

Stansted Parish Council
comprising the villages of
Stansted & Fairseat

**Items of interest from the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd
September 2013**

The Parish Council re-convened after the August break, ready to pick up the reins once more. We missed Cllrs Sheila Goodworth and John Brooker for family reasons, but the meeting was attended by Cllrs Sarah Hohler and Ann Kemp, by PCSO Laura Bullen and by several members of the public, who were concerned about a piece of land off Vigo Road in Fairseat. The land in question had been granted planning permission for stables, but had subsequently been sold. Shortly afterwards a large wedding was held on the land and neighbours feared that more than stables may appear on it in due course. The Chairman had sought advice from the Borough Council's chief planning officer and legal department. Anything untoward either on this site or anywhere else should be reported immediately on 01732 844522 at any time – after office hours, weekends and bank holidays you will be directed to a 24 hour emergency number. The sooner anything is reported, the sooner it can be dealt with.

Cllr Mrs Hohler reported on the appointment of a new head at the school and on a pilot scheme to switch off street lights between midnight and 5am. She was concerned about the behaviour of cyclists on Stansted Hill. Cllr Mrs Kemp said more cuts were being indicated by central government.

PCSO Laura Bullen said there had been no crimes in the previous month. She was trying to promote Neighbourhood Watch in Stansted – leaflets were in progress and she had already delivered a few.

Planning matters mentioned included the removal of bollards from land by the roadside in Hatham Green Lane; an application for 12 month occupation of chalets in Labour-in-Vain Road (in Wrotham parish) and details of conditions for the planning consent at Winterdale Shaw. The application for Fairseat Lodge was approved by the Borough Council's planning committee, but with various conditions including the banning of using a flat roof as a balcony and informatives on parking.

A model set of bye laws had been annotated by less than half the councillors. Councillors who had not yet done this were asked to do so in order that a draft set could be put on the agenda for the October meeting. The model set obtained from the Department for Communities and Local Government did not mention dogs and the Clerk will seek advice from the Borough Council.

A complaint was made about the litter left from the boot fair at the top of Wrotham Hill and of the parking on the A20 as a result of it. This complaint has been passed on to Wrotham Parish Council. Another complaint was made about parking round the small triangle of land at the junction of Vigo Road and Platt House Lane, especially at weekends. Please remember the milk tanker needs access every day, including Sundays and bank holidays. It often has difficulty in turning into the lane. Don't forget it's a big vehicle – you wouldn't want your car damaged, so please be thoughtful about parking here and please inform your visitors.

At the end of the meeting, the Brownes' Bequest was discussed. Over the last few years, expenditure by means of a gift to those over 70 has exceeded the grazing income and the fund has been dwindling. The fund also needs to pay for maintenance of the land. Coppicing has to be done, apart from anything else. It was therefore decided that in future, a donation would be made to Age UK to cover the subscriptions of those using the shopping service, instead of the usual gift. The Parish Council has been told that many of the recipients passed their gift on to charity in any case and those to whom this change has been mentioned have been fully supportive.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 6th October at 8.00 pm in Fairseat Village Hall. Everyone is welcome.

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