

STAPLEFORD ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL

c/o Ellie Thomas, Clerk 131 Bentley Drive, Church Langley, Harlow, Essex CM17 9QY Tel: 07599 249962

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Draft Minutes of the Council Meeting

7.15pm Tuesday July 2nd 2024

Present:

Councillors: Jayne Jackson (Chair) JJ Colleen Atkinson (Deputy Chair) CA
Marion Francis (MF)

Officers: Ellie Thomas, Clerk

In attendance: Cllr Clive Amos of EFDC, Cllr Sue Jones of EFDC, 16 Residents/ Visitors

1195/24	Apologies for Absence			
	Kim Lidlow (KL)			
1196/24	Declarations of Interest			
	JJ declares a non-pecuniary interest in EPF/1117/24 as the applicants are personal friends			
1197/24	Minutes of last Meeting			
	Confirmed as a true record			
1198/24	Clerk's Report			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usual bulletins: EFDC, ECC, VAEF, Police, Tourism, Trading Standards, Water, Libraries – circulated. • General Election notices up on all boards. • Footpath 20 - Alan Roscoe was in touch, replied to him, circulated his information. • June 5 - accident Tysea Hill - in the log. • D Day flag successful - school flag to be borrowed for the Flower Show • Speedwatch info is on log sheets and with CSW HQ • Middle Brook Farm - Have checked with Navestock Parish Council & Brentwood PC, all their replies circulated. NPC meet second Tuesday in July, JJ, MF & Clerk to go along, and were invited tonight. • South Epping masterplan circulated • Hedge cutting – done • Tysea Hill - heavy lorries using this bridge. Keith Farrow asked his contacts to express our concerns as to the weight limit and structure of the bridge. They have done a site visit and structural survey of the bridge and determined it is structurally sound and have no concerns. This was unofficially so nothing in writing but thanks to Keith for assistance. • Community carers project has funding and activities will start this summer across the district - see site & boards. • Update on accident at Gaytons where emergency services were slow to arrive posted on site from Essex Police & Fire. • Bus Shelter renovations- quote is here – we will get two more. • Bus Service - Trial to be closed after 6 months due to lack of interest. Suggest we push the Social Car scheme – Clerk to speak to Beverley at CTEF and get info for the website – artwork is ready now to use whenever we like. • Small Councils – Clerk has a few replies and most are positive – some have to raise it at their meetings. Theydon Bois, Theydon Mount, Lambourne & Stanford Rivers have responded so far. • Salt Bag - we are entitled to one free on the Scheme. ECC Highways said: <i>only large population towns are permitted 2T of salt funded by ECC Salt Bag Partnership. Parish Councils can receive a maximum of 1T funded by ECC.</i> • Shop – MF called in, explained about the defibrillator and asked if they would consider us fitting it to the side of their shop - on the outside wall and connected to electricity - Parish Council will meet costs of installation; they will ask the owner. • Fly tipping in Albyns Lane - reported & cleared. 			
1199/24	Matters for Report			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middlebrook Farm: question why Navestock PC. Brentwood BC did not inform us as near neighbours about this application. JJ & MF will attend Navestock PC meeting next week to explore the subject. The number of lorries has been reduced but in turn this prolongs works. JJ has spoken to Enforcement to find out more: they are building a bund by the M25, to protect horses. Acoustic and environmental reports are in but are unclear. There has been a diversion on Goatswood Lane; PC Cook is informed and on the case regarding travellers who have been smashing lorry windscreens. We need to know how long works will continue. Aware that any new service area, should the application be passed, could involve lorries too. • Highways: Potholes reported – all are welcome to let us know if there are more. • Oak Hill Green: no meaningful updates recently. Ned Fox, our point of contact at Hill Group, left the company last Thursday. His replacement has yet to get in touch. They will be invited to our meeting of course. The company is still working on plans which we will share once we get them. • Liaison with small councils: covered. 			
1200/24	Section 106			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Rooms: was agreed 20 years ago – we should have had it as part of High House Farm. Parish Council issued leaflets over 4 years ago to ask people what they wanted in the village – 10% of residents responded. We await response on costings. 			
1201/24	Finance			
	<p>Transactions for the month – All agreed and actioned. Noted that the public footpath outside High House Farm was cut back by the contractor – it is very neat and JJ proposes to give him a present from her own funds. Hedge trimming has been orchestrated by us for the past 2 years even though it is ECC responsibility; we propose as a Parish Council to up the budget and precept to cover in the future.</p>			
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">E THOMAS</td> <td style="width: 33%;">CLERK JUNE</td> <td style="width: 33%;">495</td> </tr> </table>	E THOMAS	CLERK JUNE	495
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1202/24	Planning (Development Control & Enforcement Team)		
	<p>EPF/1117/24 https://eppingforestdcpr.force.com/pr/s/planning-application/a0hTv000000D305 Bournebridge, Oak Hill Road, Stapleford Abbots, Romford, RM4 1JH Proposed loft conversion with roof ridge increase & internal alteration for additional bedroom, bathroom, kitchen, dining, living & storage space. OFFICER: Samuel Finnis RETURN: JULY 8 2024 NO OBJECTION</p> <p>EPF/1167/24 https://eppingforestdcpr.force.com/pr/s/planning-application/a0hTv000000EUPd 250 Waters Farm, Waters Barn, Ongar Road, Stapleford Abbots, Romford, RM4 1RD Erection of Oak framed Garage with first floor home storage space OFFICER: Amy Hallett RETURN: JULY 8 2024 This is a large proposal. Applicant attended the meeting, explained that they have vintage cars, pigs chickens and bees to house – and that any new development on this plot cannot be converted into a dwelling at a later date as there is a Crown Land covenant on the site which dictates that there can only be one house there. Uncertain why this was not in the initial application. NO OBJECTION any way.</p>		
1203/24	Parish Council Projects		
	None this month		
1204/24	Correspondence		
	<p>Murthering Lane: Clerk took two phone calls from residents of a private lane off Murthering Lane. They said that on Tysea Hill where it feeds into Murthering Lane, kerb stones are being laid and drop kerbs are getting tarmacked, plus new drain holes, but where their lane is, they are not getting kerbs or drain holes. They say they need drain holes at least, as the runoff from the SAPC allotment field and Murthering Lane goes straight into their area and floods them. Clerk told them to report to ECC online - they will encourage others in the lane to do so too.</p> <p>Resident attended meeting: she has contacted ECC who told her no more works were planned. Run off from Stocks Lane allotment floods her land – four times this year so far. There are pumps in operation. Resident asked if there has ever been a ditch there or if one could be made, but it would be unclear as to where it would drain to. Suggested that if it drains to the field at the back of the Tysea Hill houses, maybe some kind of drainage could be installed at the top of the hill to stop the runoff being so bad. The corner of Goatswood Lane recently changed its drainage, but it has not yet been wet enough to ascertain how effective this has been. Queries who maintains ditch on Murthering Lane. We are not able to put a ditch in the Parish Council field as it would alter the water course for everyone else. ECC would confirm this. JJ to tell Trevor Baker at EFDC Land Drainage; he is a very helpful and knowledgeable contact and would be able to visit the site and give advice on what can and cannot be done. JJ also to tell Navestock PC about the situation.</p> <p>Community Payback: Clerk asked about clearing paths in Church Lane – Beth asked if the Parish Council are responsible for those footpaths and their maintenance? This is an ECC Highways matter, the landowners might be amenable but County might not.</p>		
1205/24	Meetings of Outside Bodies and Training Courses		
	KL attended planning meeting – more feedback to follow.		
1206/24	Highways		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stretch from Rabbits to Passingford Bridge – cone in road where the drain is, please report. Potholes – many now on Bourne bridge Lane, to report. There are also cones in the road near Golf Course, to report. Brook on Tysea Hill has come away from the drains. 		
1207/24	Matters for future Agendas		
	None this month		
1208/24	Open Forum		
	<p>Footpaths Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Footpaths Group noted that there had been a lots of concerns raised in PC meetings using the term ECC Highways (roads and roadside paths), and wanted to clarify that the ECC footpaths, public rights of way section, also Highways, is very supportive and efficient. Matters arising from last month, C Burnett asked Alan Roscoe to contact the Parish Council as there has been more social media comments about the blocked area on Footpath 20. It transpired that there was a discrepancy between the definitive line and the current walked line of the path. The block is legal – so there will be a great deal of work to do with the ECC Legal department to return the path to its definitive route. Footpaths Group has worked hard to improve and open Footpath 19 from Bournebridge Lane to Kensington Park. The Walking Group walked it on Friday and found it blocked again – this is also referred to ECC Highways (footpaths). Many thanks to the Footpaths group for all their hard work. <p>Resident informed us that they have been told that the power is going to go off for a month and generators will backfill, they will be sited in fields he and neighbours own. They will send any information they have. The works are UK Power Networks who are heightening poles in the area – JJ to call hotline to UKPN to get more information. All to go to Clerk to post on website/ social media.</p> <p>Church Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many thanks for cutting the hedges back in Church Lane – much appreciated. The St Francis hospice choir concert will perform on 6/7/24, 7pm at the church Flower festival 27/7/24 – 28/7/24 at the church, theme CONGRATULATIONS, all contributions are welcome. Vintage Games Afternoon with cream tea, Thursday July 25 1-4 at the Church, contact the Vicar to book Crossfire Concert and BBQ is back again - August 4 at 5pm - contact the Vicar to book Animal Service will take place September 1 at 3pm in the Church grounds <p>EFDC Councillor Clive Amos: the meeting with EFDC Planning was a workshop only – EFDC staff would like to make the feedback into a paper to go to Constitutions Committee, Cabinet and Council and publicise on the website. Presently there are 4 planning committees and all EFDC councillors sit on them, it's mooted that there should only be 2 in future. Watch this space.</p>		
1209/24	Time & Date of next meeting		
	Meeting closed 20.22. NO MEETING IN AUGUST - But please do let us know of any issues. Next meeting September 3 2024 at 7.15.		

Signed by Chair: Date:

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