

Staple Parish Council.

Minutes of Staple Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 13th July 2022, at 7.30 pm in Staple Village Hall

Councillors present:

Cllr. Trevor Bartlett (Chair), Cllr. John Kirk, Cllr. Dave Kirk, Cllr. R. Loukes, Cllr. Neil McCollum, Mr Jonathan Mount (Parish Clerk), Cllr Sue Chandler.

Members of the public present

There was one member of the public present.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Cllr. Glynis McCollum, Cllr. Sue Coulson
- 2. Declarations of interest:** Cllr John Kirk and Cllr Dave Kirk declared an interest in the village Hall committee.
- 3. Minutes of the meeting of 8th June 2022 were received, approved, and signed by the Chairman.**

4. Public Participation – adjournment of the meeting

A member of the public mentioned that there was a lot of dog mess on the footpath from the Church through Crixall Lane. Cllr. Loukes mentioned that more signs might help. Cllr. Bartlett will investigate the possibilities of obtaining signage. A member of the public mentioned that one of the signs in Buckland Lane has been hit and is now displaced. The sign is situated opposite Bassetts on Buckland Lane. Discussion also took place about the overgrowth of trees near an electricity pole in the same area. It was resolved that it is a matter for the electricity company to deal with.

5. District Councillor's and PCSO Report

DDC (Cllr. M. Connolly) (already circulated)

KCC (Cllr. S. Chandler): (not circulated). Cllr Chandler gave a brief report and pointed out that DDC had recently been given an "outstanding" OFSTED report for children's services. PCSO (PSCO Jacqui Brook) (reported circulated)

6. Financial report and items for payment and receipts

- To receive the bank reconciliation up to the end of June 2022. This was received and signed by the Chairman.
- To discuss/approve the contribution to the Staple Village Hall committee (circulated)

The committee was asking for an £800 contribution. It was agreed that this should be made. Proposed by Cllr. McCollum, Seconded by Cllr. Loukes

- To adopt and sign the AGAR for the year 2021-2022. The AGAR was adopted and signed by the Chairman.

Discussion concerning the budget for 2022-2023. Already circulated. Various items were discussed. The Clerk will include the recommendations in his budget and present them at the next meeting.

Cheque No.	Recipient	Reason	Amount
BACS	J. Mount	Clerk's salary	200.00
BACS	B. Passmore	Internal audit	50.00

Resolved: These cheques were approved. (Proposed: Cllr D Kirk. Seconded: Cllr. N McCollum)

7. Correspondence received:

Cllr Loukes read out a letter he had received from Woodnesborough PC in which they had reported a breach of an enforcement order at Marshborough to DDC, where one static home had been increased to two. This had been reported to the DDC Planning Enforcement Team. Cllr Loukes also mentioned there had been no changes to the number of vehicles and caravans at Summerfield, which are subject to an enforcement notice, which terminates on 22nd May 2023.

The water hydrant in the hedge near the Black Pig public house has become hidden by the overgrowth of the hedge; it cannot now be seen. Wingham fire brigade should be responsible for clearing back the undergrowth.

Clerk to contact Wingham Fire Brigade to suggest that they clear it. Cllr Loukes will forward an email address for Alan Collyer to the Clerk. There are a lot of overgrown hedges in Barnsole, but the pathways and roads are still passable. Councillors requested that overgrown hedges be cut back by residents.

8. Planning and other Reports:

Planning application no:	Location	Summary	Status
22/00639	Barnsole Barn	Conversion of attic space to bedroom	Granted
CON/19/00538/1	Three Tuns, Staple	SUDs	Under consideration Councillors agreed to support the application
22/00739	Somersham, The Street, Staple	Erection of 3no. bay garage	Under consideration Councillors agreed to Support the application
22/00481	Land East of Rusham Road	Temporary change of use to allow timber storage (retrospective)	Refused
CON/21/01632/A	Summerfield Nurseries	Surface water	Part approved

- **Village Hall and Recreation Ground**

Bookings are steady at the moment. The Pre-school may have to cease use of the hall since they need to re-structure the committee and Trustees.

- **SID/Speedwatch** (Report circulated)

More speed watch volunteers have joined. They are now fully booked until August.

- **Footpaths**

Cllr Bartlett read out a letter he had received from KCC ref. the Restricted Status of the route running between Staple Road and Goodnestone. The result of the investigation is that it is considered that the claimed route is reasonably alleged to subsist. The County Council will make a Definitive Map Modification Order to record the claimed route. Once the Order has been made, it will be advertised on site and in the local newspaper for 42 days. If no objections are made during that time, the Order will be confirmed and will take effect. If objections are received then the opposed Order will be referred to the Planning Inspectorate for determination.

9. Items for discussion:

- Implications of the withdrawal in October of all bus services through Staple:

Cllr Chandler reported that funding had been withdrawn owing to cuts in funding. There is a scheme called Kent Carrier Service which has not been withdrawn. There is a small charge for this service but there are various conditions that need to be met if the service is going to be used. Applications for individual people can be done via the KCC website. There was a consideration of the isolation factor which is why the Kent Carrier Service was not included in the cuts. Cllr Loukes remarked that the Kent Carrier Service only goes to Deal and only operates on a Thursday. He also mentioned that not everyone has an internet connection. Cllr Chandler said she would investigate whether there is a printed form available. Cllr Bartlett asked if it was possible to just get one bus to come through Staple and then join the link again? Cllr Chandler said it might be possible. Clerk to write to Stagecoach (Matthew Arnold) and ask if just one bus could divert through Staple just once a day; the journey would involve just 0.9 miles extra on the journey. Other buses are also being withdrawn from other villages in the area.

10. Any other business:

There was none.

11. Any confidential items to be discussed:

12. Date of next meeting: 14th September at 7.30 pm

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm