**STAMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20 January 2022 at 7.30pm at the village hall, Stambourne.**

**PRESENT:**

Mr Neil Pyman (Chair) Mr Michael Crago

Mrs Val Kerrison Mrs Vanessa Young

Cllr Peter Schwier (ECC)

Cllr Richard van Dulken (BDC)

**CLERK:**

Mrs Deborah Hilliard

**22/1 Apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Martyn Fall and Andrew Drysdale.

**22/2 Declaration of interests, personal or prejudicial**

Vanessa Young declared an interest in item 6 of the agenda – pavilion repainting.

**22/3 Minutes of meeting held on 17 November 2021**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed.

**22/4 Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting**

Val thanked Cllr Schwier for his intervention in the problem of the blocked drains in Church Road, noting that Essex Highways had now cleared the blockage.

**22/5 Report of County Councillor and District Councillor**

Cllr Peter Schwier presented his report with the following points noted:-

* Funding schemes
* Working with Essex Ramblers to reduce the number of Crossfield PROWs which are not reinstated after ploughing.
* Potential increase of Council Tax by 2% and Adult Social Care 1% and taking the deferment of 1½%.
* Warm Homes Grant Phase II
* Solar Together Scheme

*Cllr Schwier left the meeting*

Cllr Richard van Dulken presented his report with the following points noted:-

* Cllr van Dulken was now Cabinet Member for BDC, a new role for Commercialisation and Opportunities.
* Councillors Community Grant – Monies were available for the remainder of this financial year. It was likely to continue into 2022-23 but the emphasis may move to community groups and charities.
* Increase in Council Tax of 2.68%
* Waste and Recycling collections over the Christmas and New Year Period

There were no questions and councillors were thanked for their reports.

**22/6 Pavilion**

Points considered were:-

* Repainting of the main hall/kitchen of the pavilion – Val, Karen and Vanessa had compiled a specification for the work and 3 contractors were asked to quote. Only 2 quotes were received:-
  + James Gill Builder £3280
  + Dave’s Decorating Services £1,205

It was noted that both quotes followed the same specification. After consideration, the parish council agreed to appoint Dave’s Decorating Services.

* Replacement of shed doors with roll top door for improved security – an estimate was awaited. Neil will follow this up and report at the March meeting.

**22/7 Playingfield**

The following points were discussed:-

* *Play Equipment* – It was noted that the annual inspection was due and would be arrange by the Clerk.
* *Grass Cutting* – It was confirmed that Michael Turner be asked to cut the grass on the playing field for 2022.

**22/8 Highways**

The following points were discussed:-

* *Potential Purchase of VAS sign* (Andy) – noted that Andy was not present and agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.
* *Mann’s Cross – Overgrown trees* – It was noted this item had been referred to Great Yeldham Parish Council but the trees were still overgrown and making the lane very narrow. Cllr van Dulken agreed to pass the request to Great Yeldham Parish Council.

**22/9 Footpaths**

* *Footpath 2 – Finchingfield Road* – It was noted that ECC are continuing to pursue the landowner and get the path reinstated.

**22/10 Planning**

* 21/03730/HH – Wisteria, Chapel End Way – no comment

**22/11 Correspondence**

* Stambourne Children’s Christmas Party – It was noted that the organisers had decided to cancel the party due to Covid-19. The cheque has been returned to the Clerk and consideration was being given to holding an Easter Egg Hunt or other event in the Spring.

**22/12 Update on Platinum Jubilee Event**

Neil reported. A meeting had taken place on 15 December 2021 and arrangements were progressing. Minutes would be circulated shortly. The Clerk will check insurance matters, risk assessment and notify the authorities of the date. Next meeting to take place on 22 March 2022.

*Cllr van Dulken left the meeting*

**22/13 Budget and Precept for the Year 2022-23**

The budget had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Parish Council considered the figures and unanimously agreed:-

* The budget figure to be agreed for the year 2022-23 be £8,267
* The precept figure to be agreed for the year 2022-23 be £8.267

The budget form will be signed and returned to BDC.

**22/14 Finance**

Accounts Paid

Bonfire Night (cash float) £700.00

Essex Pyrotechnics (fireworks) £3,118.00

Food Hygiene Cert (Mr J Cruddas) £15.00

Mr M Turner (grass cutting) £473.84

Paul Clark Printing (newsletter) £52.00

Stambourne Silver Link (donation) £150.00

Stambourne Children’s Party (donation) £150.00

Mr M Fall (bonfire night – glowsticks) £63.97

Mr M Turner (insurance claim) £1,053.23

Wave £44.08

Eon £12.50

Accounts to be paid

Use of Village Hall £60.00

James Gill Buider (gate post) £110.00

Paul Clark Printing (newsletter) £52.00

Stambourne Church (grass cut grant) £250.00

Stambourne Chapel (grass cut grant) £260.00

Mrs D Hilliard (wages) £743.00

Monies Received

Bonfire Night income £7,472.06

Zurich Insurance (claim) £1,053.23

Bank Interest 10p

Estimated balances at 12 January 2022

Balance of General Fund £23,430.89

Reserves Account £4,085.33

£27,516.22

**22/15 Date, time and place of next meetings.**

31 March 2022

19 May 2022

21 July 2022

22 September 2022

23 November 2022 (Wednesday)

All are Thursdays at 7.30pm in the village hall unless shown otherwise.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at approximately 8.15pm.

Signed: ……………………………………………… Dated: ………………………………………………