

## STAMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17 November 2021 at 7.00pm. The meeting was held in the village hall.

### PRESENT:

Mr Neil Pyman – Chair  
Mrs Val Kerrison  
Mr Martyn Fall (joined late)

Mr M Crago  
Mrs Karen Grant (joined late)  
Mrs Vanessa Young (joined late)

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Cllr Peter Schwier (ECC)  
Cllr Richard van Dulken (BDC)

### CLERK:

Mrs Deborah Hilliard

### 21/77 Apologies for absence.

None.

### 21/78 Minutes of meeting held on 16 September 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed.

### 21/79 Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

None.

### 21/80 Declaration of interests, personal or prejudicial

There were no declarations made.

### 21/81 Report of County Councillor/District Councillor

Braintree District Councillor – Richard van Dulken presented his report with the following points noted:-

- The proposed Hedingham Medical Centre was now at planning consultation stage. An online webinar was due to take place on 30 November 2021.
- The proposal for a prison at Wethersfield Air Base was at consultation. Richard encouraged everyone to engage with the process. There had been a mixed reaction to the proposal.
- Braintree town centre – work on the pedestrianised area and the Manor Street complex was now finished.
- Horizon 120 – building works now underway.
- Councillors' Community Grant – Funds available.

Councillors asked for an update regarding the proposed girls' football team using the playing field. It was noted that the organiser had been unable to take it further at this time.

*Martyn Fall arrived at the meeting.*

Essex County Council – Peter Schwier presented his report with the following points noted:-

- Essex Bus Improvement Plan consultation – this had a big section on rural transport and he encouraged everyone to comment.

- Streetlighting – the council continued with its programme of replacing lights with LEDs. Approximately 1,000 lights per week were being replaced.
- Highways gritting – could be viewed live online.
- Essex Roads Partnership – a consultation jointly with Anglia Ruskin University.
- VAS signs – these were available for community groups to purchase either individually or in partnership.

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

*Cllr Schwier left the meeting.*

*Vanessa Young arrived at the meeting.*

### **21/82 Pavilion**

*Cleaner* – A cleaner had now been appointed and would start to clean the pavilion ready for winter close up.

*Karen Grant arrived at the meeting.*

*Repainting/New floor* – It was agreed that repainting would need to be done before the floor was replaced. Plans and a contractor for the floor had already been agreed. It was further agreed that Val, Vanessa and Karen would visit the pavilion and put together a specification sheet to be used for the quote for repainting. Quotes would be sought from:-

- David Young (Vanessa to avoid any conflict of interest)
- Gills
- Henry Negorski

It was noted that work was unlikely to commence until after Christmas. Work to be funded by the Business Support Grant £9,500.

*Roll top door* – It was noted that this could be funded via the BDC Councillors Community Grant. Neil will explore options and report back.

*Winter Close Up* – It was noted that the contractors would need access to water. Martyn will drain the water down if freezing weather was forecast.

### **21/83 Playingfield**

*Zip-Wire* – It was agreed this would be the subject of a CIF application in the next financial year. The submitted quotes were considered.

Martyn will put up the Christmas lights.

### **21/84 Highways**

The following points were discussed:-

- The drain in Church Road outside Park View was still blocked. It was noted this had previously been reported to ECC. It will be reported again and details sent to Cllr Schwier.
- Purchase of VAS sign – It was agreed to explore the feasibility of purchasing a sign for Dyers End. It was noted that the sign had to be located 70m within the 30mph sign. Andrew will identify any appropriate sites in Dyers End. If a site can be found then the parish council will consider the cost and feasibility of purchasing and installing a sign.

#### **21/84 Footpaths**

The following were discussed:-

- It was noted the repairs to the footpath bridges had now been completed.
- Footpath 2, Locksmiths Farm, Finchingfield Road – this path remained fenced off and the footpath sign removed. There were privacy and no access signs along the stretch of road. It was agreed that Debbie will follow this up with ECC.

#### **21/85 Planning**

There was one application to consider:

- Sunnyhill, Chapel End Way 21/03002/HH – No comment.

#### **21/86 Platinum Jubilee**

A meeting took place at the village hall on Wednesday 20 October at 7.00pm. Minutes were circulated. Those present were, representatives from the parish council, chapel and church. It was noted that representatives from the village hall will attend the next meeting. The following points were noted:-

- Andrew Drysdale agreed to help with the barbecue.
- Martin Fall will approach Ronnie Argent about making a beacon. It was noted that a post and plinth would need to be built.
- Karen Grant reported that the Fete Committee had met and agreed to donate the remaining funds of the fete to the platinum jubilee celebration. This was a sum of approximately £1500.
- Next meeting will take place on Wednesday 15 December at 6.30pm in the village hall.

#### **21/87 Bonfire Night**

Bonfire Night took place on Saturday 6 November 2021 at 6.30pm. The event was an outstanding success with a profit of approximately £3,700. It was agreed that:-

- Debbie will put a piece in the newsletter thanking everyone involved. It will also contain an apology for people inconvenienced by the queues and blocked driveways.
- Donations were agreed:-
  - £150 Children's Christmas Party
  - £150 Stambourne Silver Link
- Ash removal – It was noted that there was a large pile of ash. Debbie will look into costs and options for its removal. Removal to take place in the spring. Agenda for March meeting.
- The security arrangements for dealing with cash received on the night were reviewed. Debbie will check if the insurance policy covers cash.
- Final accounts and summing up minutes to be completed and circulated by Debbie.

#### **21/88 Correspondence**

Nothing to report.

#### **21/89 Budget 2022-23**

The budget form was circulated prior to the meeting. The options were considered and sums agreed. The draft total net expenditure for the year 2022-23 was agreed as £8,267 and the draft budget figure declared for the precept for 2022-23 was agreed as £8,267.

It was further agreed that the budget figures would be reviewed and finalised at the January meeting.

**21/90 Finance**

Accounts paid since last meeting

James Gill Builder (play equipment)	£400.00
Wood Finishes Direct (reimb Mr Fall – wood Preserver for new picnic table)	£32.98
PKF Littlejohn (Annual Audit)	£240.00
M&N Pymont (2 <sup>nd</sup> verge cut)	£723.60
Mrs D Hilliard (wages)	£743.00
Mrs D Hilliard (expenses)	£12.84
Paul Clark Printing	£52.00

Accounts to be paid

None

Monies Received

2 <sup>nd</sup> half precept	£3,864.00
VAT reclaim	£628.27
Bonfire Night	£7,472.06

Balances as at 11 November 2021

Notional current account	£28,812.53
Notional reserve account	<u>£ 4,085.23</u>
	£32,897.76
Balance of Bonfire fund	<u>£13,115.11</u>
	£19,782.65

**21/91 Date, time and place of next meetings.**

Dates of meetings for 2022 were agreed as:-

20 January 2022

31 March 2022

19 May 2022

21 July 2022

22 September 2022

23 November 2022 (Wednesday)

All are Thursdays at 7.30pm unless shown otherwise

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at approximately 8.30pm.

Signed:  .....

Dated: 20/1/22 .....