

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 November 7th 2023

Present:

Councillors:

Jayne Jackson (Chair) JJ
Marion Francis (MF)
Catherine Burnett (CB)

Colleen Atkinson (Deputy Chair) CA
Kim Lidlow (KL)

Officers:

Ellie Thomas, Clerk

In attendance:

12 Residents/ Visitors; Lynne Ridley, EFDC

1087/23	Apologies for Absence
	Cllr Brady, Emma Speller, and Rev Gayler gave apologies. Cllr McIvor & PC Cook not in attendance.
1088/23	Declarations of Interest
	None
1089/23	Minutes of last Meeting
	CA & CB commented on the discussion which took place in the September meeting about who manages meetings. The Council agreed all items to be discussed or reported outside the meeting, are managed through the Clerk. All items for discussion and agreement in the meeting is done via the Chair. CB agreed to disagree. The Vice Chair agreed to sign off the September meeting once she had agreed the changes as accurate.
1090/23	Matters for Report
	<p>Clerks Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usual bulletins – EFDC, ECC, VAEF, Police, Tourism and Libraries – circulated. • Roadworks dates circulated, and are listed on the website and social media • News is now going on Facebook as well as the website. • Toilet in the road at Tysea Hill – this was a welfare unit brought to site in preparation for works. • EALC Branch has been disbanded. • Fly tipping on Gutteridge Lane reported. • Transport Meeting - rescheduled to March 2024, new date TBA. • Stapleford Abbots is entitled to one pallet in Salt Bag Partnership - no further delivery of salt this year. • Dog Control consultation - all information is on notice boards, website and social media • Clerk spoke to a potential new Speedwatch recruit, but he has yet to get in touch by email as advised. • Town & Parish Catch Up with Service Manager of EFDC: pencilled in for 28/11 but yet to be confirmed. • Ride London will resume in 2024, their representative has emailed to establish liaison. See below. • Precept Survey - Fire Police & Rescue – is in progress and information was circulated to Councillors. • Asked Epping TC for info on Fiddlers Hamlet improvements but heard nothing back • EFDC Register Request 2024 – we have responded and will receive copies of electoral registers. <p>Matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defibrillator was actively taken for use recently it is now back in working order. • The Council approved the sending of the rents letters as circulated . • Christmas drinks at the December meeting and all are welcome. • Budget 24/25. Noted we will have £3000 for election. To consider hall and office rents, and adding a new section for the defibrillator, maintenance of village equipment, regarding blocked and unsafe footpaths. Suggested village maintenance £1500 and churchyard maintenance £750. Councillors to comment by email to the Clerk and revisit in December. • Speed at the school. There was a near miss recently. JJ was informed on the phone about this by the headteacher and suggested Alex Burghart MP and Cllr McIvor should meet and will give this matter more impetus. There is a meeting at the school 21/11 and JJ has suggested the MP attends. We have a dossier of emails about speed near the school to refer to. Resident commented that he had been involved in a petition some time ago and would be happy to help. JJ suggests Highways representative attends the meeting too. Some time ago we asked pupils how they got to the school – we can possibly do this again. Resident described the drop off as not bad but pickup difficult. Resurfacing of the car park will be discussed on the 21/11. If the MP cannot attend 21/11 we suggest a separate meeting. Resident commented that the average speed is here was 43mph on a survey he did – he will send data to the clerk.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tommy Statues: now at the sign and the church. Thank you to everybody who helped put them up. The church Tommy will be moved into the grounds for the Remembrance wreath laying. CB suggested the impact could be improved, - the one at the village sign is not very noticeable. The Council were reassured that they are meant to be subtle. CB worried that acrylic signs might snap in the bad weather. JJ agrees metal signs would be good but fears they would be stolen. Statues will be taken down after Poppy Day. Resident commented that metal Tommies also snap – he has had one before. Council can consider this over the year. Hook Lane sign for slippery road: JJ has emailed the MP on this matter – ECC head of highways has not responded. There have been many incidents at two blackspots: the ditch at Hook Cottage, (a ditch deepened by a lorry falling in it) and the long bend at Manor Road. This is all within a mile of the school. Noted the give way sign should be replaced, we have asked this over 8-10 years. Suggested we could put up our own sign. Noted we need a crash barrier by the ditch. We could ask the farmer as it is their land and incidents affect them. Suggested a meeting with highways to discuss. Flytipping: burnt out vans and trash on Gutteridge Lane. EFDC have been proactive in clearing it and we have a positive new contact in Environmental who we will ask to a meeting soon. Noted there should be a permanent solution, ideally posts at each end. Cameras sited there during Covid were stolen. Tysea Hill fingerpost: suggest we ask handyman to repair it – agreed. Drones: The footage was not able to go on the website as it is too high definition, and web managers suggested a YouTube channel to display this and other videos we may make. Clerk set up demo channel with one video, which worked well. Clerk to check with EALC on rules about Parish Councils and YouTube. Suggested to put drone films on a memory stick for retail. Reassured that our drone project had permission from Stansted and Stapleford airspace – please report suspicious drones to the police. Ride London 2024: Clerk to research when this was in Surrey. Noted to ask their rep to March meeting. 									
1091/23	Finance									
	<p>Transactions for the month – All agreed and actioned.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>E THOMAS</td> <td>CLERK SEPT 2023</td> <td>473</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E THOMAS</td> <td>PRINTER INK</td> <td>27.49</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C BURNETT</td> <td>FOOTPATHS EQUIPMENT</td> <td>80.01</td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly round-up: to be presented at the next meeting 	E THOMAS	CLERK SEPT 2023	473	E THOMAS	PRINTER INK	27.49	C BURNETT	FOOTPATHS EQUIPMENT	80.01
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1092/23	Planning (Development Control & Enforcement Team)									
;	<p>EPF/2235/23 Land to South of Bournebridge Lane, Stapleford Abbots, Romford, RM4 1LU Objection.</p> <p>EPF/2167/23 Olives Farm, Murthering Lane, Stapleford Abbots, Romford, RM4 1JT No Objection.</p> <p>EPF/2262/23 Olives Farm, Murthering Lane, Stapleford Abbots, Romford, RM4 1JT No documents on this page from the planning portal - we urgently need more information about the site.</p> <p>EPF/1355/23 Valley View, Curtis Mill Lane, Stapleford Abbots, Romford, RM4 1HS Stapleford Abbots PC are querying this application and request a site visit by EFDC.</p> <p>EPF/2243/23 6, Woodlands Grove, Stapleford Road, Stapleford Abbots, RM4 1FB Objection.</p>									
1093/23	Parish Council Projects									
	<p>YouTube channel; awaiting EALC advice.</p> <p>History project: all new ideas welcome. Suggested the Tommy Statues and a rockery. JJ to talk to developers about helping with funds to give back to the village. CB suggested to ask for composite benches.</p>									
1094/23	Correspondence									
	<p>School: Council requested for FOI on how pupils get to school, a formality for campaigns and history research.</p> <p>Resident wrote to ask about roadworks – signposted to website and Facebook</p> <p>PC Cook emailed to say he will analyse data in the parish for crime in 2023</p> <p>Epping Forest Transport reported the bus application is in the electronic system but this will be slow.</p>									
1095/23	Meetings of Outside Bodies and Training Courses									
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None. 									
1096/23	Highways									
	<p>Change of leadership at ECC: Cllr Cunningham replaced Cllr Scott. JJ wrote to him but no response and has now contacted the MP. Councillor McIvor is aware.</p> <p>Bollards: JJ did a site visit at night to see what flashes (and poses risk to people with epilepsy); Clerk visited five months ago, no help was offered. We await the MPs response. All who spot any other issues please email the Clerk.</p>									
1097/23	Matters for future Agendas									
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Precept; budget; highways recap. 									
1098/23	Open Forum									

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident raised query about the church maintenance invoices – MF and church to check. • CB resigned with immediate effect. Council thanked her for her service. • Lorries: if they are taxed, licenced and insured they're allowed to be on the village roads and there's nothing we can do. If it's JLR, JJ tells the manager who has them on track. There are concerns about bridges being damaged.
1099/23	Time & Date of next meeting
	Meeting closed 21:00 Next meeting at 7.15pm on Tuesday December 5 th 2023.

Signed by Chair: Date:

Signed by Clerk: Date: