

## STANSTED PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 8 pm  
AT FAIRSEAT VILLAGE HALL**

|                 |                         |                       |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>PRESENT:</b> | Cllr Harry Bott         | Chairman              |
|                 | Cllr Jack Saunders      |                       |
|                 | Cllr Daren Sefer        |                       |
|                 | Cllr Yvonne Tisson      |                       |
|                 | Mrs Melita Gandolfo     | Clerk                 |
| In attendance   | KCC Cllr Harry Rayner   | (for part of meeting) |
|                 | 7 members of the public |                       |

|                   |  |                     |
|-------------------|--|---------------------|
| <b>Item</b>       |  | <b>Action point</b> |
| Minute no 2020/21 |  |                     |

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

127 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Polly Falconer (on holiday) and Cllr Kevin Sparkes (work commitment). It was unanimously agreed that these apologies be accepted.

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

128 None

**3 TO AGREE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5<sup>th</sup> JULY 2021**

129 Cllr Tisson proposed and Cllr Sefer seconded that Minute 126 be amended to read:  
...new gates **were to be** installed at the Hilltop....  
This was unanimously agreed.  
It was then unanimously agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021 be signed as a true record.

**4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA**

130 There were no matters arising.

**SUSPENSION OF MEETING FOR COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

The Chairman suspended the meeting to allow KCC Cllr Harry Rayner to speak.

Cllr Rayner said that Wrotham Parish Council would be writing to St Clere, and he expected that Stansted Parish Council would write jointly, to discuss the outcome of Matts BBQ and the organisation of future events. He proposed that restrictions should be agreed regarding alcohol and music levels, and that events should have maximum attendance of 3,000 people. It was hoped that an agreement could be reached with St Clere to limit the number and timing of events. The problems arising from Matts BBQ included, as predicted, severe and dangerous disruption to

traffic and drug and alcohol related issues, and there had also been a “bottling”, so there is evidence to argue against future similar events. Cllr Rayner thanked Mrs Sheila Goodworth for her useful assessment of the parking field; and thanks went to Cllr Yvonne Tisson for liaising closely with the residents of Labour in Vain Road.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Rayner and reconvened the meeting.

**5 PLANNING**

**131 a Applications**

There were no new applications.

**132 b Decisions**

The three decisions listed on the Agenda were noted.

**c Appeals**

**133 (i) Oak Tree Stable, Vigo Road, Fairseat - TM20/01665/FL – Appeal 21/00002/REF**

Appeal in progress.

Cllr Bott had prepared the Rule 6 witness statement in readiness for the Appeal Hearing scheduled to begin on 21<sup>st</sup> September. Cllr Bott said that members of the public who had submitted written objections would be invited to attend the Hearing.

**134 (ii) Janes Farm Land, Ash Lane, Stansted – TM21/00785/FL - Appeal against Enforcement ref 20/00266WORKH**

Appeal in progress

**d Enforcement**

**135 i Updates**

The Clerk gave updates on the cases in the Parish.

Investigations were still ongoing in the following cases:

Littlefields, Stansted TN15 7PE - Tree house

Cob Trees, Stansted – Tree house

Wentshaw Lodge, Vigo Road, Fairseat – alleged unauthorised building works

Fly-tipping - Ref 10874 – being investigated by TMBC and Sevenoaks District Council

Cherry Hay, Fairseat - garage with new access onto Byway

Thriftwood Camping and Caravan Park – alleged unauthorised works to form new hardstanding area and removal of trees

**6 FINANCE**

**136 a Bank Balances**

The bank balances as listed on Appendix A were noted.

137 **b Accounts for payment**

It was proposed by Cllr Bott, seconded by Cllr Sefer and agreed that the accounts for payment listed on Appendix A should be paid online.

The payments made since last meeting as listed on Appendix A were approved, having been previously agreed on email by Clls Bott, Falconer and Sefer.

138 **c Conclusion of external audit 2020-21**

The Clerk had received confirmation of conclusion of external audit from auditors PFK Littlejohn, and would display the required notice on the Parish Council website.

139 **c Other Finance issues**

The Chairman Cllr Bott suspended the meeting to allow Mr Tom Sheldon to speak.

Mr Sheldon suggested that Parish Council funds not required for the current account could be invested by a fund manager for a better return than the interest rate currently being offered on the bank deposit account. Cllr Bott said that the Finance committee would examine further options.

Cllr Bott thanked Mr Sheldon and reconvened the meeting.

**7 WINGS OF THE MORNING FIELD – music events / festivals**

Licences had been granted for two events organisers:

- 140 **a BJP Productions Ltd (Matts BBQ) - original premises licence application for up to three weekends per year between 1<sup>st</sup> April and 1<sup>st</sup> November, Friday – Sunday, and bank holiday Mondays**

Matts BBQ had been granted a licence for Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August and the event had taken place. The outcome had already been discussed under KCC Cllr Rayner's report above.

- 141 **b The Swan, West Malling –licence application for a marquee / music event to take place on bank holiday Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August**

The licence had been granted and the event had taken place. It was reported that this event was better organised than Matts BBQ, with fewer people attending, but that the noise was still excessive. Calls to the phone number that had been provided for complaints on the day were not answered but went straight to answerphone. It was agreed that one or two such events per year might be acceptable, but residents would need to know the dates of such events in advance, so as to avoid booking weddings, family parties etc on those weekends.

**8 HIGHWAYS**

- 142 **a Traffic Plan, Highways Improvement Plan, Signage**

Progress would be fully discussed when Cllr Falconer returned.

Cllr Bott gave a brief explanation of the plan to members of the public present. Cllr Tisson had painted orange lines on Labour in Vain Road to indicate proposed areas to be grassed, and was awaiting feedback from neighbours and residents.

**b Other Highways issues**

143 **Hedges:** Cllr Saunders said he would cut the hedges but had other work for the next few weeks. **JS**

**9 MANAGEMENT OF PARISH COUNCIL LAND AND PROPERTY**

144 **i Recreation ground**

Stansted Village Hall committee had had to cut the lock off the back gate onto the field, as nobody had a key. Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would buy a combination lock for the gate. **MG**

145 **ii Play park**

Nothing to report

146 **iii Brown's Field**

To be carried forward. The Clerk had registered for a felling licence. The Clerk passed to Cllr Saunders a letter from SGN saying that the high pressure gas line passing through the field would be checked by two representatives walking the route between 27 September and 7 October 2021.

147 **iv Trees on Black Horse / Church Green**

The Clerk had received an email from a resident complaining that the grass and trees on the Green were overgrown and untidy. The Clerk had reminded the contractor to include the Green in the grass cutting. Following discussion, it was agreed that the trees did not require cutting back at present.

**10 VILLAGE HALLS**

148 Nothing to report.

**11 GRANT APPLICATION FROM STANSTED AND FAIRSEAT HISTORY SOCIETY**

149 The Society had received submitted an application for a grant of £750 to maintain the current website and provide working capital. Representatives of the Society attended the meeting. The application was supported by a detailed explanation of their activities , future plans and costs.

It was proposed by Cllr Bott, seconded by Cllr Tisson and agreed that this grant be made. Cllr Bott asked that the Society present a business plan detailing projected costs over the next three years.

**12 PARISH MAGAZINE**

150 It was reported that the magazine delivery and distribution were going well and were appreciated by recipients.

**13 AIRFIELD PLAQUE**

151 Cllr Bott said that the base for the stone cairn had been laid.

**HB/  
TB**

**13 CAMERAS IN THE PARISH**

152 Cllr Bott and the Clerk had met with a Gavin Wolstenholme from Prestige Security. The cost of a system, including camera installation and a central control location, would be approximately £2,500 for each camera. It was agreed to revisit this option if there were serious problems in the future. In the meantime, it was suggested that individual residents might instal their own cameras.

**15 CORRESPONDENCE**

153 Items had been circulated and were noted.

**16 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

154 It was reported that a car had been left in Stansted Village Hall car park over the Fete weekend. The Clerk will report this to the Police.

**MG**

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Mr Sheldon asked whether hybrid meetings, with some participants joining remotely, would be considered. The Chairman explained that legislation meant this was no longer possible at present.

Mr Hall said that there was a lot of litter on the A20 verges and suggested a litter picking session. It was thought that this could be organised informally among residents. Cllr Tisson said she has some “Litter picker welcome” stickers to put on dustbins.

Mr Osborne said that grass clippings from the school verge had been left on Malthouse Road and could block storm drains.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.15 pm

Signed .....Chairman

On the .....day of .....2021