

STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL



Chair Matt Garner

Clerk Wayne Lewin

Minutes of Stratton Parish Council Full Council Meeting Tuesday 12th July 2026 starting at 7:00 pm in Stratton Village Hall

Present:

Cllrs Matt Garner, Ali Tong, Gill Slade, Rosie Barfoot, and Jane Dearling

3 members of the public

Cllr David Taylor (Dorset Council)

FULL COUNCIL

1. Apologies for absence

All members were present.

2. Declarations of pecuniary and other interests

No declarations were made.

3. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th May 2026

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

4. Parish Council matters arising

The Clerk confirmed that the old bus shelter had been removed and the new defibrillator had been bought. The latter was awaiting delivery and then installation.

5. Update from the Chair and correspondence

The Chair commenced by thanking Cllr Rosie Barfoot for the painting of the white lines on the tennis court. See more under item 18.

Next, it was requested that some thought was given to cutting back the hedging around the Village Green. This would be on the next agenda.

On communications, Cllr Garner would set up a new Stratton Parish Council Facebook page. The Clerk would provide a Parish Council update after every meeting and send into the Chalkstream magazine.

The Chair reminded members to complete the new Register of Interests by 17th July 26.

Correspondence had been received on the condition of the Play Park.

Cllr Tong confirmed that the gate latch had been fixed, whilst the surfacing would be monitored over the summer. There was no trip risk identified.

Correspondence had been received as to the cut back of the daffodils and primroses. Members agreed to stick with the current cutting back plan.

It was confirmed that the Village Hall did NOT agree to have an observer (thus not part of the Management Committee or a Trustee) at their meeting.

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The Parish Council would review again at the next Annual General Meeting.

Jan Grocott was publicly thanked for her continued efforts in chasing the Dorset Council Rights of Way team for issues within the Parish.

And last but no means least, the Parish Council thanked the organisers for an excellent and well attended Summer Fete.

6. Parish Councillor updates

Cllr Tong mentioned that the noticeboards at the Village Hall were in a poor state of repairs and asked if they could be replaced.

This was agreed with a view to options at the next meeting, and for the Clerk to contact the Village Hall to ensure their agreement.

Cllr Dearling was still reviewing the bins situation.

Cllr Garner would move the Queens Green Canopy sign once conditions allow.

7. To receive a report from the Dorset Council

Cllr Taylor confirmed that a planning application had gone in for 500 homes as part of the North Dorchester scheme.

It was mentioned that a change of law by Central Government could mean that developments of under 500 homes maybe approved by delegated powers to Planning Officers.

He confirmed he had spoken to the Head of Highways as to why the curbing on the A37 had not been extended to the junction.

There was still a plan to join up all cycleways, but it had hit a financial barrier.

Members reiterated the point of lack of replies from Dorset Council officers.

8. Public participation period (items on the agenda)

There were no points at this time.

9. Planning

There were no new planning applications to discuss.

10. Financial update

a. Payments for authorisation

There were **13** payments (**PV's 12-24**), totalling **£ 8875.38**, that were approved and authorised for payment.

b. Q1 budget report

The Precept budget spend at the end of Q1 was **30.01%**

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c. Q1 bank reconciliation

The sum of monies in the bank at the end of Q1 was **£ 26647.71**

Unity Trust Bank	£ 11256.96
United Trust Bank	£ 15390.75

11. A37 update and follow up actions

Cllr Slade commenced the report by stating that Dorset Council had ordered the guard rails and were awaiting delivery.

It was stated that the high friction surfacing project was not going ahead, but Dorset Council were looking into an alternative engineering solution to stop the carriage way flooding.

A speed review was not being conducted.

The Dorset Council Highways team were going to look into cycle path safety.

Cllr Taylor would speak to the Highways Team and ask the questions.

12. Inspection reports

a. Play Park

b. Playing Field

Members were content with these reports, with no major concerns.

However, Cllr Tong raised an issue on the zip wire.

A watch would be placed on this.

13. Suggestions for applying for a 20mph speed limit on Dorchester Road

Members agreed that it would be beneficial for the village to start this process.

The Clerk would speak to the Dorset Council road safety manager to get this up and running.

14. Planning for Annual Village meeting 2027

Cllr Garner suggested to continue with the weekend theme but with the addition of inviting groups, organisations and societies within the Parish with a view to coordinating activities in the villages.

Cllr Barfoot will start collating a list.

A provisional date of Sunday 09th May 27 was scheduled.

15. Removal of Grimstone noticeboard from asset register

As this noticeboard did not exist, members agreed to remove from the register.

16. Removal of Dorchester Road (East) bus shelter from asset register

As this noticeboard had recently been removed, members agreed to remove from the register.

17. Request for a donation towards Chalkstream Drivers insurance

Members agreed to a £100.00 donation to this organisation.

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18. Tennis court refurbishments

Cllr Barfoot wished to expand on the recent works on the courts and surrounding area.

At this time, members agreed that a total resurfacing of the courts was somewhat cost prohibitive (£15000-20000).

However, it was agreed to purchase a liner machine and paints. This would provide a more permanent line marking solution.

£ 250.00 was set aside for this project.

19. Community discussion (not for resolution)

It was asked why the footpath by the bridge on the A37 was no longer flat.

This would be added to the list for Dorset Council.

It was agreed that any additional works for the installation of the new defibrillator could be authorised under delegated powers.

It was agreed to get an estimate for tree works for those that were now over hanging the homes behind Church View.

20. Items and date for next meeting

New noticeboard for Village Hall

Greenspaces management plan (to include hedges)

08th September 2026

There being no further business

Meeting closed at 21.00

Matt Garner

Chair

Signature
