

Staple Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Council Meeting, Wednesday 11th December 2019
7.30pm at Staple Village Hall

Present: Cllr T Bartlett (in the Chair)
Cllr Mrs Coulson
Cllr N McCollum
Cllr D Kirk
Cllr R Loukes
Cllr S Chandler
Parish Clerk: Lisa Acarnley
Three Members of the public

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr G McCollum for work commitments, and Cllr J Kirk for a family commitment.

2. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Significant Interests.

None

3. To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 13th November 2019 and to report any matters arising therefrom not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

- minutes were approved.

4. Report from District Councillor.

Cllr Sue Chandler advised that there had been some positive changes coming from the Community Team. Fred McCormack (the representative for the police) is a lot more connected to the community than has previously been the case.

There is now a large community team and each member will be allocated an area which they will be responsible for.

KCC emergency planning have just completed their annual survey of the Ash Dieback (a fungus which is affecting Ash trees) and unfortunately it is spreading quickly and has already reached West Kent. This is a major concern.

Open Golf – there will be a meeting in the Guildhall for local businesses in Sandwich to give practical tips and advice on the best ways to make the most of the event. There will be a business ‘Toolkit’ on the Visit Kent website, and also some tips on the DDC website.

There will be a Traffic Plan in place, for both residents and visitors and this will be made public around February time.

Any questions regarding this can be directed to Hannah – who will be based in the Guildhall on Thursdays (9am – 10.30am)

Flytipping – KCC has invested in new technology to help with this. DDC have recently prosecuted some offenders. This was regarding an incident at The Willows in Shatterling. The men were found guilty of 5 offences.

Thanet Parkway – This is a 14 million pound project by South East local enterprise Partnership. KCC will make a decision in January as to whether they support the project. This is looking positive as there have been surveys in the catchment area and the general opinion appears to be supportive.

This would join the fast train link which goes in to London and would take just over an hour. Construction is estimated to take 5 years.

5. Update from Councillor Bartlett regarding drainage

Ian Day has advised that several drains in Durlock Road and Buckland Lane have been unblocked, however there are still some issues. Staple Road (opposite Pettocks Lane) used to flood, however, it was pointed out that this does not seem to have happened recently.

Some work needs doing on Durlocks Lane in Ash. (Durlock House) and the road will need to be closed for this to be completed.

There are several pot holes on Mill Road. Cllr N McCollum has already reported some at Barnsole Rd and will report the these too.

6. To receive questions from members of the public.

It was suggested that we could invite someone along to demonstrate the use of a defibrillator for the AGM, as the Parish is currently looking at acquiring one. Cllr Loukes has previously seen this at a First Aid event in Sandwich and could obtain the details of the demonstrator if needed.

7. To receive any updates on the “Sandwich Connect Pilot”.

Staple residents appear to be using this service more than neighbouring villages.

We have received the first invoice from Britannia, and this makes up the amount received from Sandwich Toll Bridge Fund and KCC. The second invoice will be issued to Staple Parish in January and this will be for the remaining amount of the balance.

8. To receive any updates on the Community Speedwatch and Speed Indicating Devices.

Speedwatch

During November we only held 1 session due to inclement weather and my sudden requirement to travel to Spain.

Stourmouth are suspending their operations during the winter months until the second week of February. I suspect we will be struggling with sessions if the weather is too cold or raining. We are going to try sitting in a car for one of our upcoming sessions to see if it can work, as long we still can be seen in HiViz jackets and are in a safe position at the roadside. Obviously the display unit gives the game away and will be clearly visible.

As usual email me or phone if you are interested in giving 1 to 2 hours per month at a time to suit you. roger43@gmail.com or 01304 812306

SID report (for November)

Durlock Road - south direction

85th Percentile Speed = 36.3 mph

85th Percentile Vehicles = 11,430 counts

Max Speed = 70.0 mph on 10/11/2019 12:45:00

Average Speed: 26.9 mph

Total Vehicles = 13,447 counts

Lower Road Staple - east direction

85th Percentile Speed = 34.4 mph

85th Percentile Vehicles = 13,765 counts

Max Speed = 60.0 mph on 16/11/2019 22:50:00

Average Speed: 25.0 mph
Total Vehicles = 16,194 counts

Average Speeds (as measured on the SIDs) on our main roads through Staple are below 30mph even though the 85th percentile is around 35mph ~ meaning 85% of all traffic travels at or below 35mph.

Report from Cllr R Loukes

9. To consider the following planning matters:

(i) 19/01362 Summerfield Nurseries Barnsole Road Staple CT3 1LD

Erection of 11no. detached dwellings, 6no. affordable houses, garages, cycle/bin stores, vehicular access and associated parking (existing buildings to be demolished)

RESOLUTION: The same concerns as previously noted still stand, however it was agreed to support this application.

(ii) 19/01403 Little Shatterling Farmhouse Roman Road Shatterling CT3 1JR

Erection of a first floor side extension and rear conservatory (existing conservatory to be demolished)

RESOLUTION: It was agreed to support this application

(iii) 19/01361 | Erection of 2no. detached dwellings, associated parking and landscaping

(existing barn and shed to be demolished) | Site At Summerfield Farm Barnsole Road Staple Kent

RESOLUTION: It was agreed to support this application

10. To receive an update on any financial matters, including

(i) (ii) (iii)

Cheques for approval.

Cheque for invoice 105927 from Britannia Coaches – for Sandwich Connect. Approved and signed.

Cheque for Dover District Council I0095716 – for election costs. Approved and signed.

Cheque for parish clerk – Two months wages agreed. Approved and signed.

11. To discuss possibilities for the AGM speaker next April

It was agreed to proceed with finding a demonstrator for a defibrillator. There were a couple of options for this and this will be followed up.

RESOLUTION – Parish Clerk to follow up grant application for the defibrillator grant.

12. To receive any footpath updates.

Cllr Mrs Coulson advised that there have been reports of horses being ridden on Crixhall Lane, up to Crixhall Court. Please can riders refrain from using this route as horses are not allowed to be ridden there.

13. To receive any Highway and Transport updates

It was raised that some of the lettering on the signs entering and leaving the village cannot be seen, as it has worn away. – **Parish Clerk to contact Stephanie Wadhams**

The ‘finger point’ sign is missing one of the panels. (Canterbury & Wingham) – **Cllr D Kirk to look at this.**

There are overgrown hedges in Staple Road. This will be looked in to.

A257 – coming up the hill in Shatterling, there is a broken board. Cllr Loukes has reported this.

Cllr Sue Chandler advised that the A257 is unlikely to get a speed limit change. However, there is a possibility of new signs on the bend in Shatterling. Yvonne Leach remains happy to represent Staple Parish the meetings.

14. To receive a Village Hall & Recreation Ground report

The Village Hall Committee have arranged to have all of the guttering inspected / cleared /repaired where necessary.

The contractor will also redecorate the porch-way.

The woodwork is currently sound, but requires protection.

All of the old, flaky paint will be removed and the surfaces primed, undercoated and gloss painted.

The guttering and porch-way works will take about four days.

The purchase and installation of a new dual fuel cooker, plus the total internal redecoration of the hall represented fairly large expenditure.

However, a healthy booking rate plus a very profitable hiring for folk camp week means that the Hall's finances are in very good shape.

Minor maintenance works are continuing; (including the un-jamming of the front door lock.)

An additional notice board has been purchased, and will be installed in the entrance hall.

15. No Confidential items to be discussed

16. Any additional correspondence as permitted by the chairman

Our newly assigned PCSO is Richard Bradley and he has advised that he would be happy for anyone to contact him regarding any issues they may have.

Email: Richard.Bradley@kent.police.uk

We have sent a request for the salt bins to be refilled. Thanks were given to Cllr Neil McCollum for putting up Ice signs and gritting certain areas.

17. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting of Staple Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 8th January 2020

Cllr Bartlett closed the meeting at 8.32pm

Mrs L Acarnley
Clerk to the Council