

STANSTED PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4th APRIL 2022 AT 8 pm
AT STANSTED VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Cllr Harry Bott Chairman
Cllr Mrs Polly Falconer Vice-chairman
Cllr Daren Sefer
Cllr Kevin Sparks
Cllr Jack Saunders

4 members of the public
KCC Cllr Harry Rayner (for part of meeting)

Item *Action point*

Minute no

1 APOLOGIES

1 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Yvonne Tisson (away), Cllr Tom Brooker (unwell), and were accepted; Apologies were also received from TMBC Cllrs Robin Betts and Martin Coffin

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND ALTERATIONS TO THE REGISTER

2 None.

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7th MARCH 2022

3 It was proposed by Cllr Sefer, seconded by Cllr Sparkes and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th March 2022 be signed as a true record.

4 MATTERS ARISING

4 There were no matters arising.

SUSPENSION OF MEETING FOR COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

The Chairman suspended the meeting to allow KCC Cllr Rayner to speak. There were no Borough Cllrs present to give reports.

Cllr Rayner said that the KCC budgets had been set, with an increase of 3% on all costs; however this may not be sufficient and re-setting of the budgets may be required in the autumn. Cllr Rayner said that Children's and Adult Services budgets are mandated in law and account for a large part of the budget.

Cllr Rayner said that changes in Local Government structure are under discussion, including the introduction of Metro Mayors.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Rayner and reconvened the meeting.

5 HIGHWAYS

a Traffic Plan, Highway Improvement Plan, Signage – Further actions

Delivery of the fingerposts was awaited.

5 Cllr Saunders agreed to begin moving earth to build up banks where agreed, and will liaise with Cllr Brooker. **JS/
TB**

6 Cllr Falconer to contact Claire.Venner@kcc.gov.uk to arrange a meeting to discuss the next steps on the Plan with KCC. Highways Consultant Les Henry to attend the meeting if possible. **PF**

b Other Highways issues

7 It was reported that Wise's Lane bridleway is dangerous for horses (and walkers) as following floods the surface is in parts a steep and rocky gully. The Clerk to write to KCC PROW to report this. It was also reported that cars and motor bikes are using Wise's Lane and cars sometimes get stuck as the path is clearly unsuitable for vehicles.

6. PROPOSED MOTO LORRY PARK AT WROTHAM HEATH

7 The clerk had received an email from Wrotham Parish Council, thanking Stansted Parish Council for their support in principle in opposing this proposal. With Stansted, there would be an alliance of four parishes opposing the lorry park, the others being Wrotham, Borough Green, and Platt. The contribution percentage rate for Stansted would be 6.74% based on the size of the electorate, amounting to £922. Cllr Sefer proposed and Cllr Sparkes seconded that this contribution should be paid to Wrotham Parish Council, and this was unanimously agreed.

7. PLANNING

a Applications

8 **i 22/00582/TPOC** | 1 x Ash tree, (applicants ref T1) - Reduce lowest limb by 3 metres back to significant growth point- tree located in the ground of The Old Rectory, south east corner of Cob Trees garden. Standing in group G2 of TPO | The Old Rectory Plaxdale Green Road Stansted Sevenoaks Kent TN15 7PB

No comments.

9 **ii 22/00453/FL** | Demolition of an existing dwelling and the construction of a new dwelling | Crabdene Cottage Hatham Green Lane Stansted Sevenoaks Kent TN15 7PL

No objections were raised.

b Decisions

10 The decisions as listed on the Agenda were received.

c Appeals

11 **i 20/01665/FL – Oak Tree Stable, Vigo Road, Fairseat – Appeal ref 21/00002/REF**
Appeal in progress

12 **21/00785/FL - Lucy's Barn, Hatham Green Lane, Stansted TN15 P7L**
Retrospective application for the change of use of agricultural land to formation of hard-standing and erection of dog kennels and shed for a temporary 2 years. Appeal in progress

13 **21/00033/ENFNOT – Appeal against Enforcement Notice – 7 Oakwood Farm, Fairseat, TN15 7LT**
Appeal in progress

d. Enforcement

14 **Littlefields, Stansted**

The tree house has been removed and this case is now closed.

15 **Cobtrees, Stansted**

An Enforcement officer had visited and discussed the case with the property owner.

Malt House, Stansted

16 This had been reported to Enforcement.

Other Planning Matters

17 e. It was agreed that where appropriate parish councillors should make site visits where planning permission has been applied for.

8. FINANCE – Appendix A

a Bank Balances

18 The bank balances as listed on Appendix A were noted.

19 **b Accounts for Payment**

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

c Other Finance Issues

20 The clerk said that Nurture Landscapes would be increasing their prices by 4%. It was agreed that this increase was acceptable.

9. FUTURE OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

21 Cllr Bott had written further articles for the parish magazine on the workings and future of the Parish Council.

10. MANAGEMENT OF PARISH COUNCIL LAND AND PROPERTY

22 **i Recreation Field**

A parishioner hiring the village hall had asked for permission to put a couple of gazebos on the field and possibly a mobile food van in the car park. No objections were raised.

It was agreed that part of the recreation field should be left uncut to allow diversity of plant life; the area to be agreed, and explained in the parish magazine.

23 **ii Play park**

No issues

24 **iii Brown’s Field**

The Council is waiting for the felling licence. The licence application asks for the volume of wood to be cut; 50 cubic metres agreed.

25 **iv Other issues**

No other issues were raised.

11. VILLAGE HALLS

26 **i. Stansted Village Hall**

No issues raised

27 **ii. Fairseat Village Hall**

No issues raised.

12. PARISH MAGAZINE

28 .No issues raised.

13. QUEEN’S PLATINUM JUBILEE

29 Parish picnic on Thursday 2nd June, 5 pm onwards.
The band Loose Cannons has been booked.
Cllr Brooker to organise pig roast.
Cllr Bott to organise fireworks and to advertise on back cover of parish magazine.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

30 St Clere had written to advise of a filming event taking place on Wings of the Morning field; this was noted. The clerk to thank St Clere for the notification.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

31 It was noted that large lorries delivering mobile homes to Thriftwood had blocked the surrounding lanes and caused damage to the banks. Cllr Bott agreed to ask Sam Sellars to arrange repair to banks, and also to warn neighbours when lanes are likely to be blocked by these deliveries.

32 It was reported that two people on motor bikes had been shooting with sling shots at the ducks om Fairseat pond. The police had been informed.

PUBLIC SESSION

A member of the public, Alan Bullock, asked whether the parish could act as a community in reacting to the Ukrainian refugee crisis. He suggested that the village halls could be used as a central hub if Ukrainians were welcomed into family homes in the parish, and that the now closed Margaret Macmillan centre could be put to good use. Cllr Bott agreed to speak to our KCC and Borough Councillors about action being taken, and will focus on this issue at our next parish council meeting.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.35 pm.

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SignedChairman Dated.....

