

Staple Parish Council

Minutes of a virtual, on-line meeting held on Wednesday 14th April 2021, at
7.30pm via Zoom

Councillors present

Cllr T Bartlett (Chair)

Cllr S Coulson

Cllr N McCollum

Cllr G McCollum

Cllr J Kirk

Cllr R Loukes

Cllr M Conolly

Cllr S Chandler

Parish Clerk: J Mount

1	Apologies for absence Cllr D. Kirk
2	Declaration of interest There were no declarations of interest
3	Minutes of previous meeting
3.1	Approval of previous Minutes Proposed:Cllr. R Loukes Seconded: Cllr. J Kirk Passed unanimously
3.2	Matters Arising There were none
3.3	Highways Improvement Plan Cllr N McCollum said that we had captured everything that was discussed and hopefully noted all that was mentioned. Concentrating on the speeding issue will cost a lot of money. Cllr. J Kirk said that chicanes and humps would be very expensive, but the positioning of SIDs would be a cheaper and better alternative. It would slow people down and remind motorists that they should be keeping to the speed limit. Cllr. S Coulson said we could try, but unlikely to make any effect. Cllr G McCollum spoke about the priorities list and said it should be based on need, rather than what we are likely to achieve. Some reorganisation of the priorities was discussed and agreed upon. All councillors in favour. Cllr R Loukes said that the corner near his house should be a top priority owing to the dangerous bend in the road when there are cars/lorries parked near to the corner. Double white lines and no parking markings should be a priority. Cllr. G McCollum said that the priorities should be based on evidence. Cllr. J Kirk asked if we have to put them in a structured order. Cllr Loukes said that the A257 was under consideration by other councils, so not sure we could do much more than was being done at the moment. Cllr. N McCollum said he would rearrange the order of the priorities list and circulate it to Councillors before forwarding it to the committee.
4	Public Session Mrs S Morris said that the WFV project (Wildlife Friendly Village) were looking at further areas to plant more trees. They had been looking at the area outside the old people's homes along Lower Road. Trees that do not grow too high and also bulbs. Cllr J Kirk asked what the residents thought...WFV will pop notices through their doors to gather info. Cllr S Coulson asked what kind of trees would be planted. Mrs Morris answered that the trees would grow to a maximum of 6ft. Trees would be planted in the autumn, but more funding would be necessary. Cllr T Bartlett said that it would be fine as long as the trees did not

grow to high...probably up to about 6ft. would be alright. Cllr G McCollum asked who owned that part of the land. Cllr T Bartlett said that probably the council owned it. A cultivation licence might need to be drawn up; more research needs to take place as to what insurance needs to be taken out, but it would cost £340. Cllr R Loukes asked if the WFV had enough volunteers and did more advertising need to take place? They have had a few replies, but could do with more. At the moment there are 4 people. They are in need of a mower, unless one could be borrowed. Cllr R Loukes asked if the mower at the church could be used. All agreed that the church mower could be used. Cllr J Kirk asked whether it would be worth starting a Facebook page. WFV will look into the possibility of a Facebook page.

5 Reports

5.1 District Councillor

Cllr M Connolly's report is attached below.

April 12th 2021
District Councillor's Report

Local Plan consultation: This finished on March 17th. There has been a very high response, considerably bigger than the last Local Plan consultation under 'normal' circumstances in 2011. Planning Dept will now digest all these responses over the next few months before moving to the next phase of recommendations.

Waste and Recycling collections: Many residents will see a change in the day of their collections from next week. The changes have been agreed between DDC and Veolia to improve the efficiency of the 'rounds' thereby reducing the carbon footprint of the operation. There may be some initial disruption but the established pattern of food waste collections every week and alternate weeks collection for general waste and recyclables will continue. All residents affected should have received a communication on this. Residents wishing to renew their garden waste subscriptions should do so now. A new Waste Services Manager, Ian Dudding, has been appointed to replace the sadly missed Mandy Pile.

We have been pleased to learn that we have been allocated £3.2 million from the future High Streets Fund. Together with moneys from the Coastal Communities Fund and from our own Capital budget this will allow the major regeneration of Dover High Street and Market Square areas, as well as improving the link with the waterfront. We have also been given £170,000 as a Welcome Back Fund to spend money on high streets once most shops reopen. A meeting was scheduled for April 8th to decide exactly what to do with this.

Kearsney Abbey and Russell Gardens are both now open with toilets also open. The new café at Kearsney is due to open next month.

Community Grants Scheme: Bids from local organisations are open from April 12th to May 24th. £65,000 is available for the summer six months following the allocation of the same figure in the winter.

5.2

Cllr. Sue Chandler (KCC) No report received as yet, but the Annual Report is available and will be circulated to Councillors

5.3

PCSO (Eva Winter)

No report has been received.

Cllr R Loukes said that Eva was meant to attend the Speed Watch yesterday but did not attend.

6 Finance

6.1 Approval of Bank Reconciliation for March 2021

Proposed: Cllr J Kirk

Seconded: Cllr N McCollum

Carried unanimously

6.2

Cheques to be approved:

Cheque No. 200374 Clerk's Salary £190.00

Cheque No. 200373 PKF Accountants (late fine for last year's AGAR) £288.00

Proposer: Cllr. Cllr J Kirk

Seconder: Cllr. N. McCollum

Carried unanimously

6.3 Other financial Items

Cllr. S. Coulson asked if we can now order the new village notice boards. Proposal put forward that this should be paid...

Proposed Cllr. S. Coulson

Seconded Cllr J. Kirk

Passed unanimously

7 Correspondence Received

7.1 Letter from R. Kehoe ref/ Frog and Orange in which he asked if the PC had opted to apply for an AVC on the Frog and Orange. Cllr. N McCollum said that as the PC hadn't received any communication from anyone else, there is little justification for objecting.

7.2 Notice of appeal ref. enforcement notice ref. land to the south of Summerfield House
Cllrs. thought that there was no lesser way of removing the caravans other than the enforcement notice.

8 Reports**8.1 Planning applications determined**

21100063	Land between Greenways and Morella Villa. Change of use from agricultural to flexible	Prior approval approved

8.2 Planning Applications submitted

21/00512	Albany Lodge, Durlock Road, Staple CT3 1JX, erection of two storey side and front extensions, single story rear extension with new front boundary wall and alterations to fenestration. Supported by the Parish Council
CON/20/00 053A	Land opposite The Row, Barnsole Road, Staple CT3 1LE. Arboricultural Method statement Duly noted by the Parish Council
	Barnsole House, Barnsole Road, Staple, CT3 1L: Removal of Condition 6 (parking) of planning permission DOV/09/00774 to remove parking restrictions (application under Section 73) Supported by the Parish Council

8.3 Village Hall and Recreation Ground
Cllr. J Kirk reported that there will be a meeting next week. The roof has been repaired at some expense but at least it has been done. CCTV camera has not yet been installed.

8.4 SID/Speedwatch
Cllr. R Loukes reported that Speedwatch has now started again. 13 speed violations have been recorded and sent to the Police.
Maximum speed 41 mph
There have been problems with the SIDs and will be positioned on the brackets in about 3 week's time. The repaired SID is not displaying at the moment and does not record the speed of the vehicles going past. Cllr. D Kirk could help put the SIDs in place.
Thanks to Cllr. R. Loukes for everything that he and his team are doing.

8.5	<p>Footpaths</p> <p>Cllr. S Coulson said that two villagers have helpfully cut back much of the vegetation. Dog walkers are not picking up the mess that their dogs make. Someone is placing the dog waste bags under the bonfire trying to hide it. Notices have been put up in the Churchyard, not sure if it has made any difference though. Cllr. T. Bartlett has been informed by Mervyn Laker about the problem. Could dogs be banned from that area? An article could go in the Escallop? Cllr J Kirk asked if KCC dog warden could be asked to give us advice. Cllr R Loukes suggested that we could get more signs, but it would not be good to put too many signs in the Churchyard. Cllr. G McCollum said that signs have no impact on people without a social conscience. Cllr. J Kirk said that you cannot ban dogs from a public area without a byelaw. Cllr T Bartlett said he would contact the necessary authorities at DDC to obtain advice and hopefully get the Council Dog warden involved.</p>
9	Items for discussion
9.1	<p>Future PC Meetings (including the AGM)</p> <p>It was decided that the Staple PC AGM would be held via Zoom on May 12th</p>
9.2	<p>Operation London Bridge and Operation Forth Bridge (ref. arrangements for HRH Duke of Edinburgh funeral...Flying of flags.</p> <p>It was decided that a letter of condolence to HM Queen, signed by the Chairman of Staple PC should be written. Clerk to forward a pro-forma letter to Cllr. T Bartlett</p>
10	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Cllr. J Kirk said it would be good to recognise the achievement of the Staple Pre-school in having been awarded eco school status. The Clerk will send a letter of congratulations to Pre-School (via the Chairman, Paul Wells).</p> <p>Cllr. S Coulson mentioned the Sandwich Connect Bus Route. It was suggested that it should be routed up Chequer Lane in Ash, to allow easier access to the Ash Surgery. Ash Parish Council supported this idea. The bus is to continue. The idea of the new route is going to be raised with the bus company again.</p>
11	<p>Additional correspondence as permitted by the Chair</p> <p>None mentioned.</p>
12	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p>Wednesday May 12th</p> <p>Cllrs. decided that there would not be an AGM in the immediate future, owing to Covid restrictions.</p>

Signed by Cllr. Trevor Bartlett _____ Date: _____