

STANSTED PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2021 AT 8 pm
ON ZOOM DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS**

PRESENT:	Cllr Harry Bott	Chairman
	Cllr Mrs Polly Falconer	Vice-chairman
	Cllr Jack Saunders	
	Cllr Tom Brooker	
	Cllr Daren Sefer	
	Cllr Kevin Sparkes	
	Cllr Yvonne Tisson	
	Mrs Melita Gandolfo	Clerk
In attendance	Cllr Harry Rayner	Kent County Council (part of meeting)
	Cllr Martin Coffin	Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council
	Five members of the public	

Item	Action point
Minute no 2020/21	

1 APOLOGIES

244 All Councillors were present, there were no apologies for absence.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND ALTERATIONS TO THE REGISTER

245 None.

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4th JANUARY 2021

246 An addition was made to the draft Minutes of the meeting held on 4th January 2021 – Minute 238. It was then proposed by Cllr Bott, seconded by Cllr Falconer and agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 4th January 2021 were a true record and would be signed when Covid-19 restrictions were lifted.

4 MATTERS ARISING

247 There were no matters arising.

Suspension of meeting for County and Borough Councillors' Reports

The Chairman suspended the meeting to allow KCC Councillor Harry Rayner and TMBC Councillor Martin Coffin to give their reports.

Cllr Rayner said that there would be a 5% increase in Council Tax, of which 3% was need for Adult Services. There was a possibility of Council Tax relief if needed.

Cllr Coffin said that a mass vaccination centre for West Kent was due to open at the Angel Centre in Tonbridge. There would be capacity for vaccinating 350,000 people. Following a prolonged period of heavy rain, the area was on flood alert (not flood warning) status.

Cllr Coffin spoke of the Oak Tree Stable planning application refusal. He said that the refusal had been based on lack of evidence of the applicant's Traveller status, and other considerations. Further unauthorised works carried out at the site had been noted. An Appeal had been lodged but details were not yet known.

The Chairman thanked Cllrs Rayner and Coffin, and reconvened the meeting.

5 PLANNING

a Applications

i 20/02444/FL Oaktree Farm, Hatham Green Lane, Stansted TN15 7PL

Demolition of an old prefab building currently being used as seven stables and a tack room and being replaced by a set of four wooden stables and a tack room.

248 After discussion, it was agreed that there were no objections to this application.

b Decisions

20/01655/FL Oak Tree Stable, Vigo Road, Fairseat Kent

Change of use of land from equestrian use to use for the stationing of 2 x mobile homes for residential use with associated 2 x touring caravans, and cess pit

Decided – Refuse

249 This decision was noted.

250 It was agreed that a letter should be delivered to Fairseat residents informing them of this decision and noting that the applicants were likely to lodge an Appeal; and that if a resident had made a comment on the application (as many had) they could be involved in any Appeal process. The Clerk to draft this letter for approval by Cllrs Bott, Falconer, and Coffin.

MG

251 It was agreed that a further letter be distributed to Fairseat residents when the Appeal status was confirmed, giving guidance for objections. It was suggested that responses could be coordinated through the Parish Council by email.

c Appeals

252 **Parsonage Farm – TM20/01208/FL** - There was no update.

d Other planning issues and Enforcements

i Treehouse at Littlefields, Stansted TN15 7PE

253 The Clerk had contacted Enforcement for an update following dismissal of the Appeal. Enforcement confirmed that they were still considering how to proceed.

ii Lucy's Barn Camp Site, Ash Lane – licence conditions and Enforcement – update

254 Following a further request for an update, Enforcement had replied that further investigations were ongoing.

iii **Other Enforcements**

255 In addition to the cases mentioned above, Enforcement were still investigating other cases:

Treehouse at Cob Trees, Stansted

Oaktree Farm, Stansted - second storey being built on barn

Fly-tipping - Ref 10874 – being investigated by TMBC and Sevenoaks District Council

256 The Clerk had written to request updates on these but there was nothing to report. It was agreed that the Clerk should send requests for updates to Enforcement every month and record and compile the responses with relevant dates.

MG

6 **FINANCE**

a **Bank Balances**

257 The bank balances as listed on Appendix A were noted.

b **Accounts for Payment**

258 It was proposed by Cllr Bott, seconded by Cllr Falconer and agreed that the accounts for payment as listed on Appendix A be paid online.

259 Since Appendix A was sent out, two further invoices had been received, and it was agreed that these too should be paid online:

Flowers of Borough Green: £51.00

Wrotham Parish Council: £196.26

c **Other Finance issues**

260 Both Stansted and Fairseat Village Hall committees had verbally asked the Clerk if they would each receive the £1,600 grant (as agreed in the current year budget). It was agreed that the Clerk should pay these grants when the VH committees made a formal written request.

261 It was agreed that the Finance / Investment committee (Cllrs Bott, Falconer, Sefer and the Clerk) should arrange a meeting in the coming weeks.

**HB/
PF/
DS/
MG**

7 **HIGHWAYS**

a **Traffic Plan, Highways Improvement Plan, Signage , Report from Les Henry**

Signage and Parish gateways

262 The Clerk had asked Mark Hayley to proceed with cleaning all signposts and road name posts, clearing of litter, and strimming and hedge trimming around each sign.

The Clerk had contacted the Mike Taylor of Borough Green Parish Council to discuss insurance and liability issues with the gateways. Mike Taylor had said that they had informed their insurers about the gateways and that was sufficient action.

Banking up of earth to protect green areas

263 To be carried forward. TMBC Cllr Martin Coffin confirmed that he can provide loads of earth for this.

**JS/
TB**

Report from Highways Engineer Les Henry

264 Cllr Falconer had arranged a Les Henry for a meeting with Les Henry to discuss further how to present specific points of the Plan; with Cllr Tisson and the Clerk.

PF
YT/
MG

b Other Highways issues**Hedges**

265 To be carried forward.

JS/
HB

8 MANAGEMENT OF PARISH COUNCIL LAND AND PROPERTY**i Hire of ground**

266 Nothing to report

ii Play park

267 Nothing to report

iii Other issues**Lights around Stansted Village Hall and on path to School**

Cllr Bott and Mrs Sheila Goodworth (Stansted Village Hall) had adjusted the timer and the lights were now working correctly.

268 The excessively bright lights on side of village hall were still to be removed. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact electrician John Cox for a quote to have them removed.

MG

Brown's Field

The residents of Ocklynge, adjacent to Brown's field, had written to ask if they could buy a piece of the field (just under one acre). They had offered £15,000. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council did not wish to sell any part of Brown's field at present and that the Clerk should reply accordingly. Furthermore it was understood that, as Parish Council land, it would have to be offered on the open market if the Parish Council did wish to sell in the future.

268

9 PARISH MAGAZINE

The PCC had thanked the Parish Council for its offer to fund the Parish magazine and had accepted the offer. Hilly Withenshaw is willing to continue as Editor. The Clerk to liaise with Hilly re arrangements. The PCC agreed that the Parish Council will keep revenue from advertising to offset the printing costs, and that the PCC will pay for 30 extra copies per month for Vigo residents.

269

MG

This arrangement will begin in April.

The distribution plans are still to be finalised.

10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

270 Cllr Falconer said that the rubbish bin by the pond in Fairseat was overflowing and she had spoken to TMBC Councillor Robin Betts about this. It was understood that some

bin men were absent due to illness or quarantine, and the remaining crews were concentrating on domestic rubbish collections. It was noted that a separate dog bin was not needed as dog waste is disposed of together with rubbish bin contents.

PUBLIC SESSION

No matters were raised.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.20 pm

SignedChairman

On theday of2021