

MINUTES OF STAPLE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 12th October 2022 at Staple Village Hall

Councillors present:

Cllr Trevor Bartlett, Cllr. John Kirk, Cllr. Dave Kirk, Cllr. R. Loukes, Cllr. Sue Coulson, and the Parish Clerk, Mr Jonathan Mount.
Cllr. Sue Chandler.

Members of the public present

There were 2 members of the public present

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr N. McCollum, Cllr. G. McCollum
2. **Declarations of interest:** There were none.
3. **Minutes of the meeting of 13th September 2022 were received, approved, and signed by the Chairman of the meeting.**
Proposed Cllr. John Kirk, Seconded Cllr. Dave Kirk

4. Matters arising

The overgrown hedge that was masking the fire hydrant has been cut back by local parishioners. Thank you to the parishioners who cut back the hedge.

5. Public Participation – adjournment of the meeting

There were no questions from members of the public.

6. District Councillor’s and PCSO Report and Pre-school report

DDC (Cllr. M. Connolly) (not circulated nor received). Cllr Bartlett gave a report in place of Cllr Connolly. He reported on a recent meeting that had taken place ratifying the Local Plan. The transformation Plan is moving forward. Market Square development is going extremely well with many attractions taking place. Restoration of “Maison Dieu” is underway and more funding has been obtained from the Lottery Fund. Clerk asked about the Local Plan; there will now be a 7 week public consultation period. Cllr Loukes asked about “warm banks”; they are being set up at various localities.

KCC (Cllr. S. Chandler): (not circulated nor received). Cllr. Chandler gave a short report. Cllr Bartlett reported that the Sandwich Connect Bus will remain in operation until March 2023. Cllr. Chandler spoke about the Crisis Support line, the fact that KCC are forecasting a £50 million overspend on their budget. Many other Councils are in a similar position. She also gave information on asylum-seeking children and on the significant number of Albanians arriving in the country.

PCSO (PCSO Jacqui Brook) (report circulated) The PCSO spoke about a burglary that had taken place in the locality. She also spoke about the problems in Mill Lane. Cllr Loukes mentioned the de-restriction signpost which that was currently loose and in a dangerous condition. There are only 6 PCSOs in Dover District now.

The Chair of the pre-school gave a report and stated that a member of their staff had resigned earlier in the year, and this caused problems with staffing and with the rest of the committee; and this was followed by the resignation of the entire committee. Advice was sought from KCC and they advised closure. The Governing Board has been reconstituted, but there are still problems. Progress has been made, but they will not be opening until next term (January). Problems continue with funding. What they really need is financial support or help with raising funds. Very grateful to the Village Hall committee for waiving charges for the use of the village hall. Various fund-raising events are going to take place. Hoping to raise £5000.

7. Financial report and items for payment and receipts

- To receive the bank reconciliation up to the end of September 2022. This was received and signed by the Chairman of the Meeting

Cheque No.	Recipient	Reason	Amount
BACS	J. Mount	Clerk’s salary	200.00

RESOLVED: This payment was approved. (Proposed: Cllr. John Kirk, Seconded: Cllr.Dave Kirk)

8. Correspondence received:

- Cllr. T. Bartlett has received various items of correspondence with reference to lorries approaching the site in Buckland Lane, the state of various footpaths, and correspondence relating to the expansion of the number of caravans using a property in Mill Road. Cllr Loukes stated that he and Cllr Bartlett had had a meeting with the owner of the site. Better signage is going to be placed in the area to notify traffic of the width of the road. Construction management plan does not seem to be in place. Access to the site should be mentioned in the CM Plan. Cllr Bartlett will follow up on the plan and make sure that an adequate CM Plan is in place

Footpaths: Cllr Bartlett has reported a footpath that is now so overgrown that it is virtually impassable.

9. Planning and Other Reports:

Planning application no:	Location	Summary	Status
CON/20/00967	Land opposite The Row, Barnsole Road, Staple	Materials	Approved
22/00967	Little Shatterling Farm, Roman Road, Shatterling	Erection of 2 no. semi-detached dwellings and formation of parking	Refused
22/00889	Wagoners, Lower Road, Staple	Creation of a new vehicular access, hard standing and erection of a dwarf wall (part retrospective)	Awaiting decision
22/00889	Piglet Place, Fleming Road	Erection of pitched roof extension etc.	Granted
CON/19/00538/1	Site at the Three Tuns	SUDS	Approved
CON/19/00538/H	Site at the Three Tuns	Landscaping	Approved
21/01714	The Rookery, Durlock Road	Erection of detached dwelling etc.	Granted
CON/19/00538/C	Site at the Three Tuns	Archaeology	Part approved

- **Village Hall and Recreation Ground**

Pre-school fees have been waived until they start again in January. Vic Harmer has been contacted with reference to clearing the bushes round the village hall. Football pitch has been marked out, ready for use. Toilet seat in the disabled toilet needs replacing.

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

Not many people have been reported speeding. Cllr Loukes will be advertising for someone to help with putting up the SIDs since owing to health problems he will be unable to position them in the near future. Cllr Dave Kirk kindly offered to help.

- **Footpaths**

On the whole the footpaths are being well maintained. One footpath has been ploughed, but people walking on it are reinstating it. Cllr Coulson has had a request for an extra dog bin. Discussion about prices for new dog bins. Clerk to contact DDC and obtain prices for small dog bins.

10. Items for discussion:

- Donation to The Royal British Legion for Remembrance Day: Last year, the Parish Council donated £50. Proposed by Cllr John Kirk, Seconded by Cllr Coulson to match the same amount as last year.

- A Councillor will be needed to lay the wreath on Remembrance Day since Cllr. Bartlett is not available; Cllr Loukes offered to step in.

11. Any other business:

Discussion regarding Staple Fayre donations and Pre-school. It was pointed out that this is a matter for the Staple Fayre committee, rather than the Parish Council.

Council Loukes mentioned a scam that is going around at the moment.

Discussion about the purchase of a flagpole.

At its September meeting, the Parish Council passed a motion agreeing to the purchase of a flagpole for Staple.

The intention was to erect the flagpole at the Church, close to the war memorial.

The flagpole was duly purchased; but returned, due to the PCC's decision that a faculty from the Church would be required to erect it.

Cllr John Kirk, seconded by Cllr Dave Kirk proposed that the Clerk contact the PCC and ask if they would permit a flagpole to be erected on church property. (The motion was passed unanimously).

A resident in Buckland Lane has been very concerned about the speed of traffic coming down Buckland Lane. Cllr Bartlett pointed out that it is being considered under the HIP.

Discussion took place concerning the parking of caravans on a site in Mill Road. An enforcement notice will be served on the owner of the land to remove the hard standing and caravans

12. Any confidential items to be discussed:

There were none.

13. Date of next meeting: 9th October at 7.30 pm

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Signed:

Date: