**STAMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20 July 2023 at 7.30pm. The meeting was held in the village hall, Stambourne**

**PRESENT:**

Mr Andrew Drysdale (Vice Chair) Mrs Vanessa Young

Mr Martyn Fall

**In Attendance:**

Mrs Deborah Hilliard - Clerk

**23/52 Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received and accepted from Mrs Grant, Mr Crago, Mr Pyman, Mrs Kerrison, Cllr Van Dulken and Cllr Schwier. The meeting was not quorate.

**23/53 Declaration of interests, personal or prejudicial**

None.

**23/54 Minutes of meeting held on 18 May 2023**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2023 were approved as a correct record. It was noted that Mr Drysdale was not present at this meeting, and it was agreed the signature of the minutes would be deferred to the next meeting.

**23/55 Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting**

 None.

**23/56 Report of County Councillor/District Councillor**

 Neither the County Councillor nor District Councillor were present.

**23/57 Pavilion**

*Fire Inspection –* It was noted the annual fire safety inspection was due to take place in July. The appointment from Saxon Fire was awaited.

Pavilion bookings were noted. There was a great deal of positive feedback for the refurbishment of the pavilion.

Mrs Grant had forwarded a quote for replacement chairs for the pavilion and a sample chair was shown. The quote was noted. It was agreed to ask Mrs Grant what discount, if any, might be available. As the meeting was not quorate, Debbie will circulate the quote and a decision will be made by email. It was noted the cost could be funded from either the Bonfire Fund and/or remaining funds from the Platinum Jubilee/Coronation events. Debbie will circulate the figures.

**23/58 Playingfield**

*Trees –* It was noted a branch had fallen out of one of the trees. It was agreed that the tree should be checked to ensure it was safe. Andy will contact a tree surgeon and arrange for them to visit. It was noted the branch could be chipped and put as surfacing around the climbing frame. All trees should be checked.

*Rocking Horse Footplates and Basket Swing Seat –* It was noted these still needed replacing. Debbie advised she had sent the purchase order to Wicksteed. She will contact them and update everyone by email.

*Gap filling on safety surface –* It was noted that Martyn will complete this.

*Proposed Nest Swing* – Karen had forwarded 2 quotes, a 3rd was awaited. It was agreed to circulate by email for comments. Funding details would be circulated by Debbie as above.

*Ash Removal* – It was confirmed Danes-Low had removed some of the ash. It was agreed to check how much was left and whether more should be removed.

**23/59 Highways**

*VAS Sign* – Debbie advised that she had spoken to the proposed supplier who advised that the unit should only be moved by their engineers, or the warranty would be invalid. It was agreed that the VAS sign should be mobile and be able to be placed at different points in the village for maximum impact. Martyn advised that some of the Suffolk villages had mobile units. Debbie will contact these parishes to get more information and report back.

**23/60 Footpaths**

The bridge on footpath 13 when accessed from Church Road had a rotten slate. Debbie will report it to ECC.

**23/61 Planning**

 Nothing to report.

**23/62 Correspondence**

 *Village Hall Accounts* – the village hall accounts 2022-23 were circulated and considered.

*Defibrillator Awareness Evening –* The date was noted as 7 September 2023. This will be advertised in the newsletter.

 *Cleaner for the Pavilion* – An advert will go into the newsletter.

**23/63 Finance**

 Accounts Paid

 Balance of War Memorial Repair £540.00

 Wicksteed Leisure (play equipment inspection) £144.00

 Community Heartbeat Trust £12.00

 CD James (lawnmower repair) £1,395.95

 Paul Clark Printing (newsletter) £64.00

 Donation for website £100.00

 M&N Pyman (1st verge cut) £723.60

Accounts to be paid

Mrs D Hilliard (wages) £752.75

Mrs D Hilliard (expenses – printer inks/part cost) £17.92

Daines-Lowe (ash removal) £336.00

Michael Turner (grass cutting) £430.77

 Monies Received

 ECC 1st verge cut £651.84

 Estimated balances at 13 July 2023

 Balance of Current Account £17,793.35

 Balance of Business Reserve Account £ 4,094.35

 Total £21,887.70

 Balance of Bonfire Fund £9,334.26

 Balance of General Fund £12,553.44

**23/65 Date, time and place of next meetings.**

Thursday 21 September 2023 7.30pm

 Thursday 23 November 2023 7.30pm.

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

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