

Staple Parish Council.

Minutes of Staple Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 10th November 2021, at 7.30 pm
in Staple Village Hall

Councillors present:

Cllr T Bartlett (Chair), Cllr S Coulson, Cllr D Kirk, Cllr J Kirk, Cllr R Loukes, Cllr G McCollum, Mr J Mount (Parish Clerk).

1. Apologies for absence:

Cllr. N McCollum

2. Declarations of interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of previous meeting:

3.1 Approval of previous minutes:

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. (Proposed: Cllr. R Loukes, Seconded: Cllr. D Kirk.

3.2 Matters arising:

There were no matters arising.

4. Public session:

Mr. M Holden mentioned problems with surface water and flooding. Cllr G McCollum said that although rainwater had recently been flowing away quite well; there was still a problem. It was noted that rainwater/flooding problems should be reported to Ian Day, the highways engineer. Cllr J Kirk said that in the past, the ditches around fields led the water away; but a lot of them have now been filled in. Cllr Chandler said that underground water courses have been altered by new developments. In response to a question from councillors, Cllr Chandler said that farmers can be required to do certain types of work to mitigate the problem. It was agreed that the dyke next to Durlock Road needs clearing out as this would really help with drainage. Cllr Chandler said that KCC had changed the protocol around drain clearance. The Clerk was asked to draw together these various points and email Sue Chandler, who will then deal with it. Mrs Shelley Morris mentioned that hedges etc. can mitigate the situation.

5. Councillors' and PCSO Reports:

5.1 Cllr. M. Connolly (DDC): Report has been circulated to Councillors. (Report appended to the minutes)

5.2 Cllr S Chandler (KCC): Report has been circulated to Councillors. (Report appended to the minutes)

Cllr. D Kirk asked who should be contacted to take down road closure signs once the work has finished. Email Cllr. S Chandler, and she will then put in a request.

5.2 PCSO (Eva Winter): No report presented

6 Finance:

6.1 Approval of bank reconciliation for October 2021:

The bank reconciliation was approved. (Proposed: Cllr. G. McCollum Seconded: Cllr. R. Loukes)

6.2 Cheques to be approved:

Cheque Nos. 200390 and 200391 HM Revenue £79.60

Cheque No. 200392 Clerk's Salary £200

These cheques were approved. (Proposed: Cllr. G. McCollum, Seconded Cllr. R. Loukes)

Donation of £50 to Royal British Legion for the Remembrance Day wreath. (Proposed Cllr. J Kirk, Seconded by Cllr. S Coulson. Cllr S Coulson to lay the wreath on the day. Clerk will give a cheque to Cllr S Coulson.

6.3: Other financial items:

There were none.

7 Correspondence received:

7.1 Terry Martin ref. beacons for HM Queen's Jubilee. Discussion about having a beacon built. Cllr. R Loukes said that we could have a bonfire constructed to Council specification. To be further discussed at a later date.

7.2 Nicola Snow ref. speed on Fleming Road. Clerk to respond to Mrs Snow and say how concerned the Parish Council are about speeding along the road, but it is outside the boundary of the parish.

7.3 Toby Butler ref. SID at Piglet Place. The Parish Clerk sent a letter to Toby Butler, unfortunately a letter had already been sent by Cllr R Loukes, owing to a misunderstanding.

7.4 English rural ref. Bartlett Close. This item was discussed under Agenda item no 11

7.5A Parishioner wrote to the Parish Council with ref. to obstructions to vehicles. Clerk to write to the parishioner giving him the outcome to the discussion. Clerk to write to L Jarvis at DCC and report the problem of a wall. Forward a copy of the letter to Cllr. S Chandler. If the wall is close to the highway, it would require planning permission.

7.6 Mr Collingwood ref. minor accident at the corner of The Street. Councillors discussed the problem about parking. Cllr. R. Loukes said that we have a highways improvement plan and this problem is first on the list. Clerk to reply to Mr Collingwood stating the action that the Parish Council is taking. Clerk to write to the residents concerned, stating the Parish Council's concerns. Address is 1, Dell View.

7.7 Mr Mervyn Laker ref. quotation for servicing garden machinery.

Quotation was accepted unanimously. (Proposed by J Kirk, Seconded by R. Loukes)

7.8 Mr J Aldington ref. fibre optic internet in Goodnestone

Parish Clerk to ask him to come to the next Parish Council meeting.

8 Reports:

8.1 Planning applications determined

Site at Three Tuns, The Street, Staple, Condition approved

8.2 Planning applications submitted

Frog and Orange, Shatterling. Erection of 6 no. detached dwellings. Councillors agreed in principal. Proposed by Cllr. J Kirk, seconded by Cllr G McCollum. Councillors supported the application, but with reservations concerning sight lines and access onto the A257.

Summerfield Nurseries, Barnsole Road. Variation of condition 2 of previous planning application. Councillors Supported the application.

8.2.1 Village Hall and recreation ground:

Bookings are very poor at the moment.

Maintenance has continued to take place.

CCTV is now in place and the associated cables are shielded to prevent vandalism.

8.4 SID/Speedwatch:

Cllr R Loukes reported on Speedwatch and SIDs. (Report appended to minutes)

8.5: Footpaths:

Cllr Sue Coulson gave a report.

She has been in touch with the local farmer reminding him about what he is obliged to do with reference to reinstating the paths. No reply has yet been received. She listed all the paths that need to be reinstated.

9 Items for discussion:

10 Any other business:

Additional correspondence, as permitted by the chair.

10.1 Slimming down of the Parish Council minutes on the notice boards (Parish Clerk)

The Parish Clerk mentioned that the SID/Speedwatch/KCC/DDC/PCSO took up a great deal of space on the Parish notice boards. There are several items that should be displayed on the boards, but we are unable to display them owing to a shortage of space. It was pointed out that although the various reports are usually embedded within the minutes and are published in the Escallop; they are not in fact 'minute items'. It was agreed that although the reports would be appended to the minutes published in the Escallop, they would no longer be displayed on the notice boards. They would however still be available for viewing on the Parish Council web site.

- 10.2 The Parish Clerk asked if there were any plans yet to announce the go-ahead of the 2022 Staple Country Fayre. Cllr J Kirk said that the decision as to whether to hold the Fayre was still being considered; as several of the requirements essential for its go-ahead were still not confirmed. (These include the availability of suitable parking areas and finding someone to take on the task of procuring programme advertising.) When (or if) these problems are resolved; then the Fayre would indeed go ahead. It was hoped that this could be achieved in time for an article to be included in the Christmas edition of the Escallop.

11 Any confidential items to be discussed:

Discussion concerning one item.

12 Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 8th December.