

STAMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14 March 2024 at 7.30pm at the village hall,
Stambourne.

PRESENT:

Mr Neil Pymon (Chair)

Mr Michael Craeg

Mr Martin Faii

Mr Andrew Drysdale

CLERK:

Mrs Deborah Hillard

In Attendance:

1 member of the public

24/17 Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs, Mrs Graham, Mrs Karen, Mrs Young, Mrs Young, Cllr Richard Van Dulken and Cllr Peter Schwier.

24/18 Declaration of interests, personal or prejudicial

None.

24/19 Minutes of meeting held on 18 January 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed.

24/20 Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

None.

24/21 Report of County Councillor and District Councillor

It was noted that neither County Councillor or District Councillor was present. However, Cllr Van Dulken's written report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was considered. The following points were noted:

- Wellesfield Airbase was no longer under consideration to be used as a prison.
- New rules regarding bin collections – no side waste and lids to be closed. This will be included in the newsletter.
- Grants available

24/22 Business

- Fire Risk assessment – It was noted that Andy had made enquiries regarding this and that other local councils were competing theirs. One quote from a specialist firm was noted at £400 which was considered expensive. Debbie had spoken to the EALC and been advised that it could only be undertaken by a trained person otherwise any insurance would be invalid. After consideration it was agreed that:
 - Debbie would contact other local parish councils and see if they had a trained person who might be able to carry out Stambourne's at a lower cost
 - Debbie will get another quote for comparison.

- Chairs – Debbie had been in contact with Titan Chairs and noted that they would not specify a delivery time. She will have them delivered to her home address and then move them to the pavilion.
- It was noted that Ian van Dijken's report made reference to grants being available for energy efficiency and consideration was given to whether anything was needed for the pavilion.

24/23 Playingfield

There is a report on the playing field from a local contractor regarding mowing, cutting and report. He will follow up. Andy knows someone who might be able to help and will contact them.

- Grass mesh matting – spare sheets will be put on the grass at the entry point for vehicles from the car park. Work to be completed as soon as the ground dries sufficiently. It was agreed that the area should be scraped out before the mats were installed

24/24 Highways

The following points were discussed:-

- **Drains** – there were several to be reported:-
 - Greenfields, Yeldham Road.
 - Mill Farm
 - Oak House, Finchcroft Road
 - Blocked drains outside nos 10 and 12 Church Road and Chestnut House, Mill Road

These will be reported in.

- VAS – It was noted that the additional battery was now in place and extending the time between recharging. The VAS was now located in Church Road. It was noted it was having an impact on vehicle speeds.
- Fingerpost road sign – Birdbrook Road. It was noted this was being repaired by a local student as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award. Neil will follow up with them for progress.

24/25 Footpaths

Nothing to report.

24/26 Planning

- Application Number 24/00330/FUL - Land Adjacent, 1 Church Road, Stambourne – The member of public present was invited to speak, and they expressed concern that the proposed development was not in keeping with neighbouring properties. Representations had been received in writing from another member of the public with similar concerns. The Parish Council considered the application and agreed that it opposed the development on the grounds of:-
 - Overdevelopment of the site
 - Not in keeping with surrounding buildings
 - Highways and access concerns.
- Application Number 24/00285/HH - Hill Top House, Dyers End, Stambourne – The Parish Council considered the application and after discussion agreed that it opposed the development on the grounds of:
 - Overdevelopment of the site

24/27 War Memorial

It was noted that one quote had been received at £1900 to clean the memorial. The Parish Council agreed that this was expensive. Debbie Wilby, and obtained additional quotes for comparison.

Consideration was given to whether to commemorate the D-Day anniversary in June. It was noted this would be a commemoration rather than a celebration. It was noted that a Tractor Run was taking place on the weekend of 1 June 2024, and it was proposed that a minute's silence could be incorporated into the event. It was agreed that Neil would liaise with the organisers of the tractor run and the Church Warden to see what the Church might be doing as a commemoration.

24/28 Correspondence

None.

24/29 Finance

Accounts Paid

Stambourne Silver Link (V Young)	£150.00
Wave	£34.00
Mr R Wright (Pavilion cleaning)	£42.00
Village Hall Rent	£70.00
Mrs D Hilliard (Wages)	£766.25
Mrs D Hilliard (backpay & exp)	£45.88
Paul Clark Printing (newsletter)	£61.00
Stocksigns Ltd (VAS extra battery)	£379.14

Accounts to be paid

nicom IT SERVICES (new laptop and domain)	£338.00
Eon (electricity)	£21.29

Monies Received

Bank Interest	£14.33
NSC Grant (for chairs)	£200.00
Pavilion Booking (Tractor Run- cash to be paid in)	£20.00

Estimated balances at 6 March 2024

Balance of Current Account	£ 9,366.44
Balance of Business Reserve Account	£ 4,128.21
Total	£13,494.65
Balance of Parsonage Fund	£ 4,122.74
Balance of General Fund	£ 9,370.91

It was noted that a VAT reclaim had also been made since the last meeting of £2,698.00

24/16 Date, time and place of next meetings

16 May 2024

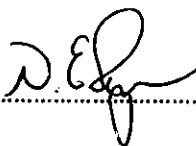
18 July 2024

19 September 2024

21 November 2024

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: 16.5.24