the second VAS machine. The machine is on order and should arrive in due course. The Clerk will receive the machine.

**Notification of road works. The Clerk gets daily notices but this** remains a bit hit and miss. It doesn't always match what is being done. This is one for Julian.

**HMCE grant.** This has been applied for to cover at least 50% of the road sweep contract we entered in February. So as contracted for (£370 x 4) and to keep an eye on fuel costs. We can apply for more once we have settled the buddle hole contract. The claim must be for future works not that already paid-for.

For June: to update and adopt the financial regulations. **For July: report on updated standing orders. Action: to discuss and update/adopt as noted. The report was received.**

### **0522/13 CHAIR'S REPORT**

**Report submitted before the meeting. May 2022 report**

**Residents survey for improvements to leisure facilities** Discussion continues over the new facilities that might be provided. The PC will engage with residents once again when firm proposals come forward.

**May PC Meeting** The Right Hon Anthony Mangnall MP has agreed to attend our next Parish Council meeting on 19th May. Also in attendance will be a representative from the Slapton Line Partnership. The meeting will be structured so that Mr Mangnall will have the floor at 7pm for a short address on local issues which is expected to focus upon the resilience of the Slapton Line, followed by questions from the public audience. We shall draw the session to a close at 8pm at the latest, and the normal Parish monthly meeting will follow on, The first item on the agenda will be the election of a new Chairman for the coming year.

**Bus Consultation by Devon County** Only £14M of the £34M requested in DCC's 'ambitious' Bus Improvement Plan was approved by the Department for Transport. This follows National announcements that the funding available for the 'Bus Back Better' campaign has been cut to £1.9Bn to cover 31 local authorities. Both Plymouth and Torbay had their plans completely rejected. In contrast, Cornwall was chosen as a pilot area with fares to be "slashed" by as much as 40 per cent, thanks to an extra £23.5 million for the county. The original DCC bid was a detailed costed initiative, to roll out greener, cheaper environmentally friendly buses, in tandem with more regular services in rural areas to help with connectivity, and drastically reduce commuter car journeys and pollution. DCC are currently finalising a new plan explaining which priorities they intend to direct the reduced amount of money towards. Once this has been prepared, they will then move to a full public consultation in May. The work that went into compiling the BSIP will have to be revisited. 'Ring and Ride' services are likely to feature in the outcomes.

**HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Anniversary in June** A range of events is being planned by village organisations and other individuals, including a street party (with road closure) on Hynetown Road on the Sunday afternoon 5<sup>th</sup> June. Advertising for the events is underway with delivery of a flyer to each household, advertising in Stretewise and posters placed around the village. I can confirm that the PC has received the commemorative China mugs which will be given to every Parish resident aged 16 or under on 5th June. We are keen to refine our list of eligible young people, so if you know someone who would be eligible, please let the Clerk know.

**Slapton Line Partnership** A meeting of the SLP took place on 22nd March 2022 and agreed minutes are appended. Proposed relocation of the Slapton Line Memorial Following agreement of a form of words for the Maintenance Agreement between the six Parishes, Piers Spence, Chairman of Stokenham PC, has continued discussions with the FSC. The final stumbling block appears to involve insurance arrangements for the structures, which is a discussion involving the County and Shire councils.

**Climate Change Emergency** Regrettably, the PC's postponed Home Energy Efficiency Residents meeting originally arranged for 15th January has again had to be put on hold until the Citizens Advice service can spare an advisor. Due to the current cost of living and domestic energy crises, the CA service is currently overwhelmed. However one to one appointments are still available by arrangement in Dartmouth.

**Waste Collections** At least one scheduled brown bin collection has been missed in the village since the service recommenced. Residents are urged to report such lapses to the SHDC online waste reporting service on each and every occasion that a scheduled collection of any sort is missed.

**Night Landing Site for the Devon Air Ambulance** Nothing further to report.

**Post Box on Hynetown Road** No response or acknowledgement of our appeal was received from Royal Mail. This is unacceptable, and the local MP has now agreed to take up the matter on our behalf. We await developments. **The Chair's report was received.**

## **0522/14 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**Reports were circulated prior to the meeting. PH. This report was given under 0522/13.**

**KG. Slapton Line Partnership and AONB.** There is nothing for me to add about SLP matters. However there have been issues at Strete Gate - there seem to have been some outrageously noisy events which have gone on all night. I have been contacted by Helen Hardwicke with regard to the fencing around the carpark - we are still discussing the problem.

**LN. Roads: hedges, and litter.** I have nothing to report on the roads. A litter pick is being organised at 9.30am on Saturday 28 May. I will bring details to the meeting.



**DR. Health and safety, Parish Hall liaison. Defibrillator.** I am afraid that I have very little to report this month. I was unable to attend the AGM of the parish hall as I am dealing with family matters at the moment.

I have noticed that whilst the poo bins in the dog field and the one outside the post office are being emptied, the new one by Manor Farm seems to be overlooked and was overflowing when I walked past on Saturday. Perhaps this could be looked into? The Clerk confirmed Helen Hardwicke had been asked to look into this in April and this week. IC has trimmed round the poobin and the VAS machine.

**IC. Rights of Way, Tree warden, Strete Gate and Playpark. Footpaths/Bridleways.** The footpaths and bridle ways are an "absolute picture" at the moment, with new growth and particularly, Wild flowers. A very dry Late Winter and Spring has caused everything to 'flower' profusely. There are still a few problems with the coast footpath from Strete village to Strete Gate, i.e. some broken steps/posts. they are, I believe, on the list for repairs. Incidentally, the footpaths and hedges adjacent, are positively 'alive' with wild birds either nesting, and/or adult birds feeding 'young'.

**Play-park.** The grass has been cut again since our PC evening visit, and looks a little better. There is still a list of minor repairs to be carried out, which have been, again, 'flagged up' by the Playpark Inspector, but nothing seemingly dangerous/life-threatening. Basically 'maintenance & up-lift'.

**Strete Gate.** Not much to report about this area, except for a possible danger of Mr Dayment's cattle walking over the broken fencing, and ending up on the car park and/or the highway. Mr Dayment has been informed, but seems to be fairly "relaxed" about it. If they were MY cattle, I would put an electric fence on the 'field' side of the decrepit post & rail fence, just to 'safe-guard' my livestock! The fence around the car park, or at least, its ownership, and therefore, responsibility for its upkeep has been the cause of disputes for many years. It was installed by Council workers when the section of field was purchased for carpark usage, but S.H.D.C. seem to be 'shying away' from that fact!

**Tree Warden Report.** The tree that has been 'earmarked' for 'felling' on the Blindwells site, I am pretty sure, is the small Ash tree on the other side of the Hyne Town Road hedge, fairly close to where the Post Box used to be.

It is nearly horizontal, and maybe, has collapsed because of soil erosion, or over-excavation, possibly. There are STILL incidents of tree 'felling' or heavy crown reductions being carried out in the last few weeks, which is right in the middle of the bird-nesting season. Not only is it unethical, but it is illegal! IC referred to seven trees removed down Hynetown Road.

**RC. Planning and Neighbourhood Plan, road maintenance including sweeping and Kings Arms liaison. PC Report – May 2022.**

**Neighbourhood Plan.** Now that the NP is fully made, its policies are included into SHDC planning legislation for consideration when determining planning applications in the parish. The document and its policies set out in detail the aspirations of the village residents for development in the village. Policy SNP5 Tranquillity and Dark Skies, that aims to protect the peace and views of the night sky in the village, is specifically mentioned in a recent planning decision. The Parish Council is a statutory consultee for such applications and will seek to ensure that the policies in the NP are fully considered in any formal planning applications that come forward. RC noted he was still waiting for an update on an enforcement he had requested to do with lighting issues and the dark skies policy in the Made Plan.

**The Kings Arms.** Strete Community Pub Ltd (SCPL) Committee delivered a 6-month update to Shareholders in April.

Minutes of this meeting have been circulated to all Shareholders.

The committee continues to seek additional staff to allow 7-day opening. This includes an assistant to the chef, a kitchen porter and part time or full time Front of House staff.

The Management Team believe a Front of House Operations Manager is needed to support staff and manage the day-to-day organisational issues associated with hospitality that arise.

The Kings Arms will be playing its part in supporting village activities to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a 2-day beer festival that will extend into its fabulous garden. There will be food from the kitchen, a garden BBQ, local musicians and various activities to create fun for all.

**Village Sweeping, Fuge Road and Gateway Scheme.** The village sweep is due to take place on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2022 and will include Fuge Road on all future occasions. This is to help present Fuge Road to Devon Highways in a more 'cared for' condition to encourage and persuade Devon Highways to undertake highway improvements for the long-term protection of the route.

The PC is still waiting to hear back from Devon Highways in respect of the proposal submitted to reduce vehicle speeding by installing a line marking gateway scheme to encourage vehicles approaching the village near Manor Farm camp site to observe the 20mph speed limit.

**GC. Village Green, Prideaux Lane, campervans and carparks, social care and Slapton Line partnership.**

**Village Green.** I need approval to buy a new combination lock for barrier in Prideaux Lane and a post and spike to limit avoidance of the barrier as recommended by Devon CC, cost £30.

**Resolved to fund a lock for £30 as described.**

The Buddleia in the copse on the field, despite some pruning, is choking some of the young trees. I will attend to it, but it will need more drastic pruning in the autumn.

Citizens Advice is now regularly available without booking at the Community Cafe in Dartmouth marketplace on Mondays 10.30 - 1.30.

**Reports were received.**

## **0522/15 CORRESPONDENCE**

All correspondence has been circulated to councillors. PH reminded councillors of replies owed on the correspondence from a parishioner at Glen Cottage. The Council will then write to the parishioner. RC mentioned a parishioner had requested an email on Ukraine be circulated via the Council's email list. Councillors resolved to politely decline due to data protection regulations on the use of data held by the Council.

## **0522/16 TO APPOINT PARISH REPRESENTATIVES**

**Councillors indicated they were content to retain their current roles. These are:**

PH.(Chair) – VAS monitoring, liaison with neighbouring parishes and local transport liaison.

PH asked if someone would like to take on responsibility for the VAS machines.

KG. Slapton Line Partnership and AONB.

LN. Roads: hedges, and litter.

DR. Health and safety, Parish Hall liaison.

IC. Rights of Way, Tree warden, Strete Gate and Playpark.

RC. Planning, road maintenance including sweeping and Kings Arms liaison.

GC. Village Green, Prideaux Lane, campervans and carparks, social care and Slapton Line partnership.

**0522/17 TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

**Councillors agreed to represent the Council on the following bodies:**

Slapton Line Partnership KG and GC.

Coleridge Association PH.

Dartmouth Caring GC.

Citizens Advice GC.

Kings Arms Pub RC.

Parish Hall committee DR. LN offered if she could confirm when the committee meets.

**0522/18 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS FOR THE COMING YEAR: in Strete Parish Hall at 7pm**

The approved dates are as follows

16<sup>th</sup> June 2022

21<sup>st</sup> July 2022

18<sup>th</sup> August 2022 (if necessary)

15<sup>th</sup> September 2022

20<sup>th</sup> October 2022

17<sup>th</sup> November 2022

15<sup>th</sup> December 2022 (if necessary)

19<sup>th</sup> January 2023

16<sup>th</sup> February 2023

16<sup>th</sup> March 2023

20<sup>th</sup> April 2023 Annual Parish Meeting

18<sup>TH</sup> May 2023 Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

**0522/19 OTHER BUSINESS**

PH reminded the Clerk that her appraisal was due and to let him have dates. Next month's planning includes an application 0606/22/HHO Lower Court Barns. PH requested a site visit.

**0522/20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 7pm. Venue in the Parish Hall unless otherwise advised. **THE MEETING WAS CLOSED** at 9.55 p.m.

Signed: Cllr Ralph Clark (Vice Chair) Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2022







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# PROBUS CLUB OF STOKE FLEMING AND DISTRICT

## Where friendliness matters above all else

Our main aim is to encourage men who have or are, about to retire and enjoy the fruits of their labour to socialise in the congenial and relaxed atmosphere at our home base – the Stoke Lodge Hotel. We are a mixed bunch and although our title states that our membership comes solely from those with “professional and business” experience this is certainly not the case. Our members’ background and experience is as wide and diverse as one can imagine.



We meet mostly twice a month at the Stoke Lodge Hotel, Stoke Fleming on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. The meetings commence with coffee at 10.30am followed by a speaker at 11.00am. On the first Wednesday of the month we follow the speaker with a lunch.

We are non-sectarian, non-political and a not-for-profit club. We support the concept of charitable activities but do not undertake any fund raising or charitable works.

### WHY NOT BE OUR GUEST?

The Probuss Club of Stoke Fleming and District is pleased to announce that the Autumn Programme is as follows:

#### September 14<sup>th</sup>

Lunch PHIL EVANS The Desert War 1940-43

#### September 28<sup>th</sup>

Coffee EARL CONNOLLY A Train Journey in Miniature

#### October 12<sup>th</sup>

Lunch PETER GILL The Wit and Songs of Noel Coward

#### October 26<sup>th</sup>

Coffee PETE MOORE Being a Police Surgeon

#### November 9<sup>th</sup>

Lunch JOHN KEEHANE 21 Years Incarceration in the Tower of London

#### November 23<sup>rd</sup>

LADIES LUNCH JOHN MILES Bound together in Whimsical Stories

#### December 14<sup>th</sup>

Lunch ANDREW THOMPSON Otzi The Ice Man 2023

#### January 11<sup>th</sup>

Lunch PHIL BRADCOTT The Fatal Shore.  
The Transportation of Devon Convicts to Tasmania

#### January 23<sup>rd</sup>

Lunch JOHN BRYANT Bioethics and Genetic Engineering

January 25<sup>th</sup> AGM 2.0PM

Come, join us for coffee at your convenience and receive a warm welcome

Why not give John Light, our Publicity Officer, a call and he will be pleased to give you more details 01803 834861 or email him on [johnlight1@gmail.com](mailto:johnlight1@gmail.com) Or take a look at our website:

<https://stokeflemingprobuss.wixsite.com/stokeflemingprobuss/programme-of-events>



We are excited to invite you to our annual day celebrating the environment and nature,  
the local community and its businesses

# Celebrate Start Bay Festival



Sit back and enjoy music from Ukulele group "The Lazy Cow Band", folk and jazz musicians Ginny and John and more

Listen to Nature Tales by Storyteller Adam Goodlad

Enjoy yummy Stone-baked Pizzas and Sweet Potato Curry from the FSC Kitchen

The Bear and Blacksmith will be firing up their BBQ and treating us with their award worthy Burgers

Talks by "The Devon Forager", "Ambios "Rewilding and "Planet and People"

Chill out with Helens sound Meditations

Get hands on with wildlife themes activities with the FSC education crew

Learn about every different aspect of nature and wildlife with local charities and organisations

Check out the fabulous handmade products of local craftspeople and learn about their skills

Treat your self with an Ice cream from Dartmouth Ice cream Company

A Grand Raffle will round off the day



[www.field-studies-council.org/  
locations/slaptonleynnr](http://www.field-studies-council.org/locations/slaptonleynnr)



@FSCSlaptonLey



# 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 AT STRETE PARISH HALL ON THURSDAY 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022 AT 7 PM

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**PRESENT:** Cllr Ralph Clark (RC) (acting as Chairman); Cllr Kate Gill (KG); Cllr Ian Cumberlidge (IC); Cllr Louise Newman (LN); Cllr Graham Campbell (GC); Cllr David Rothwell (DR); Mrs. Helen Darch {Clerk}; twelve members of the public.

## **PUBLIC FORUM: No 10 The Plat**

A number of parishioners attended the meeting to make representations on planning application 1175/22/HHO No 10 the Plat. Prior to the meeting the applicant had written in to explain the background to the application. A letter had also been received from a parishioner which objected to the application and three emails which did likewise. The Council then wrote a letter sent by email to the applicant on June 15<sup>th</sup> to inform them that there had been feedback from other parishioners which raised objections to aspects of the application and outlined the main objections known to the Council. Parishioners were reminded that the Parish Council were consultees in the planning process but did not make the final decision on applications.

At the meeting the applicant was invited to speak but declined. Their letter to councillors set out the following aspects to the application in relation to the planned roof extension.

*That the plans were meant to look in keeping with No 5 the Plat. To look correct and in keeping with the rest of the Plat on entry to the estate. That the height of the roofline was dictated by the need for an access door which couldn't go through the central chimney breast.*

Five other parishioners spoke in turn. Comments made focused on an aspect of the application which concerned a planned first-floor extension to the house above the existing garage which would be flush with the existing first-floor roofline. Parishioner comments are grouped where these cover similar aspects. The Joint Local Plan and the Made Strete Neighborhood Plan were both cited in discussion as reasons for objection to the application.

*Adherence to the Made Strete Neighborhood Plan: SNP7 Design and Construction.*

*Adherence to the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan 2014 -2034*

Policies DEV 20 [Place shaping and the quality of the built environment], DEV 21 [Development effecting the historic environment], DEV 23[ Landscape character], DEV 25 [ Nationally protected landscapes]. In particular the local distinctiveness of the Village of Strete and emphasis on the quality of life of inhabitants. Policies SPT1 [Delivering sustainable development], SPT2 [Sustainable linked neighborhoods and sustainable rural communities].

*The South Hams AONB Planning Guidance whereby Strete is within The Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty* That the greater weight on aspects of the landscape and natural beauty and designs should respect and enhance the landscape.

*The neighborhood of the Plat within the Conservation Area for Strete*

Although the application is not within the conservation area, part of the Plat is, and appeal was made to the symmetry of the Plat in relation to the conservation area.

*Material planning considerations* were deemed to include design including appearance, layout and scale, planning policies and guidance [as listed in these minutes e.g., DEV 20], and impacts on visual amenity. It was noted there is no right to a view but it was felt this was an exception.

*Particular examples of the impact of the raised roofline were cited.*

These included the effect on No 14 The Plat which lies slightly below No 10 and according to the objections would lose much of its evening sunlight. That the householder at No 5 the Plat would lose their sea views from every upstairs window. Likewise, No 1 the Plat would lose much of their view down the Plat.

That the housing estate of the Plat was designed so that houses ‘fitted in’ and each had a view of the coast.

*Suggested alternative*

An extension which builds into the existing roofline of the garage and extends out the back of the house. An example of this construction is at no 8 the Plat.

*Requested action*

To partially refuse the planning application in respect of the first-floor extension above the garage. There were no objections to the replacement rear conservatory, the wood burner or the driveway extension. The need for a construction management plan was cited.

**Strete Barton House.**

The applicants attended to explain their application to change use from a bed and breakfast back to the original use as a single dwelling. As the application is within the AONB there was a requirement to make an application to revert back to original use. No external works would be necessary. It was explained that the loss of accommodation would not seriously impact the offer of accommodation in the village where over 80 alternate bedrooms were available and in addition nearby campsites.

**The road closure at Stoke Fleming.** A parishioner asked about progress on works and when the road would reopen.

**Resolved the Clerk would contact Highways and come back to the parishioner.**

**Hedge cutting below a property.** A parishioner raised concerns over the removal of the hedge bank below the house. IC commented if this was a Devon Bank then the works were not lawful but this would need to be established. Also, the property was not within the Conservation Area and there was no TPO on any tree in that area. **Resolved to request SHDC enforcement visit and report on the removal of the bank.**

## **COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT**

**The County Councillor for Devon County Council [DCC] sent a report to be read out.** The Road at Stoke Fleming will be closed for another month. It’s incredibly frustrating. Phil Elliott and his team did a fantastic job and it could have been opened last week. For some reason County have allowed it to remain closed while the owner has a different scheme – might save them a bit of money. Perhaps the PC would like to contact the head of highways and ask for an explanation?

**Robert.richards@devon.gov.uk**

Peter knows more about moving (or not) of the Memorial. And unfortunately the Adaptation Manager for the Line has left. Not quite sure what the plans are now – will keep you informed. **The report was received.**

**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:** The District Councillor for South Hams District Council [SHDC] was absent and did not submit a report.

**0622/1 APOLOGIES –** Cllr Peter Hales (PH) (Chairman); County Councillor Julian Brazil (JB); District Councillor Richard Foss (RF).

## **0622/2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19<sup>th</sup> MAY 2022**

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



**0622/3 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. **DR lives in the neighbourhood of the application for No 10 The Plat and this was noted in view of item 4 on the agenda.**

#### **0622/4 PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS**

**Planning applications consulted on. To discuss and respond to South Hams District Council on: 1175/22/HHO.** Householder application for replacement rear single storey extension, first floor bedroom extension over the existing garage, modifications to existing drive to provide additional parking including resurfacing with new impermeable surface. 10 The Plat, Strete TQ6 0SE. **Resolved to object with comments.**

*Strete Parish Council has received strong feedback and representation from a considerable number of neighbours opposing the scale and nature of the proposals. There is no doubt the property is extremely visible from a number of surrounding viewpoints and the proposed modification would be quite dominant. The main objections expressed by neighbours revolve around the proposals for the removal of the existing pitched roof over the garage replacing it with built-up walls front, rear and side and a full height ridge and roof extension of the existing roof. This will be highly visible from three aspects. When The Plat Development was designed careful and deliberate attention was paid to the proportions and dominance of the structures so that the open nature of the development and the surrounding views of the AONB might be preserved.*

*Strete Parish Council suggest an alternative arrangement as a compromise involving retention of the existing pitched garage roof and utilisation of the roof space over it by building out towards the rear as an alternative. This solution would have the benefit of preserving the existing lower ridge line over the garage from the front view which would provide a much less massive appearance whilst still providing additional bedroom space. A similar solution has been adopted at a property towards the bottom of the Plat and is much less intrusive.*

*Regarding the proposed replacement sun room: Strete Parish Council has concerns about how the exhaust flue would be arranged given the proposed building design. Strete Parish Council has no comments to make about the proposed extended drive and parking arrangement.*

**0606/22/HHO.** Householder application for single storey extension Lower Court Barns The Hayloft, Strete TQ6 0RW. **Resolved to object with comments.** *The Parish Council doesn't object to the extension but they are concerned at the design of the windows. They believe the existing windows are more in keeping with the building itself. They would also ask the applicant to look at conservation roof lights which are discrete and consider the requirements of the neighbourhood plan dark skies policy.*

**1890/22/FUL.** Change of use from bed and breakfast accommodation to be used as part of the existing single dwelling. Strete Barton, Totnes Road Strete TQ6 0RU. **Resolved to support.**

**Other planning matters.** Enforcement. Two enforcement matters have been resolved. One remains outstanding.

#### **0622/5 PARISH COUNCIL TARGETS FOR 2022/23**

**This item was held over until the July meeting and the return of the Chairman.**

#### **0622/6 UPDATES ON STANDING AGENDA ITEMS**

**Council targets agreed for 2021/22 year.**

No	Project	Target	Resolved - latest
1	Night Landing Site for Air Ambulance.	Operational by May '22	The land agent for the Strete Estate confirmed there is no further information until the estate is sold. DAAT has closed their latest grant round. They will work with the parish in future funding bids. <b>This is a long-term goal now.</b> £1,010.47 is earmarked in reserves toward the project.
2	Enhanced vehicle Speed Control measures in the village.	Operational by May '22	The VAS is with the Clerk. <b>To contact DCC Highways to site the machine.</b>
3	Raise Awareness of any forthcoming Green Grants for domestic heating, insulation etc.	When grants are available	Drop-in event in Village Hall awaits CAB grant advisors and their availability. PH has requested £400 from RF's Biodiversity and Climate Change fund toward this initiative.
4	Secure electric vehicle public charging facility in the village.	Operational by May '22	Need a volunteer.
5	Identify sites for tree planting in the village.	Plant trees in winter 21/22	Sites offered include Manor Farm. The Church will plant a crab-apple tree in the Churchyard to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee. IC suggested room for two [silver birch] trees below the Village Green. DCC Highways would need to be consulted on suitable trees and upkeep/insurance issues.

**Other matters. Resolved the Clerk contact Sgt Abercrombie on speeding issues on the Totnes Road and whether speed guns can be deployed.** LN mentioned the bank at the top of the Totnes Road is overgrown and dangerous for cars turning right onto the A1379. **Resolved to report this on the DCC Highways website.** RC has rewritten to Highways copied RF and JB regarding the Gateway Project. The brown waste bins continue to be missed and parishioners must report these to [www.southhams.gov.uk/missedcollection](http://www.southhams.gov.uk/missedcollection)

#### **0622/7(a) FINANCE**

Four cheques were listed for payment on the agenda, invoices circulated before the meeting and invoices approved for payment at the meeting. A further cheque was issued in respect of paint used in the playpark as a reimbursement to Mr G Campbell.

1843 – Clerk salary for June £271.	1844 – Clerk expenses claim June 2021 to May 2022 inclusive. £221.29.
1845 –.Savills (UK) Ltd Client A/c re Execs of Mr CML Toll & Execs of Mrs CML Toll annual rent of playpark £1.	1846 – Hall hire for May 2 meetings £35.
1847 – Mr G Campbell reimbursement paint for playpark £46.48.	

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

#### **0622/7(b) FINANCE**

The Clerk presented the monitoring statements for 2022/23 which cover the three months to the end of June 2022. Year to date total income of £9,889.78 less total expenses of £6,683.15 gives a net surplus of £3,206.63 to the end of June 2022. **Resolved the monitoring statements would be put on the website and the noticeboards.**

#### **0622/7(c) FINANCE**

Cash at bank – £13,062.41 at 10/06/21 Current account. £11,311CR Business Reserve account at 10/06/21.

#### **0622/7(d) FINANCE**

The Council discussed a request by a parishioner for the Council in light of the cost-of-living crisis to consider a donation to local causes that alleviate poverty. **Resolved to carry forward to July. After the meeting GC prepared a report to the July meeting.**

#### **0622/7(e) FINANCE**

The Council considered a proposal to fund the preparation of a Platinum Jubilee album of remembrance. The Clerk has asked Nick Shepherd to cost up photographs and an album. The Parish Hall committee has asked Stretewise to send photos to them. **Resolved DR would consult with the Parish Hall Committee on this.**

#### **0622/8 UPDATE ON CONTRACTS**

The map of buddle holes in the Parish is still being updated for the outlying areas. The sweep contractor visited on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May. There was some feedback on how well the sweep went. **Resolved the Clerk will write to the parishioner who expressed concern over weeds to note the Council will contact SHDC to get the small sweeper round and will explore eco-friendly means of killing weeds.**

The Clerk explained the WIFI contract had been updated to one with PlusNet at £6/month for a year. Under Financial Regulations 8.2.1a a contract under £500 requires two quotes if available. A list of comparative contract prices was circulated along with a confirmatory email setting out the terms of the contract. As this was a small value contract, it was taken out whilst the offer by PlusNet was available. The sim was installed in the router before the Meeting. **This was noted.**

#### **0622/9 OPERATION LONDON BRIDGE**

The Clerk previously circulated a report on the Council's preparation for the passing of the monarch. These preparations and what Council must do are contained in Operation London Bridge which is a series of protocols. **Resolved the Council will establish a working group to ensure the Council puts in place the requirements listed in the report.**

#### **0622/10 STRETE GATE AND THE MEMORIAL**

**Resolved this item to be held over until the July meeting**

## **0622/11 DISCUSSION OF VARIOUS LAND MATTERS**

After the May meeting a paper setting out the next steps with the s106 grant and other issues such as the sale of the Strete Estate had been circulated. **Resolved this item to be held over to the July meeting.**

## **0622/12 CLERK'S REPORT**

**Report submitted before the meeting. Banking.** The Council is now live for Bankline. The Clerk is undertaking online training and will set up the signatories but this requires yet another form to complete, submit and get all online. However live balances can be taken off the system. **To note.**

**Road safety measures.** The VAS machine is with the Clerk. The Council to contact DCC to get their engineer to set up the machine. The Clerk has confirmed the blanket insurance cover with the insurer covers this and notified them of the addition to the policy. **To note.**

**Financial regulations.** These have been updated for online authorisation when this becomes live.

**Resolved to receive and approve the updated clauses. The report was received.**

## **0622/13 CHAIR'S REPORT: Report submitted before the meeting. June 2022 report.**

**Residents survey for improvements to leisure facilities.** Discussion continues over the new facilities that might be provided. We have received confirmation from the Land Agent that Strete Estates is to be sold by the end of the year. The playpark is currently leased from SE at a peppercorn rent. Given the uncertainty, it would be reckless to commit further capital spending on play park equipment until the sale is completed. The PC will engage with residents once again when firm proposals come forward.

**Rt Hon Anthony Mangnall MP.** By invitation, Anthony attended our Parish Council meeting on 19th May, together with Roger English from the Slapton Line Partnership. Mr Mangnall was given the floor for an hour before the start of the Parish Council meeting and spoke for about 30 minutes on his hopes and aspirations for ensuring the future of the road across Slapton Line, He then took questions from the floor. About 30 residents attended. Notes from the meeting will be approved by the PC at the meeting on 16th June, and published in the normal way.

**Bus Consultation by Devon County.** Nothing further to report. DCC are currently finalising a new plan explaining which priorities they intend to direct the reduced amount of money towards. Once this has been prepared, they will then move to a full public consultation, which looks as if it is now delayed from the May timetable promised. The work that went into compiling the BSIP will have to be revisited. 'Ring and Ride' services are likely to feature in the outcomes.

**HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Anniversary in June.** A range of planned events were enjoyed by many Parish residents over the Platinum Jubilee weekend in early June. Congratulations to the organisations and individuals who very successfully planned and organised the activities.

Distribution of the commemorative China mugs which will be given to every Parish resident aged 16 or under on 5th June is well underway. There are a few surplus mugs available, interested parties should please contact the Parish Clerk. **Resolved IC and LN to obtain mugs and donate to favourite charities.**

**Slapton Line Partnership.** Sam Lew, the newly appointed Adaptation Manager at the SLP, has resigned from his post with effect from July. This has effectively led to the collapse of the Partnership and will result in a period of reconsideration as to the future of the organisation. Input from the Ward Members and the principal founding organisations is awaited.

**Proposed relocation of the Slapton Line Memorial.** After repeated attempts to reach agreement with the FSC over maintenance of the proposed relocation site at Strete Gate, Stokenham and Strete Parishes have reluctantly concluded that such an agreement will not be possible. It follows that it will be necessary to find a different site for the Memorial, and re-engage the six Parish Councils.



Since SHDC is already committed to expanding the car park site at Strete Gate, it has been suggested that it might be possible to incorporate the Memorial into a corner of the expanded Strete Gate car park. This proposal would involve sacrificing perhaps four car parking spaces, but would bring with it a number of advantages:-

- A new 'hard' site which would be easily accessible to all on land owned or long term leased by SHDC
- A site which would require minimal maintenance of the surrounding area, and hence would be cheaper in the longer term than maintenance of grass and wild habitat
- A site which is capable of being easily temporarily adapted to accommodate special occasions, parades etc

The proposal would require SHDC to assume ownership of the memorial and flagpoles on behalf of the residents of the six Parishes, and provide insurance cover. A deal would need to be worked out over maintenance of the Memorial structure and inscriptions.

Piers Spence at Stokenham believes that this proposal has some merit, and will unofficially suggest it to the two Ward members this week for their reaction, before re-engaging the six Parishes.

An alternative suggestion of leaving the Memorial in its current position but protecting it from the sea, has been rejected as unworkable.

**Climate Change Emergency.** Nothing further to report.

**Waste Collections.** In the past month further scheduled brown bin collections have been missed. There is no clear explanation of the circumstances, other than the contractor is currently only carrying out about 40% of scheduled brown bin collections in order that black bin waste, food waste and recycling collections can be maintained. Residents are urged to report such lapses to the SHDC online waste reporting service on each and every occasion that a scheduled collection of any sort is missed.

**Night Landing Site for the Devon Air Ambulance.** Nothing further to report.

**Post Box on Hynetown Road.** Nothing further to report. **Resolved to chase this up with Royal Mail. The Chair's report was received.**

**0622/14 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS: Reports were circulated prior to the meeting. PH. This report was given under 0622/13.**

**KG. Slapton Line Partnership and AONB.** Currently I have nothing to offer in view of the fact that Sam Lew has resigned his position - we await information from the AONB and our MP Anthony Mangnall. Thank you, Helen, for your emails with Ollie about the incident at Strete Gate early today.

**LN. Roads: hedges, and litter.** I have little to report on the roads but the village is particularly busy with the road closure at Stoke Fleming and there is an increased amount of traffic on the Totnes Road. I have heard reports of people being delayed by up to 40 minutes because of buses and large vehicles trying to pass each other. In addition the turning onto the Dartmouth road from the Totnes road is very challenging as there is a lot of vegetation, I don't know if it is possible to have a word with the Council about this. In other areas the vegetation has grown out more quickly than usual and some site lines are quite difficult.

There is also quite a large pothole on the Totnes road towards the top of the hill, I need to investigate it further.

The litter pick was successful but sadly there were few attendees but a good clear up of litter in the centre of the village and down the Totnes road was done. It was concluded that normally we

would not litter pick at this time of year as the traffic was quite busy, but because of the Jubilee we wanted the village to look as tidy as possible. Thanks to Kate Gill for refreshments.

The fence on the A379 towards Dartmouth has now been replaced and looks very smart. Sue Hadow in Blackawton contacted me about this project and I will say more about it at the meeting. Basically they are raising money [about £27,000] for a project to reintroduce around 800 water voles down the Gara river in four different places. She would like to come and talk to the Parish Council in September about this project. They have some funding in the pipeline.

**Resolved to ask RF about some money from his biodiversity fund.**

**DR. Health and safety, Parish Hall liaison. Defibrillator.** The defibrillator continues to be monitored. I am currently in discussion with the South West Ambulance Service to arrange a defibrillator training session in October.

I attended the last meeting of the Parish Hall Committee and the following points were discussed.

The new parish hall website is now up and running giving details of the hall, a facility to book and pay on line is now available. New signage is being arranged for outside the hall which will give all contact details. A training session is being planned for the use of fire extinguishers, and any councillor is welcome to attend once the date has been agreed.

A review of the jubilee street party celebrations concluded that it was a great success.

The next event will be the Summer BBQ and Jazz evening to be held on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August between 4 and 8.30pm. Tickets will be available for a cost of £8.50, to include the first burger or hotdog. The notice board outside the hall can be congested at times, and all those putting placing articles are asked to keep within their designated space.

A welcome letter giving details of the village, its facilities, events, useful contact information, is now being created, and is proposed to be given to all new householders when they move into the village. The previous issues with the emptying of the dog bins seems to have been resolved.

**IC. Rights of Way, Tree warden, Strete Gate and Playpark. Footpaths/Bridleways.** On Tree warden "Front", nothing desperate has appeared, apart from the ongoing Ash Die-back problem, but we need to be a bit vigilant with regard to people using this disease as a good excuse for felling trees for those all-important "Sea views" etc.! Encouragingly, a lot of Ash trees under suspicion, have now produced full foliage since receiving some significant rain-fall. Two trees have been cut down by the Crest.

**Footpaths/ Bridleways:-** Even with the attentions of the strimmer clearance crew, the paths seem to be overgrowing by the day. Some posts on the S.W. Coast path have now been renewed/ replaced. A considerable number of Adders, basking in the sun, are in evidence now...! Dog owners be warned...!!

**Strete Gate:-** A couple of things that I've noted, during regular check-ups. The S.G. car park itself, could do with a good clean-up around the periphery, because, although the build-up of Pine needles isn't "life-threatening" in itself, that which dogs/dog-owners are leaving behind, is 'none too pleasant' It is probably a job for the small S.H.D.C. road-sweeper, maybe...? The other item, which IS potentially life threatening, is the fact that I have personally witnessed TWO car hand-brake failures in the last 3 weeks...! One car hit a tree at the bottom of the carpark, but the other one "flew down", backwards, and smashed into the steel girder at the entrance...! A minute later, or earlier, and someone would have maybe suffered broken legs, or been killed...! A sign, instructing drivers to leave cars in gear, as well as 'Hand-brakes on', I feel, is an essential additive. **Resolved to ask SHDC to clean up around the carpark. To look into signage that reminds motorists to engage hand brake and gear.**

**Play-park;**- Thanks to Graham, for getting to grips with some painting of equipment, which looks much better. there is still an ongoing "snagging list", not urgent, but needing attention.

**RC. Planning and Neighbourhood Plan, road maintenance including sweeping and Kings Arms liaison. PC Report – June 2022.**

**Neighbourhood Plan.** With the reported sale of Strete Estate by the current owners it may become necessary to review the NP should any new owner seek to discuss potential development within the existing settlement boundary of the village. Volunteers to undertake this review would be welcome.

**The Kings Arms.** The committee continues to seek additional staff to enable 7-day opening. This includes an assistant to the chef, a kitchen porter and part time or full time Front of House staff. The Management Team believe a Front of House Operations Manager is needed to support staff and manage the day-to-day organisational issues associated with hospitality that arise. The Kings Arms 2-day beer festival in support of the village activities to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee were a success on the Friday with glorious weather and lots of visitors. On Saturday the day started with a number of committee members in the garden holding down the gazebos during the heavy rain and gale force winds. As the day progressed, conditions improved and the both the Dart Valley Stompers jazz band and the Boatnotes swung into action to provide entertainment alongside the food offering of the day from the kitchen and front of house teams. The Kings Arms is ready to welcome locals and visitors alike as the weather starts to warm up giving a calming feel to everyone visiting the pub. The menu has been revamped to take into account the time of year with the potential of more outside food and events taking place.

**Village Sweeping, Fuge Road and Gateway Scheme.** The village sweep in May was delayed by a couple of days as the result of reasons beyond the PC control. The PC received complaints from some residents in Start Bay Park that weeds in the hammer heads were not being cleared or swept. Also, a complaint from one resident that the sharp bend in Vicarage Lane was not being swept. The removal of weeds with weed killer has been discussed in the past by the PC with the decision to not use weed killer being a majority decision on environmental grounds. The mechanical sweeper used by the road sweeping contractor is too large to manoeuvre the sharp bend in Vicarage Lane. The PC is reliant on SHDC undertaking this responsibility with the small urban sweeper when it is in the area. Removal of weeds is on the agenda for the PC meeting this month. The next village sweep is planned for 16<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

The PC is still waiting to hear back from Devon Highways in respect of the proposal submitted to reduce vehicle speeding by installing a line marking gateway scheme to encourage vehicles approaching the village near Manor Farm camp site to observe the 20mph speed limit. This was submitted in January, but no response has been received so far despite follow-ups from the PC.

**GC. Village Green, Prideaux Lane, campervans and carparks, social care and Slapton Line partnership. Village Green** I have requested that Greenspace deal with the very long verges and the area by the VAS machine, that has not been cut for a while. I have cut back a couple of buddleias that were choking a silver birch tree. Ian and I are going to have a discussion about maintenance of the wooded copse which is getting heavily overgrown each year.

I have repainted one of the metal climbing frames on the playground with the special non slip paint, the other had to have some anti rust paint first, so I will get it finished this week. Another tin of paint was needed. The non-slip paint needs to be sanded down before the equipment is ready for use.

The disastrous news re the early departure of the Adaptation manager, Sam Lewis, has created severe problems for the Slapton Line Partnership. The delay so caused creates a real challenge for the SLP. I was worried by the absence of any reference to the maintenance and protection of the Line road in the references to the SLP. goals. There are suggestions that the SLP should be reappraised.

Citizens Advice continues to have a good number of clients on Mondays in the Community Cafe, 10.30 - 1.30. We are providing screens for added privacy for consultations. Predictably, CA have an increasing number of contacts from clients at the moment. CA have fuel vouchers available for those having difficulty in dealing with their electric and gas bills. These are only available if you pay using a prepayment meter, card or token. Dartmouth Caring continue to do hospital lifts, early booking is advised. **Reports were received.**

**0622/15 CORRESPONDENCE:** All correspondence has been circulated to councillors.

**0622/16 OTHER BUSINESS:** None was raised.

**0622/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022 at 7pm. Venue in the Parish Hall unless otherwise advised. **THE MEETING WAS CLOSED** at 9.21 p.m.

Signed: Cllr Peter Hales (Chairman) Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> JULY 2022.

If you see anything that is of concern  
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# Honey & Bees

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The Queen's sole job is to lay eggs with which to replenish the hive or colony; she can lay up to 2,000 eggs a day which will be several times her own body weight. Her working girls attend her every need, feeding her and removing her waste.

Only pollen and honey are fed to these as it is not as rich as royal jelly, so the eggs/larvae become workers not queens. The white grub-like larva moults (sheds its outer covering) five times during the six days. Total time from egg to adult is 24 days.

Significantly the workers also lick her; this allows them to obtain pheromones from her which prevents them from rearing another Queen. As she gets older her pheromone level drops and they instinctively know they should prepare for another Sovereign. Hence bee balling!

Our modern-day hives try to bring some commercial order to honey production.

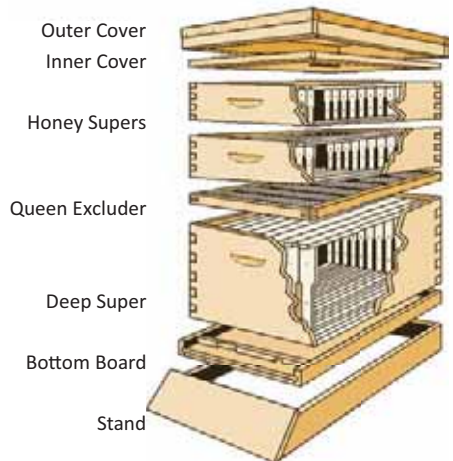
The bottom layer/deep super of the hive is the bees' home. It is topped with a queen excluder which prevents her from laying eggs in the layers above effectively in their 'larder'; which we in turn will steal.

The larders are called 'honey supers'. They contain evenly spaced frames which are loaded with pre-made templates of bees' wax onto which the bees are able to create cells which in turn they will fill with honey. This saves a higgledy piggledy mass of comb from which it is difficult to extract the honey. It also means the bees can be given back the frames with cells pre-made, which if damaged they will return to serviceable working order.

The worker bees all girls have different jobs at different stages in their lives. Some are called "forager" bees; they collect nectar from flowering plants. They drink the nectar, and store it in their crop, known as the honey stomach, which is used solely for storage. (These are the bees that do the waggle dance which tells their sisters where to go for their share of the crop!!)

The forager bee takes the nectar (sucrose) back to the hive, and regurgitates it directly into the crop of a "processor" bee which is waiting at the entrance. This bee takes the nectar 30% sugar and 70% water to the honeycomb, which tends to be near the top of the hive, and now regurgitates it into a hexagonal wax cell where it adds an enzyme called invertase. This process turns the sugar/water to glucose/fructose/water. The forager bee has to make many journeys to fill a cell.

But now the nectar needs to ripen; this is when the bees do their ripening of their crop by fanning their wings, creating airflow to help the water evaporate from the nectar. Properly ripened honey contains less than 18.6% of moisture. Once the nectar has ripened into honey, it contains so little water that no microbes can grow in it; that keeps it from becoming contaminated by bacteria or fungi. At this stage, the processor bees "cap" the cell with an airtight wax seal. If the cap is not airtight, the honey will absorb moisture from the air, making it susceptible to bacterial or fungal growth. (This is also why it's important to screw the lid back on your jar of honey – to keep it safe!)



## So having set up your hive – the bees have done their bit - you now have to access it!!!!

The (hive robber) apiarist needs to be well protected from disgruntled bees. Enter bee suits like we made back in the 1980's - complete with smokers for making the bees drowsy and hive tools for helping separate errant wax deposits between the frames and supers. A soft brush or a feather is used for gently brushing bees from the frames when they are lifted out. Most often this is done with a brush, but to be eco-friendly and help prevent the spread of disease a feather is more disposable. Manor Farm geese stand by to make a donation to the honey crop!!

Then there is all the paraphernalia for extracting our precious product - capping knives, separators, ripeners and not least jars, suitable packaging for the latest in small presentations and the labels. You can now buy honeycomb cassettes. These are shapes set in supers/frames and come with their own special presentation wooden boxes; as gift wrapped.

After extraction honey is allowed to ripen. Having un-capped the comb, put it in the centrifuge, and extracted the liquid gold **we** still need to 'ripen' it. This part of the process allows the impurities – solids – wax – bubbles and some moisture to float to the top/evaporate. The honey is drawn from the bottom of the ripener via a tap and straight into a jar. Pure liquid gold!!!



Honey in modern times has gone under the microscope!!

Put briefly it can alleviate allergies – boost memory – suppress coughs – aid sleep – treat dandruff – treat wounds and burns.

More specifically we have discovered that honey can be used to overcome liver, cardiovascular and gastrointestinal problems because natural honey exhibits bactericidal activity against many organisms including Salmonella, Helicobacter pylori and others. Research has also shown that honey has anti-inflammatory properties and stimulates immune responses within a wound. An Aunt of mine was prescribed a honey dressing for a leg ulcer some years ago and recently one of my pets was prescribed a topical Manuka honey preparation to promote healing in a wound. Natural honey contains traces of about 200 different substances, but is of course as we know from the ripening process mainly sugar in the form of fructose and glucose plus water.

**A note of caution:** It should not be given to children/babies under the age of one year because it is likely to contain spores of **Clostridium botulinum** bacteria; this is found in dirt and dust. Children of this age do not have the immunity to protect themselves from botulism caused by these bacteria.

There are many varieties of honey available to us in the UK – many from far flung corners of the world – probably one of the most famous is Manuka from New Zealand which originates from the blossom of the Manuka tree. It is famously used in the treating of MRSA a very scary infection to have. Of course, all honey can be eaten but the taste varies considerably; and though I have never knowingly had any I understand it tastes a bit medicinal. Other flowers which produce good honey are clover - 'blossom' as in orchard – acacia and rape seed.

They can be purchased in several different forms – liquid – set/crystallized – set/creamed and in the comb. Favourite drinks in the middle ages were mead and white ale. Liquid honey goes into the making of mead. It wasn't safe to drink water unless boiled – alcohol was brewed and had a natural sterilizer.

# Thank you bees – our world and our lives would not be the same without you.



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

Brenda Range, Liane Baldock, Colleen Seymour, Heather Robinson, Joan Kendall, 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 Field Studies Council

## Spring Events at Slapton Ley

Booking essential where required:



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<https://www.field-studies-council.org/locations/slaptonleynnr/>

Scroll down and click on **Walks and Nature Experiences**.

If you do not have the facilities to book online, please contact us on 01548 580466.

### Celebrate Start Bay

Sunday 21st August 11–5pm

Do you love the outdoors and environment? If so, this mini festival is for you! and what's more it is free entry. Music, stories, demonstrations, and talks will be on throughout the day. Local sustainable stall holders will be selling their products, Free hands-on environmental activities will be put on by local charities, and food and drinks will keep you refreshed throughout the day.

• Free entry to the event • Parking £5 • No booking required .

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- ❖ Planting trees and scrub creating new homes for rare Cirl Buntings.
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*Can you spare some time?* please contact Alice at: [volunteer.sl@field-studies-council.org](mailto:volunteer.sl@field-studies-council.org)



**PS 3418 Ollie Abercrombie**  
**Dartmouth Neighbourhood Team Leader**

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

Recipes, Crosswords (not cryptic) Articles, Letters. However, 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:

Stretewise, 27 Start Bay Park, Strete, TQ6 0RY.

### **Copy deadline for the next issue October—November will be 23rd September 2022.**

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