

Minutes of Stretton Sugwas Annual Parish Meeting
held on Thursday 16th May 2025 at 6pm at
Stretton Sugwas Village Hall

Present : John Robinson (JR – Acting Chairman), Garnet Cresswell (GC), Stuart Howard (SH), Marianne Marshall (MM) James Croft-Hill (JCH) – also present one member of public and E Noble, parish clerk RFO

- 1. Apologies for absence – Andy Fellowes, Jane Denny**
- 2. Chairman's Annual Report on work of the Parish Council**

During the year 2024/2025, the Parish Council continued to meet bi-monthly (and on occasions with extra-ordinary meetings) in order to discuss and consider matters of importance to the village and the community with the purpose to try to improve and manage the issues of concerns for the benefit of all.

The Parish Council continued to respond to all planning applications, and subsequent amendments, that were submitted for projects within the community and on its boundaries, via the SSPC planning sub-committee. Two planning applications (including one appeal) have been agreed by the Planning Department during the year although the Parish Council raised concerns regarding road safety issues and over development in the area.

2024 saw the death of our longstanding Ward Councillor, Bob Matthews, who will be greatly missed by all those who knew him. Charlie Taylor has been elected as our new representative and the Parish Council look forward to work with her so as to ensure that the parish of Stretton Sugwas obtains a reasonable service from the Local Authority with regards to hedge trimming, grass maintenance, pot hole repairs etc. I would like to take the opportunity to welcome Charlie and look forward to working with her.

The Parish Council have ongoing projects in the area, and during the year have completed the refurbishment of two milestones. The Parish Council continue with the improvement and maintenance of the pavement footpath along Church Road, have replaced the village noticeboards, and installed a "chatty bench" in The Copse. Jane Denny and James Hill have also planted seeds within The Copse to produce a wild flower meadow area. I would like to thank Jane and James for their work on this undertaking.

The Parish Council has continued to financially support various projects with regard to our Parish Graveyard and the Parish newsletter.

The community Speed Watch is now up and running following an instruction course which was completed in February 2025. The Speed Watch currently monitors traffic along Church Road but is liaising with the West Mercia Road Safety Team to identify sites along the A438. Garnet is still looking for further volunteers to assist with this venture. I would like to thank Garnet for his ongoing work on this project.

Following Corrie Smissen decision to step down from the Parish Council last year, we were able to recruit a new Councillor and have welcomed Marianne Marshall to the Parish Council.

- 3. Parish matters raised by local residents – none raised**
- 4. Date of next Annual Parish Meeting – May 2026**

These are draft minutes that will be presented to the parish council at the next meeting 18/09/25