

# STALISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held remotely on 26 November 2020.

Present: Cllr Cat Horn (Chair), Cllr Tracy Dove, Cllr Chris Norwood and Cllr Nina Williams.

Also present were County Councillor Andrew Bowles and Ward Member David Simmons

## 1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Holly Andrews; apologies accepted.

## 2. Declarations of interest

None were declared.

## 3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on 17 September 2020

Cllr Horn read the minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2020. It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting, the minutes will be signed by Cllr Horn at the next physical meeting of the Parish Council.

## 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Cllr Horn reported that following the request for an allotment, there had been no offer of help.

Cllr Dove informed Members that there had been no further correspondence regarding an electric charging point at the Village Hall. This will be chased and reported back at the next meeting.

## 5. Public Time

*The meeting was adjourned for the Public Time*

KCCllr Bowles reported that the Kent Track and Trace will be up and running by the weekend. The scheme is filtered down to Primary Councils, County Councils and Unitary Councils, and this is to trace people who have been in contact with someone with the virus. There are two extra testing centres in Kent. Rapid testing is supposed to be rolled out in Kent at sites including GP surgeries, care homes and roving testers.

There is a gap in Kent County Council's budget looks bad but the Council has managed to balance it so far.

The Home to School Transport Appeals were up and running but now, due to the second lockdown, they cannot be help face-to-face. Rooms had been hired to ensure social distancing could be maintained but now all the meetings are virtual.

Cllr Horn thanked KCCllr Bowles for his report.

*The Meeting was reconvened*

*SBCllr Simmons joined the meeting*

## 6. Planning Matters

Ref: 20/505412/FULL

Address: Land Adjacent To Heel Farm Heel Road Throwley Faversham ME13 0JH

Proposal: Section 73 - Application for variation of conditions 1 (model aircraft flying times) and 2 (maximum number of model aircraft flying at one time) pursuant to 16/504776/FULL for - Variation of condition 1 of SW/13/0579 - to make permission permanent.

Councillors considered the application and noted that there has been a model aircraft field near Throwley. The Council had previously agreed for this on a trial basis to see if there was an issue with the noise, there have been no complaints. The application seeks to extend the number of hours and the number of model aircraft.

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that they had no objections to the proposal.

## 7. Finance

### i. Councillor expenses

There were none.

### ii. Invoices

There were none.

### iii. Independent Internal Auditor's report

Cllr Dove said that most of what has been raised is that we are doing what we are supposed to be doing but we are not proving it. We need to sign off invoices and have a bank reconciliation on a regular basis rather than at the end of the year.

Cllr Horn said a lot of the recommendations cannot be carried out until the Council can meet physically. The Council is doing as much as it can in a virtual world.

## 8. Village Christmas Tree

Councillors considered that due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, it would not be fair to ask the pub to contribute towards the Christmas Tree.

Cllr Norwood **PROPOSED** that the Council purchase a 12' Christmas tree; **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

## 9. Village Broad Band

Cllr Horn said there is a campaign to try to get superfast broad band to the village.

Cllr Norwood said that he has a 75 megabytes broadband connection.

Cllr Horn said only parts of the village has that and some parts only have 3 megabytes. The more people who sign up for superfast broadband will make it more likely that there will be enough grants and KCC vouchers to make sure the first part of the village is included in the scheme. It will future proof the village as it would be substantially faster than it is now. It will also make properties more attractive in the village and will ensure the village does not get left behind. A resident has started a scheme and BT has taken this over which is at one end of Stalisfield and includes Otterden and Bunce Court, there are eighty-one houses in the scheme and it is going ahead. There will have to be a separate application.

Cllr Dove asked if the Village Hall could be included.

Cllr Horn said there has to be a phone line and BT looks at its list of postal addresses. Swale Borough Council said the builder should have signed it off in order to get an address and this has not been done.

*ACTION: Cllr Dove to contact the builder.*

*SBCllr Simmons said that he would be happy to give some of his members' Grant Fund towards a phone line for the Village Hall.*

Cllr Horn said every house has had a leaflet and asked to respond by 5 December. The application has to be approved by 31 March 2021 as this is when the funding runs out.

## 10. Any Other Business

No other matters were raised.

**11. Date of next meeting 7 January 2021 at 7.30pm**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm