

**STANSTED PARISH COUNCIL****MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2020  
AT 8 p.m., ONLINE BY ZOOM DUE TO COVID19 RESTRICTIONS**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Harry Bott Chairman  
 Cllr Mrs Polly Falconer Vice-chairman  
 Cllr Thomas Brooker (part of meeting)  
 Cllr Daren Sefer  
 Cllr Kevin Sparkes  
 Cllr Yvonne Tisson

Mrs Melita Gandolfo Clerk

In attendance Cllr Harry Rayner Kent County Council  
 Two members of the public

**Item** *Action point*  
 Minute no 2020/2021

**1 APOLOGIES**

111 Apology was received from Cllr Jack Saunders, and it was agreed this be accepted.

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

112 None.

**3 MINUTES OF THE ONLINE MEETING HELD ON 3 AUGUST 2020**

113 a It was proposed by Cllr Sefer, seconded by Cllr Falconer and agreed that the Minutes be accepted.

**114 MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY ONLINE MEETING HELD ON 12 AUGUST 2020**

b It was proposed by Cllr Sefer, seconded by Cllr Falconer and agreed that the Minutes be accepted.

**115 MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY ONLINE MEETING HELD ON 25 AUGUST 2020**

c It was proposed by Cllr Sefer, seconded by Cllr Falconer and agreed that the Minutes be accepted.

116 It was agreed that the above three sets of Minutes will be physically signed when Covid19 restrictions allow.

**4 MATTERS ARISING**

117 None.

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

The Chairman suspended the meeting to allow KCC Cllr Harry Rayner to speak. Cllr Rayner said that TMBC have confirmed that no residents of Thriftwood appear on the TMBC Electoral Register. This continues to be a concern as it appears that there are people living on and working from the site. It was agreed to monitor the situation.

Cllr Bott thanked Cllr Rayner and reconvened the meeting.

- 5 PLANNING**
- a Applications**
- 118 **(i) 20/01642/FL Amber Prospect, Hatham Green Lane, Stansted TN15 7PL**
- Two-storey rear extension  
No objections.
- 119 **(ii) 20/01665/FL Oak Tree Stable, Vigo Road, Fairseat**
- Change of use of land from equestrian use to use for the stationing of 2 x mobile homes for residential use with associated 2 x touring caravans, and cess pit  
Update from Extraordinary meetings on this application
- Cllr Bott reported that there had been many objections from members of the public to this application. The Parish Council's objection had been submitted by Knights, the solicitors engaged, and could be viewed online together with objections from residents.
- b Decisions**
- 120 The four decisions detailed on the Agenda were noted.
- c Other planning issues**
- 121 None.
- 6 FINANCE – Appendix A**
- 122 **a Bank balances**
- The bank balances listed on Appendix A were noted.
- 123 **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 be paid (online payments).
- 124 **c Payments made since last meeting**
- It was proposed by Cllr Bott, seconded by Cllr Falconer and agreed that the online payments made since list meeting as listed on Appendix A be approved
- d Other finance issues**
- 125 The Clerk had received an email from Andy Yallop, Stansted PCC, thanking the Parish Council for the grant towards the redecoration of Fairseat Chapel, and asking that the Parish Council pay the balance of the previously agreed sum of £2,000. The Parish Council had already paid £1,428 and it was agreed that the Clerk would make this remaining balance payment of £572 online.
- 126 Mr Yallop also asked if there was the possibility of a further grant towards extra costs relating to rotten wood found during the works. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council could not make a further grant at this time.

**7 HIGHWAYS****a Traffic Plan**

Cllr Falconer gave a slide presentation of the Traffic Plan that she had prepared with Cllr Tisson.

The aim of the Plan is : To create a low-speed environment that promotes safety, efficient movement, and civility to all road users.

Speed on the lanes had been found to be a problem. Where the lanes are very narrow, drivers were cautious and low speeds were generally maintained; however where the lanes are slightly less narrow, with better visibility and / or enough room for two cars to pass, then speeding became an issue. This was a particular problem in Vigo Road and in Plaxdale Green Road. The Vigo crossroads were a problem area, as a 40 mph limit is in place on that part of the A227, but that speed was often exceeded at this dangerous point.

The Plan identified “place making” as important, to give a sense of place and space, and a sense of the rural and historic nature of the Parish.

Signage should be updated and should be uniform throughout the villages.

“Gateways” could be erected at the entrances to the villages and planters could be installed to emphasise the sense of place.

Verges could be built up with soil and grass.

It had been found that removing the white lines on the road at junctions could inspire drivers to be cautious, to slow down, and to be mindful of other traffic.

Cllr Bott thanked Cllrs Falconer and Tisson for their work on this Traffic Plan.

127 It was proposed by Cllr Bott, seconded by Cllr Sefer and agreed that this Traffic Plan be adopted.

It was suggested that the Plan could be shown as a presentation to members of the public. The village halls do not at present have wifi and it was agreed that the clerk would make inquiries re hiring The Cloisters, which does have wifi, so that some of the audience could log in by Zoom.

**b Other Highways issues**

128 It was noted that there were often deposits of muck and mud on the road at the bottom of the hill in Platt House Lane, and that the farm owner should ensure the road is kept clean. It was also noted that water is regularly discharged from land adjacent to Fairseat Lane (Wrotham) and this water then runs down into Platt House Lane causing the pond at the bottom of the hill to overflow onto the road. The Clerk will write to Cllr Rayner to see if this can be resolved.

**8 CCTV IN THE VILLAGES**

129 There was no update.

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

**i Hire of ground**  
130 Nothing to report

**ii Play equipment – replacement see-saw and other issues raised by insurers**  
The Clerk had obtained three quotes and had circulated details and comparisons.

131 After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Bott, seconded by Cllr Tisson and agreed that the quote provided by Home Counties Play be accepted, for a total cost of £4,428+ VAT including safety surface, installation and removal of old equipment; plus £1,450+VAT to repair “wet pour” other areas around other equipment as identified by Zurich Insurance’s report.

**iii Other issues**  
132 Grange Park School had asked that the hedges around the inside of Stansted recreation Field be cut. It was proposed by Cllr Bott, seconded by Cllr Falconer and agreed that the Clerk ask Tom Brooker to cut the hedges and also the inside of the hedges around Fairseat recreation ground.

**10 TO AGREE A POLICY OF CONSIDERING THE FUTURE PURCHASE OF LAND FOR SALE AS AMENITY LAND FOR THE PARISH**

133 It was agreed that this would be considered on a case by case basis when appropriate.

**11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

134 It had been reported that a caravan in a field in Stansted appeared to be lived-in. Cllr Bott agreed to ask Cllr Saunders if the field in question belonged to him.

135 It was reported that a noisy party event was held on the August Bank Holiday at the Wings of the Morning field, organised by The Swan in West Malling. It appeared that the event, that was widely reported on social media, had seriously contravened Covid19 restrictions

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Mr Tom Sheldon reported that he was still having difficulty viewing documents on the Parish Council website. The Clerk will contact website provider Hugo Fox to get the issue resolved.

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

Signed .....Chairman

On the ..... day of ..... 2020