

Staple Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE STAPLE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 13th November 2024 at 7.30 in Staple Village Hall.

PRESENT: Cllrs Bartlett (Chairman), Kirk, Loukes, Davis-Marks, Martin and Ewart.

Cllr Loukes took notes as acting Parish Clerk.

IN ATTENDANCE: There were 6 members of the public in attendance. Cllr Martin Porter (DDC) and Cllr Sue Chandler (KCC) were also in attendance. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** ~ prospective co-opted councillor Nigel Rogers-Hudson. It was proposed by Cllr Loukes and seconded by Cllr Ewart that Nigel Rogers-Hudson be co-opted; accepted by the Parish Council with no objections.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.** Cllr Kirk and Martin for Planning (Item 5)
3. Minutes of previous meeting held in October were accepted and signed.
4. **PUBLIC SESSION**
 - a. No one from Elivia attended
 - b. DDC eviction officer did not respond to a request to attend.
 - c. A member of the public had sent request to KCC to attend to Barnsole Road where the road is badly eroded. KCC Roads Ref 840720 (10th November) Sue Chandler will follow this through. Cllr Porter will check the rules with DDC regarding the reinstatement of roads after houses are completed. It was noted that the builder will be off site by Dec 22nd.
 - d. Staple Face Book pages. Note those that are open. One has been stopped but two others are still continuing – Staple Facebook Group and Staple Facebook Group – Local businesses.
 - e. Mill Road. Enforcement notice from May taken down. Second enforcement rejected. Going to reissue another enforcement notice but cannot as DDC Planning department (covering eviction notices) overloaded and appeal is going through. The PC has written a draft letter to Ombudsman which will be circulated for approval. Elivia will also be writing a letter of complaint.
 - f. Summerfield travellers' site – There is a planning application with DDC for one house, but their recommendation is for refusal. The application will be considered on 21st Nov. The PC need to support one house but only one person can speak for 3 mins to appeal to overturn refusal. Trevor will check with Woodnesborough whether they will attend.

5. FINANCE

- a. New Filing Cabinet ~ purchased 1 November Cost £372:00.
 - b. Proposed purchase of Padlock for Filing Cabinet.
 - c. Donation for repair of Finger Post - £20 towards a case of refreshments
 - d. Request from Village Hall Committee for £1000 annual grant
 - e. KALC training course for Parish Clerks
 - i. Not required until we get a Clerk
 - f. Proposed Christmas PC meeting with mulled wine and mince pies – amount up to £50. The Black Pig have offered to supply at cost – this will be greatly appreciated.
 - g. Fuel for mower £8 at the Church (payment to SueCoulson)
 - h. Clerk's expenses not paid ~ backpay and working from home £68:71
- All finance items approved.** Proposed by Cllr Davis-Marks and seconded by Cllr Ewart.

6. REPORTS

- a. District Councillor ~ forwarded – to be included in the Escallop
- b. County Councillor – Household support Fund - some funds will be distributed by DDC from the sum allocated to KCC, it is noted that many families have not applied for income Support. An Education consultation has been issued for response. Budget being prepared for 2025 – 26. Care companies will be facing problems with payments. This will impact the draft budget. Potholes – blitz now finished. Gritting – KCC is ready for the winter. PC should check that our salt bins are full – any lack of salt can be reported via KCC reporting site. KCC looking to support Ukraine – at no cost to KCC – cooperation, advice and voluntary support. In DDC Libraries there is lots going on in Dover including winter coat exchange – need to let them know if anyone has a coat they can donate. Kent plant trees initiative – KCC are asking all landowners if they have an area to plant trees – free supply – with landowners to maintain. A question was asked on support for Private Care companies – Cllr Chandler will get back to Cllr Georgina with information.
- c. Village Hall and Recreation Grounds ~
 - i. update on future of Village Hall usage – There is a new booking officer - Clare Marsh. The Business plan for the Pre-school was reviewed by the Village Hall Committee but was not considered feasible and therefore will not be progressed at this time
 - ii. reinstate Wi-Fi and Vfastlink – Cllr Kirk will look at the possibility so that security can be improved.
- d. Highways (SID, Speedwatch, footpaths) ~ to be included in the Escallop
- e. Planning ~ an update from Cllr Davis-Marks See Appendix A
- f. Kent Police ~ forwarded – to be included in the Escallop
- g. Update on Drains and White lining. The drains have been cleared outside the Old Forge and along Lower Road, but a member of the

public mentioned that the drain at the left-hand side of the Hollies looks like it is still full of mud. The white lines from Lower Road to Grove Road have been redone and may help in keeping cars to their correct side of the road at the Old Forge corner

7. Highways Improvement Plan ~ proposed amended HIP plan has been forwarded to Wingham PC secretary (A257 Group). After discussions at the A257 meeting on the 16th November Cllr Loukes will arrange a meeting with Lezanne Cesar ~ East Kent Highways CC
8. Correspondence Received ~ for information only ~ None received
9. Update on Parish Clerk – Two interviews have been undertaken but although offers were made neither candidate has taken up the offer. Cllr Bartlett will ask Sophie Gaskain (one of the candidates) if she would take up the offer to be the Interim Clerk.

Date of Next Meeting: - 11thDecember 2024

The deadline for Agenda Items to be included is the end of the day on the 3rdDecember

Appendix A

DDC Planning Applications as at 13 Nov 24

Non material minor amendment to approved application 23/01394 (Erection of single storey side extension, insertion of 2 rooflights to rear roofslope, existing rear window replaced with French doors) to allow changes to the appearance of the joinery and extension eaves and height


Staple House The Street Staple CT3 1LN

Ref. No: 23/01394/A | Received: Tue 29 Oct 2024 | Validated: Wed 30 Oct 2024 | **Status:**
Approved

Erection of an agricultural barn and plant storage 

Wingham Country Market Roman Road Shatterling CT3 1JW

Ref. No: 24/01080 | Received: Sat 12 Oct 2024 | Validated: Tue 22 Oct 2024 | **Status:**
Awaiting decision

Prior approval from agricultural barn to office/production unit A mezzanine floor will be installed to create office space and a meeting room on the 1st floor. Below the mezzanine will be a production room where we can bottle our rapeseed oil. The rest of the unit will be divided to allow a pressing room where we press and filter our rapeseed into oil. We will also, create a store room and warehousing space for our raw materials. 

Layham Garden Centre Lower Road Staple Canterbury CT3 1LH

Ref. No: 24/01074 | Received: Fri 11 Oct 2024 | Validated: Sat 12 Oct 2024 | **Status:**
Awaiting decision

Change of use to a 4 bedroom residential care home 

The Hollies Lower Road Staple CT3 1LH

Ref. No: 24/00988 | Received: Mon 23 Sep 2024 | Validated: Tue 29 Oct 2024 | **Status:**
Awaiting decision

Erection of an attached garage and insertion of 2 dormer windows

Somersham The Street Staple Canterbury CT3 1LN

Ref. No: 24/00834 | Received: Wed 07 Aug 2024 | Validated: Tue 13 Aug 2024 | **Status:**

Decided - Approved

Change of use of land to residential caravan site for 2No. Gypsy/Travellers pitches with the siting of 2 caravans for residential use, new vehicular access, erection of dayroom and associated landscaping (part retrospective)

Land South East Of Mill Cottage Mill Road Staple CT3 1LB

Ref. No: 24/00280 | Received: Tue 12 Mar 2024 | Validated: Wed 13 Mar 2024 | **Status:**

Decided - Refused

Prior approval for the change of use of agricultural building to dwellinghouse

Barnsole Vineyard Fleming Road Staple CT3 1LG

Ref. No: 24/00813 | Received: Fri 02 Aug 2024 | Validated: Sat 03 Aug 2024 | **Status: Decided**

- Approved

Erection of a single storey side extension

The Old Rectory The Street Staple Canterbury CT3 1LN

Ref. No: 24/00734 | Received: Fri 12 Jul 2024 | Validated: Sat 13 Jul 2024 | **Status: Decided -**

Approved