

**STANSTED PARISH COUNCIL****MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4 MAY 2021  
ONLINE MEETING BY ZOOM DUE TO COVID19 RESTRICTIONS**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Harry Bott Chairman  
 Cllr Mrs Polly Falconer Vice Chairman  
 Cllr Thomas Brooker  
 Cllr Mrs Yvonne Tisson  
  
 Mrs Melita Gandolfo Clerk  
 One member of the public

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Kevin Sparkes, Cllr Daren Sefer, KCC Cllr Harry Rayner, TMBC Cllr Martin Coffin and TMBC Cllr Robin Betts

**2 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 4 MAY 2020**

It was proposed by Cllr Falconer, seconded by Cllr Tisson and agreed the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2020 be signed as a true record.

**3 AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020**

The audited accounts for the year to 31 March 2020 were received. In response to a question from a member of the public, it was confirmed that these were the most recent fully audited accounts available.

**4 CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT**

The Chairman gave his report:

It gives me pleasure to present my annual report of the Stansted Parish Council for 2020/21. Last year I pronounced that it was an extraordinary year but little did I realise what this year would bring as we were gripped by the full COVID 19 pandemic and three lockdowns.

**Planning**

During the year we have had 29 applications submitted and the majority were approved which was in line with previous years. The TMBC local plan which we objected to with other parishes was rejected by the inspector and will now have to be rewritten and submitted.

**The school**

Due to Covid the school has spent much of the year closed. However, they are now back and it is great to hear the sound of children echoing round the playground.

**Traffic Strategy**

More excellent work has been done on the traffic strategy and we have engaged a consultant to verify our requirements so that it can be submitted to KCC. We have also identified some easy wins by improving the cleaning and quality of the signs within the parish to smarten everything up.

The parish magazine

Due to COVID we have been concerned that the parish has not been able to meet in its usual fashion with the various events that take place. To address this, we have taken over the finances of the parish magazine so that a free copy can be distributed to every house within the parish. We believe this will help with fostering the community spirit and make new comers know what is happening within the village..

Finances

Due to the rent we receive from the school, the council continues to be in a very strong financial position which we intend to steward carefully for the benefit of the parish. This means that we have the capacity to invest in our traffic strategy and also where necessary protect the village by using funds on legal expenses which we could not do before.

I will leave the best part to the end by offering many thanks to all of the members of the parish who have given up their time and energy to help make us the strong community that we are. I would particularly like to thank Polly and Yvonne for driving the traffic strategy and Hilly for producing the Parish Magazine. Many thanks should go to our Borough Councillors Martin Coffin and Robin Betts, County Councillor Harry Rainer, and my fellow parish councillors. Our Parish Clerk - Melita should have the greatest thanks – she has calmly and efficiently looked after the parish even tho this has been done nearly entirely remotely. Thank you.

**5 COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

No reports were given.

**6 REPORTS FROM OTHER ORGANISATIONS**

There were no reports.

**7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No matters were raised.

Cllr Mrs Falconer proposed and Cllr Tisson seconded a vote of thanks to Cllr Bott for his chairmanship and hard work throughout the year.

The Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 8.25pm.

Signed .....Chairman

On the .....day of .....2022