A Meeting of Stretton Sugwas Parish Council was held in Stretton Sugwas Parish Hall on Thursday, 20th March, 2014 at 7pm

**PRESENT**

Mr Howard Vice Chairman

Mrs Andrews

Mr Robinson

Mrs Hume

Mr R Matthews Ward Councillor

Mrs Williams Clerk

PCSO Dean Wall

PCSO Eleanor Ekanite

Mr D Prescott from New Leaf

**APOLOGIES**

Mr A McHarg

Mrs H Davies

**OBSERVERS**

Mrs S Holdsmith

In the absence of Mr McHarg Chairman - Mr Howard – Vice Chairman took the Chair

**MINUTES**

Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on 23rd January2014 in the Parish Hall, having been previously circulated were proposed for acceptance by Mrs Andrews and seconded by Mrs Hume that these minutes be signed as a true record of that meeting.

All in favour and the minutes were duly signed by the Vice Chairman

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest. Should anything come up during the meeting any councillor with an interest was asked to stop the meeting to make their declaration.

Community Police Officers Dean Wall and Eleanor Ekanite were asked to give their report so that they could leave the meeting to get on with other police duties.

The clerk agreed to send a copy of the minutes to them.

They had nothing new to report and asked if there were any concerns

Mr Nick Jones said that he was concerned about people using the Roman Road as a race track at approximately 10.30pm in the evening and screeching round the roundabout and going back up it again. Dean and Eleanor said that they would investigate the report.

There were no other questions and Dean and Eleanor were thanked for attending the meeting

**Dave Prescott from New Leaf – Sustainable Energy**

Mr Prescott came and gave a short presentation about putting solar panel on the closed landfill site and collecting the gas that is at present burnt off and making electricity which would be fed into the national grid.

New Leaf would set the project up as a co-operative, which people could invest in and shares would be paid out.

It would make lower cost energy and it was thought that this site would be enough to power 200-300 homes.

The project would have a lifespan of 20years.

Mr Prescott said there would be no risk of explosion and the solar panels would not be seen except on the site itself.

Parish Councillors thought that the idea was good and Mr Prescott said that he would keep us informed of the plans.

Mr Prescott was thanked for coming along to the meeting.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

* The sign for Breinton & Sugwas have still not been replaced
* The Stretton Sugwas sign on the A438 opposite the Fourth Milestone House has still not been repaired the clerk to chase Balfour Beatty
* Lengthman’s Scheme – no further update at present
* The potholes in Priory Lane and Barnfield road had not been repaired – The clerk to chase this up
* **SPEEDING on A438 –** This was still ongoing and speeding was still being checked.

**PARISH HALL UPDATE**

Now complying with H & S

Mr Robinson had put together some plans of the village hall

Improvements to the hall are ongoing

The grant application is being looked at

The hall committee would be forming a 100 club shortly

They would be sending out questionnaires to all users in the near future

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING & LDF**

We have been offered a grant of £4410 to start the neighbourhood plan and the rest of the money up to £7000 can be claimed at a later date when some of the work has been done.

We have completed the necessary service level agreements with Herefordshire Council in order to allow the project to proceed

It was agreed that we now ask Kirkwells to go ahead so that this can move forward.

**PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE**

This was now up and running and Mrs Gail Hume was thanked for her work.

It would cost £8.20 per month which would be invoice to the parish council quarterly.

To get on the site: [www.strettonsugwasparishcouncil.com](http://www.strettonsugwasparishcouncil.com)

**FINANCE**

* **Balance of Account - £8,524.78**
* The clerk had received a bill from HALC of £282.48 proposed for payment by Nick Jones seconded by Beryl Andrews all in favour and cheque 100260 was duly signed
* A bill for £12 had been received from Herefordshire Council for paper copies of planning applications Proposed for payment by Beryl Andrews seconded by Gail Hume and cheque 100259 was duly signed
* The clerk said that she would get quotations for our insurance for the next year

One had been received from Zurich Insurance at the cost of £355.47 which was much cheaper than last year. AON who were our insurers this year have been asked for a quote and a decision will be made at the next meeting

**PLANNING**

* Councillor Matthews said that the application for 15 houses at Kings Acre had been passed
* Alterations to the Cider Barn at Stretton Court had now been passed

**CORRESPONDENCE**

* The clerk reported that the gas checks at the Parish Hall were all OK
* A letter had been received from Bill Wiggin MP thanking the parish council for signing the Rural Fair Share Petition and Councillor Matthews thanked Gail Hume for taking this petition around the parish
* Hereford Rural North had sent a leaflet called safer neighbourhood and the relevant parts would be put on the Parish Website
* The clerk reported that there were a lot of telephone and email scams going on at the moment and reminded people never to give their bank details to anyone over the phone. Genuine people would not be asking for these details over the phone.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

* Mr Nick Jones told people that there would be a memorial service for Muriel Williams who had lived in the village for many years would be held in the church on 12th April at 2pm
* Mr Jones said that his broadband was very slow. Councillor Matthews said that BT were supposed to be upgrading it by June 2014.
* Mrs Hume reported that the front of the PC noticeboard was very condensated up and things could not be seen properly – the clerk to have a look at this and try and clean it up.
* The grit bin was still full of rubbish – the clerk to chase this up.
* Mr Sue Goldsmith from Stretton Court Barns had brought up a petition which had been signed by resident objecting to the fortnightly bin collections. Councillor Matthews said that he would deliver the petition for us.
* Councillor Matthews said that from June 2914 local people would have first call on affordable housing in their area
* Balfour Beatty had made a lot of people redundant and were going to appoint local stewards who would each have their own area to look after.
* Core Strategy would be out in April and should be ratified by October.
* Councillor Matthews reminded parish councillors that the neighbourhood plan had to take the core strategy into their plan.
* Councillor Matthews was almost certain that the fortnightly bin collection would come in to force despite opposition to it.
* Councillor Matthews was thanked for his work and for keeping us updated.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.08pm

Next Meeting – AGM Thursday May 22nd 2014 at 7pm in the Village hall followed by a parish council meeting.

**THE ANNUAL MEETING**

**STRETTON SUGWAS PARISH COUNCIL**

**WILL BE HELD**

**IN**

**STRETTON SUGWAS PARISH HALL**

**ON**

**THURSDAY MAY 22nd 2014**

**7pm**

**AGENDA**

1. **Apologies**
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on May 23rd 2013**
3. **Matters arising from the minutes**
4. **Chairman’s Report**
5. **financial Report**
6. **Election of Chairman & Vice Chairman by the Parish Councillors**
7. **Question**

**FOLLOWED BY A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**A MEETING OF STRETTON SUGWAS PARISH COUNCIL**

**WILL BE HELD IN**

**STRETTON SUGWAS PARISH HALL**

**ON**

**THURSDAY MAY 22nd 2014**

**FOLLOWING THE AGM**

**AGENDA**

1. **Apologies**
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on March 20th 2014**
3. **Declaration of Interest –** in matters to be considered at this meeting should be made now in accordance with the provisions of sections 94 of 177 of the Local Government Act 1972 or Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 or the National Code of the Local Government Conduct.
4. **Matters arising from the minutes**
5. **Stretton Sugwas Parish Hall Update**
6. **Neighbourhood Planning**
7. **Finance –**

**Balance of Account**

1. **Planning**
2. **Correspondence**
3. **Any Other Business**
4. **Date of Next Meeting July 24th 2014**