

ANSTY AND STAPLEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the Meeting of Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council held in Staplefield Village Hall on 7th March 2022 at 7:30pm.

Members present: Brad Williams (Chairman), Bob Birthwright, Crispin Salimbeni, Maria Fielding, Dhana Mahendran, Jon Gilley, James Steadman, Simon Stokes.

Also present: Liz Bennett (Clerk).

1. Public Session.

There were no members of the public present.

2. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were accepted from Nuala Hampshire.

3. Dispensations and declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

The Clerk has issued dispensations to all members for matters relating to the Mid Sussex District Council Draft District Plan.

All Councillors declared their interest in District Plan Review matters and acknowledged the dispensations.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th February 2022.

The minutes were AGREED and signed by the Chairman.

5. District Plan Review and public meeting.

Ansty Councillors have worked with Councillors from Cuckfield Parish Council to organise a public meeting to be held on Saturday 12th March at 2pm in the Club Room at Ansty Village Centre. A representative from CPRE (Campaign for Rural England) will also be attending the meeting and delivering a short message. CPRE have a strategic grasp on the issues around the housing targets and are aware of similar campaigns in other districts in the Southeast. Plumpton Parish Council are heavily involved in the Eton New Town opposition and will send a representative to the meeting. It is hoped that volunteers will come forward at the meeting to be part of the campaign.

As agreed at the last Parish Council meeting the budget of £10k will be used in stages with Parish Council approval. Cuckfield Parish Council have allocated £20k for the campaign.

It was AGREED that £1500 can be used initially for marketing including a short promotional film, flyers and banners and public meeting costs. It was also AGREED that the Parish Council will join CPRE at a cost of £37 per annum.

Some Councillors were concerned at the potential cost of engaging planning and ecology experts to help with the campaign and suggested that organisations such as Natural England, Campaign for the Protection of Rural England and the Sussex Wildlife Trust may have resources and expertise that could be helpful.

It was also suggested that the Parish Council should consider reviewing their Neighbourhood Plan. The Clerk will research the process.

6. Planning decisions.

The following decisions were noted:

- a. Appeal Ref: APP/D3830/W/21/3278830. Land Adjacent to Meadow Wood, Brook Street, Cuckfield. Appeal dismissed.
- b. DM/21/3229. Description: change of use from 2 dwellings to 1, single storey rear extension, minor internal and external alterations, removal of summerhouse and shed and replacement garden store, works to laundry building and associated landscaping works. Revised plans received 26.11.2021). Location: 62 and 63 Naldred Farmhouse, Borde Hill Lane. Granted.
- c. DM/21/3674. Description: change of use from agricultural land to a 6m x 3m residential parking space to be situated directly opposite 2 slough green cottages (amended plans and description 19/01/2022). Location: 3 Slough Green Cottages, Staplefield Road, Cuckfield, Haywards Heath. Granted.

7. Planning Applications.

- a. DM/21/0127 Application Type: Householder Application Proposal: Proposed detached double garage/workshop/garden store to the rear (address amended to Willow Barn) (Amended plans received 8 Feb 2022). Site Address: Willow Barn, Copyhold Lane, Cuckfield. BW declared a personal interest as he is a near neighbour. No objection.
- b. DM/22/0406 Application Type: Householder Application Proposal: Extension of suspended ground floor bay serving dining area to rear of the house. Site Address: Merrybrook, Broxmead Lane. Bolney. No objection.
- c. AP/22/0008 and AP/22/0007 Planning Inspectorate. Ref: APP/D3830/Y/21/3284825 (re DM/21/2077 and DM/21/2070). Land At: Whitehouse Farm Staplefield Lane Staplefield Haywards Heath. Proposed development: Erection of a single-storey rear extension. Noted.
- d. DM/22/0443 Application Type: Change of Use Application Proposal: Change of use from Agricultural Grain Store to light commercial use (Class E). Site Address: Holmsted Farm, Staplefield Road, Cuckfield. No objection.
- e. DM/21/3983 Application Type: Full Application Proposal: Construction of new barn for the storage of equipment and vehicles, associated with maintenance of land and property. Site Address: Deakes Manor, Deaks Lane, Cuckfield. No objection.
- f. DM/22/0494 Application Type: Removal/Variation of Condition Proposal: Vary condition nos. 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12 and 13 of planning application ref DM/18/1280 to reflect within the current application previously discharged planning conditions. Planning condition no.13 is proposed to be varied to bring all previously approved applications together into a single application. Site Address: Shards, Staplefield Road, Cuckfield. Noted.
- g. DM/22/0267 Application Type: Householder Application Proposal: Erection of traditional salvaged barn / garage, conserved from nearby site (due for demolition), the removal of an existing store and associated landscaping. Site

Address: Leigh Manor Farmhouse, Cuckfield Road. No objection.

8. Parish Council monthly finances.

The financial statement including the schedule of payments, the receipts and bank reconciliation was AGREED and signed by the Chairman.

9. Community Governance Reviews.

Two reviews are proposed by MSDC that will affect the parish boundaries. The Parish Council is opposed to the proposals and will have a chance to object once the formal consultation process begins. MSDC hope that the changes will take effect from May 2023. It was noted that when the Rocky Lane ward was created one Councillor was removed from the Ansty ward and put into the Rocky Lane ward so that the total number of Parish Councillors was unchanged. Whatever the outcome of the reviews, the Parish Council wish to retain all 9 Councillors.

10. Charges at Staplefield Common for 2022.

Staplefield Fete will be held on the Queens Jubilee which is the 3rd of June with set up on the 2nd of June. A Staplefield Village picnic is also planned for the 5th of June which means that cricket cannot be held on those three dates. Crispin Salimbeni declared a personal interest in this item and did not take part in the vote. It was AGREED that the charge for the Staplefield Fete this year will be halved to £150 and the common and pavilion can be used for the picnic free of charge. This is a one-off gesture for the Queen's Jubilee.

It was also AGREED that the Cricket charges will not be increased this year.

11. Salt bins to Beeches at Rocky Lane.

It was AGREED that 3 salt bins will be purchased for the Beeches at Rocky Lane in time for next winter. The cost of each bin is currently £79+VAT.

12. Improvements to the inside of Staplefield pavilion.

The Clerk provided information on the criteria for most grant funding. It is unlikely that grant funding could be obtained and s106 money is not available. The interior of the pavilion needs attention, but the building is secure and sound because of work completed to the exterior of the pavilion in 2020. The Parish Council is reluctant to spend significant sums on the pavilion when it is used so infrequently. Other than the c40 cricket bookings each year it is used annually for the Staplefield Fete. It was AGREED to postpone this project.

13. Options re the Vehicle Activated Speed sign in Ansty.

The developer had difficulty in agreeing a location for the sign with Highways and the Clerk has been unable to contact the developer recently. The Clerk will keep trying and if necessary, report this as a planning breach to MSDC because the installation of the sign was a planning condition for the development.

14. Update from County and District Councillors.

Councillor Pete Bradbury sent his apologies to this meeting.

15. Minor matters and items for the next agenda.

a. **Environment Issues Joint Working Party.**

It was AGREED that the Clerk and Maria Fielding will attend this meeting on 29th March.

b. **Clerk pay rise.**

NALC have finally agreed the recommended rates for Clerks. The increase of 30p per hour was AGREED and will be backdated to 1st April 2021.

c. **Bus shelters at Rocky Lane.**

The bus shelters could not be installed on the agreed date due to Storm Eunice. The Clerk will obtain an alternative date.

d. **Bridge outside Staplefield.** This bridge has still not been repaired by Highways.

The Clerk will chase again.

e. **Ansty Play Park.** The Clerk was asked to report to MSDC, who are responsible for the play park maintenance, that several large bags of leaves were removed from the Ansty Play Park by residents.

f. **Fingerposts.**

The Clerk was asked to report that some of the fingerposts are now leaning. Councillors will send photos to the Clerk.

g. **License Fee from Stonegate.**

The outstanding license fee has still not been paid. James will chase them.

MEETING CLOSED

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION.

Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council Finances 7th March 2022

Payments for approval

	Ref	Description	Amount
Information Commissioner	110	Data Protection Fee	35.00
Castle Water	111	Pavilion water	5.00
EDF Energy	112	Pavilion electricity	16.00
Vodafone	113	phone	27.00
WSCC	114	Staff costs	2090.90
GB Sports and Leisure	115	Play Park Inspection	114.00
Elizabeth Bennett	116	Expenses (includes printing of flyers)	294.30
Ansty Village Hall	117	Room Bookings inc public meeting	55.50

Receipts in February

Vision ICT	AH	Returned payment	108.00
Wivelsfield Parish Council	AI	Share of street lighting	261.67

Bank Reconciliation

28th February 2022

Bank		Cashbook	
Current Account	23992.73	Balance forward	40140.1
Deposit Account	55232.43	Receipts	105805.56
		less payments	-66720.5
	79225.16		79225.16

Signed by Chair of Parish Council Meeting 7th March 2022