

## STANSTED PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2020  
AT STANSTED VILLAGE HALL, MALTHOUSE ROAD, STANSTED, AT 8.00 pm**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Harry Bott Chairman  
 Cllr Mrs Polly Falconer Vice-chairman  
 Cllr Thomas Brooker  
 Cllr Jack Saunders  
 Cllr Daren Sefer  
 Cllr Kevin Sparkes  
 Cllr Yvonne Tisson

Mrs Melita Gandolfo Clerk

1 member of the public

**Item** *Action point*  
 Minute no 2019/20/

**1 APOLOGIES**

423 All parish councillors present.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND ALTERATIONS TO THE REGISTER**

424 None.

**3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020**

425 It was proposed by Cllr Falconer, seconded by Cllr Sefer, and agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 be signed as a true record.

**4 MATTERS ARISING**

426 None.

**5 STANSTED SCHOOL**

**a Lighting of path and car park**

427 The Councillors inspected the car park and path in the dark, and agreed that the path does require extra lighting, noting that there were two long gaps along the path where the light did not reach. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Alan Bullock, asking him to look at the lighting and to contact Lowen to ask for two extra lighting bollards to be installed in each gap. Each bollard should have two bulbs, pointing along the path rather than downwards, to spread the light. It was also noted that that PIR timers should be functioning, ensuring the lights go off at 11.30 p.m. Three sensors are required, one at the school end of the path, one at the last bollard at the other end, and one on the village hall. It was also suggested that strips of low level lights could be laid along the side of the path.

**b Other issues relating to the School**

- 428 The Clerk had asked Nurture Landscapes to cut the hedge on the recreation field side of the school playground during the Christmas holidays. This had not been done to date so it was agreed that Tom Brooker would cut the hedge when weather permitted..

**6 LOCAL PLAN**

- 429 Wrotham Parish Council had submitted an invoice for experts' work on opposing the Local Plan. This was received after distribution of the Agenda documents so did not appear on the Finance Report.

**SUSPENSION OF MEETING FOR COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

The Chairman suspended the meeting to allow TMBC Councillor Martin Coffin to speak.

TMBC Cllr Coffin acknowledged that there had been serious problems with the new TMBC waste collection and recycling system, with up to 2,000 bins per day missing collections. The Chief Executive of TMBC had written to the contractors demanding action, and as a result the contractors had amended their collection methods and rounds. Over the past two weeks all bins have been successfully collected. The volume of recycling, including food waste, had been unexpectedly high, resulting in less black bin waste.

The Chairman thanked TMBC Cllr Coffin and reconvened the meeting.

**7 PLANNING**

**a Applications**

- 430 **i TM/20/00170 TNCA** The Old Rectory, Plaxdale Green Road, Stansted TN15 7PB  
G1 Sycamores x 4 to prune to clear branches rubbing on phone wire.

No objections were raised.

- 431 **ii TM/20/0086/FL** 8 Platt House Lane, Fairseat TN15 7  
Erect a wooden garage measuring 10.05m x 4.87m in back garden of property to house 4 personal cars.

After discussion, it was agreed to respond as follows:

Stansted Parish Council have no objection to this application. However we would ask that a condition is placed, that the new garage should be for private use only and should not be used for any commercial activity. Also we would ask for restrictions to be placed to protect neighbours; the garage will be visible from neighbouring houses, so a light and noise plan should be submitted.

- 432 **iii TM/20/0013/PDVR** Unit C, Plaxdale Green Farm, Stansted TN15 7  
Prior Notification: Change of use and conversion of 1 No agricultural building to 2 No residential dwellings (Part 3 Class Q)

Noted.

**b Decisions**

433 The decisions listed on Appendix A were noted.

**c Enforcement****Littlefields, Plaxdale Green Road, Stansted**

434 TMBC Planning had informed the Clerk that as the Appeal had been dismissed, the Enforcement order was in effect and the owners had until 8<sup>th</sup> May to comply.

**d Appeals**

435 None.

**e Any Other Planning Issues**

436 None.

**8 FINANCE****a Bank Balances**

437 The bank balances as listed on Appendix B were noted.

438 The Clerk had looked into longer term deposit accounts paying a higher rate of interest than that currently paid by NatWest on the deposit accounts, and would investigate further a short term deposit account.

**b Payments made since Last Meeting**

439 None.

**c Accounts for Payment**

440 It was proposed by Cllr Bott, seconded by Cllr Mrs Falconer and agreed the accounts for payment as listed on Appendix B be paid (cheques 983-985); also cheque 986 to Wrotham Parish Council for expert advice on opposition to Local Plan building proposals (invoice received after distribution of Agenda documents)

**d Bank mandate**

441 Nothing to report.

**e Stansted recreation ground rent and charges from 1/4/20**

442 After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Sefer, seconded by Cllr Brooker and agreed that charges for recreation ground hire be increased as follows: £200 for hirers out of Parish, £50 for Parish residents. Charges for charity hirings to be at the discretion of the Parish Council.

**9 GRANT APPLICATIONS**

443 Stansted PCC had requested a grant towards the cost of carrying out remedial work to the flint boundary walls of the churchyard. The total cost was estimated to be IRO £10,000. After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Bott, seconded by Cllr Tisson and agreed that the Parish Council would match funding raised by the PCC, to a maximum of £5,000.

**10 MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S LAND & PROPERTY****a Recreation Ground**

- 444 i. General maintenance - Nothing to report.  
 445 ii. Hire of ground - new charges noted above under item 8e.

**b Playpark**

- 446 Further to the quote agreed at the last meeting, the Clerk had asked Home Counties Play to proceed with the repair / replacement of the broken drum.

**c War Memorial and Garden**

- 447 Nothing to report.

**d Telephone Kiosk**

- 448 Nothing to report.

**e Church Bank**

- 449 Nothing to report.

**f Hatham Green**

- 450 It was noted that grass was growing well on the earth that was banked up on part of the green to deter parking. It was agreed that when suitable earth is available, it should be used to build up the bank on the opposite side.

**g Registration of land**

- 451 Nothing to report.

**h Notice Boards**

- 452 Gerry Glidewell had confirmed that new notice boards were being constructed and painted, but the work had been delayed by wet weather.

**11 HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT****a Draft Highways Parish Improvement Plan and speeding issues**

- 453 Cllr Falconer had drafted a report on the issues. Cllrs Falconer and Tisson were observing volumes of traffic entering the villages from the A20 (Stansted) and A227 (Fairseat) at specific times of day, and would be identifying problems and priorities for action.

**454 b Public Rights of Way**

The Chairman suspended the meeting to allow Mr Roy Barry to speak.

Mr Barry reported that the footpath MR204 / SD254 was still blocked by fallen trees.

The Clerk had reported this to the West Kent PROW Manager in September, and had received confirmation that this was logged, so would request an update.

There was no update on the installation of new kissing gates.

The Chairman thanked Mr Barry, and reconvened the meeting.

**c Encroachment**

455 It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Harry Rayner to ask for a KCC expert to explain encroachment issues.

**d Hedges**

456 Cllrs Bott and Falconer agreed to continue to liaise to plan for next year's hedge cutting.

**e Other highways or transport issues**

457 It was agreed that the Clerk would chase the issues of pot holes and rain damage gulleys in the Parish, also the issue of the flooding pond at the bottom of Platt House Lane.

**12 VILLAGE HALLS**

**a Stansted Village Hall**

458 Nothing to report.

**b Fairseat Village Hall**

459 Nothing to report.

**13 POLICE MATTERS**

460 Nothing to report.

**14 PLAQUE FOR GPS STEERING GROUP**

461 Nothing to report.

**15 REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED BY COUNCILLORS AND CLERK**

462 None.

**16 CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS**

463 No documents received.

**17 CORRESPONDENCE**

464 None received.

**18            REPORTS & CIRCULARS**

465            None received.

**19            ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

466            No issues raised.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

No matters were raised.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.45 pm

Signed .....Chairman

On the ..... day of ..... 2019