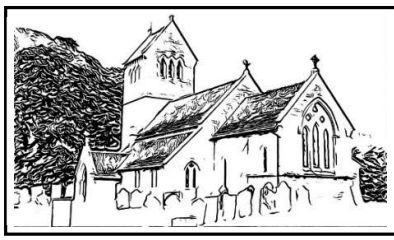
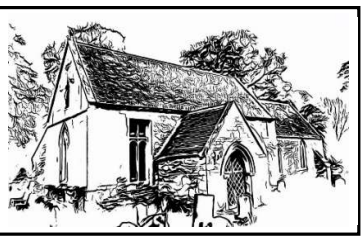


Little Ponton & Stroxton Parish Council



Minutes of Little Ponton & Stroxton Parish Council Meeting
Date: Wednesday 15th January 2025
Venue: Stoke Rochford Estate Offices 6-00 p.m.

Councillors present
Cllr George McCorquodale
Cllr Simon Allam
Cllr David Skelton
Cllr Gary Mennell
Cllr Adam Madge
Cllr Susie Embley

Locum Clerk & RFO Mrs Emma Wilson

Open session
No members of the public were present.

1.	**Chairman's Welcome Remarks**
	In the absence of the Chair, Vice Chair Cllr George McCorquodale having apologised for being a few minutes late to arrive; welcomed all and thanked everyone for attending today's meeting.
2.	**Apologies**
	Received from Cllr Michael Parkin; reasons for absence were noted & accepted.
3.	**Disclosure of interest in agenda items**
	Nil
4.	**To approve Minutes of meeting held on the 27th November 2024**
	The draft minutes having been circulated prior to the meeting were agreed and proposed to be a true and accurate record. They were passed as approved by resolution of the Council and signed by the Vice Chairman.
5.	**Clerks Report**
	a. Precept 2025-26
	Prior to the meeting the all budget detail was circulated to councillors. The clerk noted that Precept historically was not budgeted for appropriately. Clerk circulated summary of last 5 years precept along with budget details for the coming year giving options and impact details of precept on 2025-26 council tax 2020/21 £0 2021/22 £600 2022/23 £600 2023/24 £1,750 2024/25 £4,750 A discussion and evaluation followed, and a vote conducted, all councillors present agreed on a precept of £7250, this was approved by resolution of the Council. This will be an Increase on a Band D charge from £69.21 to £106.46, and it was noted this coming year will be used to correct matters and engage new processes, a laptop for the clerk for GDPR purposes, website set up/maintenance, insurance and starting the process of getting defibrillators for both villages and potential support to improve the pond in Stroxton. Action: Clerk to submit precept request to SKDC by deadline.
	b. Website
	Clerk confirmed that LCC have now built a website template for us and we await funds from precept in April 2025 to allow this to be populated via website maintenance.
	c. Grit Bin Locations
	Clerk had not received locations from councillors re the grit bins. Locations were confirmed during the meeting via What3Words. Clerk confirmed these would be recorded via Fix My Street to get them replenished. 1. ///courier.journey.worksheet (by entrance to Church Farm House, Stroxton, NG33 5DA) 2. ///years.tidy.hang (nr Church entrance gate, Little Ponton, NG33 5BS) *Action: Clerk to report*
	d. Defibrillators
	Unfortunately, our local representative from Community Heartbeat Trust has retired, he is replaced by Joe Joskow, who lives 1.5 hrs away. He has sent over questions about our plans for defib site suggestions, managed support packages etc. Clerk said she would respond to the email and ask if he could come out to visit and help with a site survey in both villages to enable us to move forward. Ideally a follow up visit then to a parish council meeting once we made some decisions on location and defib units. *Action: Clerk to email and feedback response as received*

6.	**Feedback items we await from Councillor Vernon**
	a) Speed restriction signs b) Ash dieback c) Roadside Tree pruning d) Replacement Missing village sign at Stroxton Cllr Vernon unable to attend. Cllr Mennell and Cllr Embley particularly expressed their concern at the lack of feedback from Cllr Vernon since the initial request in August of last year, almost 6 months ago. The parish council asked the clerk to follow up as a matter of urgency to expedite a response. Action:Clerk to call Cllr Vernon and forward on queries direct to Highways
7.	**The Pond Stroxton**
	Cllr Allam shared his drafted letter at the meeting and it was agreed the clerk would formalise this and share with all members for approval before sending. Action: Clerk to draft final letter and circulate for approval.
8.	**Update Bus shelter demolition – Cllr Skelton**
	Cllr Skelton confirmed he would allocate works to be completed the following weekend 18th/19th January 2025.
9.	**Fly tipping –** for discussion
	The discussion was around concerns that even if offenders are witnessed and evidence is available there is lack of information about how to report. The clerk had supplied information available on the SKDC website but this is only relevant to reporting after the fact and focussing on requests to clear up fly tipping. Fly tipping can be prosecuted under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and SKDC will investigate for evidence and take appropriate legal action. Offences should be reported on district council website by filling in a form or alternatively, anyone can report incidents by calling SKDC on 01476 406080.

10.	**Accounts for payment – Dec 24 to Jan 25**			
	a.	Sal/Tax/NI/Exp Dec 24 to Jan 25	£695.00	**000149**
		Total	**£695.00**	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7-30 p.m.

Signed: _____*REDACTED*_____ Date: ___*19/03/2025*_____
Vice Chair/Chairman, Little Ponton & Stroxton Parish Council