

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF STAPLEHURST PARISH COUNCIL
held at Staplehurst Village Centre on
Monday 15th June 2015 at 7.45 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Buller, Burnham, Butcher (until the point indicated in the minutes), Gosling, Lain-Rose (until the point indicated in the minutes), Perry, Reardon, Sharp, Spearink and Silkin who was in the Chair.

Parish Clerk: Mr M J Westwood

APOLOGIES: Councillors Ashby, Claridge, Kelly, Kemp and Manning whose apologies were accepted.

URGENT ITEMS: None requested.

COUNCILLOR DECLARATIONS regarding items on the Agenda:-

Lobbying – Councillor Buller declared she had been lobbied about the Neighbourhood Plan. Councillors Buller, Burnham, Perry and Spearink declared they had been lobbied about the Kathie Lamb Centre.

Changes to the Register of Interests – none declared.

Interest in Items on the Agenda – Councillor Burnham declared an interest in the Kathie Lamb Centre.

Requests for Dispensation – Councillor Burnham requested dispensation to speak about the Kathie Lamb Centre, which was agreed by councillors.

APPROVAL OF FULL COUNCIL MINUTES Subject to amendment of 'muted' to read 'mooted' (Min 1440, item 8, line 8) pages 1439-1443 of 1st June 2015 were proposed for approval by Councillor Sharp, seconded by Councillor Spearink, approved by Councillors, signed by Chairman Silkin and made available at http://staplehurstvillage.org.uk/minutes_of_the_last_meetings.aspx

ACCOUNTS & FINANCES

1. Accounts for payment for approval. Proposed by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Buller, the list of accounts for payment was approved.
2. Summation of Accounts to 29th May 2015. Noted by councillors and published at http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/minutes_of_the_last_meetings.aspx.
3. Parish Online – Subscription Renewal (for approval). Proposed by Councillor Butcher, seconded by Councillor Lain-Rose, renewal of the annual subscription at a cost of £84 plus VAT was approved by councillors.

CORRESPONDENCE & CURRENT ISSUES for noting or decision:-

1. Neighbourhood Plan – Update from Steering Group. Councillor Buller reported that MBC had advised that a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan would not be required. Further comments were awaited from MBC about its approach to the Fishers Farm site and on the content of the draft Regulation 16 version of the Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor Buller said that a meeting was being arranged with MBC for 1st July and the Steering Group aimed to meet before then.
2. Borough Council Update – Councillor Perry advised that MBC had a new mayor and new Leader of Council and that a new committee structure was in its early days of operation. He reported that Councillor Butcher had been appointed as a Parish Councillor representative on the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee.
3. Caretaker's Report – The Clerk advised that the caretaker was dealing with increased levels of rubbish and vegetation growth. Councillor Perry commented on the inadequate maintenance of the MBC verges at Bell Lane; Chairman Silkin advised that Councillor

- Kelly was investigating the cost of maintenance for the Parish Council. Councillors suggested that such an example of maintenance shortfall could usefully be aired at the KALC area committee. *Councillor Butcher left the meeting.*
5. Consultation - KCC Voluntary & Community Sector Policy. The invitation to comment was noted by councillors but they agreed to take no further action.
 6. Kathie Lamb Centre - Donation Request (for discussion and decision). The Clerk advised that the RFO was investigating the availability of Section 106 funds and had suggested further funding options to the Guides. Councillor Perry said that he had also approached MBC on this subject. Councillors encouraged exploration of as many sources as possible and agreed that they wished to make a donation from council funds too, considering the building to be an important community resource given its location on the parish-owned Jubilee Field and its use not only for guiding but also for activities such as the summer play scheme. Noting the status of the donations budget in the Summation of Accounts, proposed by Councillor Spearink, seconded by Councillor Sharp, councillors voted to make a donation of £1,000 towards the replacement roof project.
 7. Kent Police/SECAMB – KALC Event Invitation. Councillors noted the invitation to events on 22 July and 23 September and asked to be advised once the venue for the September event was known.
 8. Maidstone Community Cyclathon Commission – MBC Event Host Required (for decision). Councillors agreed not to volunteer to host the proposed event on 13th September.
 9. Surrenden Field Soil Sampling – DEFRA (for noting). Councillors noted that permission had been given to allow a DEFRA research project to take soil samples from Surrenden Field.

COMMITTEE & FOCUS GROUPS – Reports and recommendations:-

1. Local Transport (TB, BM, PS) Next meeting of TAG 19/06/15. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/hawkhurst_transport.aspx Councillor Spearink said issues had been raised with KCC about school bus services. A meeting with Arriva involving Helen Grant MP is scheduled for 3rd July.
2. Staplehurst Emergency Help Team (JB, PB, NK, RS, PS) Next meeting 22/06/15. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/kcc_emergency_planning_group.aspx
3. Planning Committee (PB, MA, JB, CC, TB, AG, PK, NK, RS, PS,) http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/minutes_of_the_last_meetings.aspx Councillors Perry and Buller said they would attend the meeting of MBC Planning Committee on 18th June unless the application relating to Blossom Maplehurst Lane was deferred.
4. Allotments Project Group (TB, PK, JB, BM) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/sub_groups_1.aspx
5. Strategy & Policy Group (JP, TB, PK, PB, CC, SL, RS) Next meeting end June. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/policy_group.aspx Chairman Silkin advised that the group would shortly be meeting to finalise its recommendations about committee and group structures for presentation to Full Council on 6th July.
6. Finance Group (JP, TB, PK, PB, NK, SL, JR) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/finance_group.aspx
7. Playscheme (TB, JB, NK) Next meeting 23/06/15. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/youth_activities_1.aspx
8. Publicity & Website Group (TB, PK, MA, JB, CC, NK, SL, JR) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/publicity_website.aspx
9. Rural Settlement Group (JP, JB, NK, AS) Next meeting 08/07/15. Report of meeting 03/06/15 awaited. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/rural_settlement_group.aspx.
10. Staplehurst Village Centre Development Group (TB, AG, SL) Next meeting June 25/06/15.
11. Surrenden Playing Field Group (TB, PK, BM, JR, AS) Next meeting? <http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/others.aspx>
12. Village Enhancement Group (TB, PK, JB, PB, JR, AS) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/sub_groups.aspx. The Group not having reached a decision on the colour for repainting of the village planters, members of Full Council were asked to vote on their choice. By five votes to two (Councillor Buller abstaining) councillors voted that the existing cream colour should be retained. *Councillor Lain-Rose left the meeting.*

13. Youth Club (PK) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/staplehurst_youth_club.aspx

REPORTS FOR NOTING from local community groups:-

1. Carnival & Fete (SL, BM) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/staplehurst_carnival_fete_committee.aspx
Councillors agreed that they had no objection to the Carnival & Fete Committee's proposal for a tree-climbing attraction to be run by Forestry First at the Fete on 27th June.
2. Churchyard Liaison (PB, PK) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/sub_groups_2.aspx
3. Headcorn Aerodrome Consultative Committee (JP, BM) Next meeting? Minutes of meeting 09/06/15 awaited. Minutes of meeting 03/03/15 to be posted at http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/headcorn_aerodrome.aspx
4. Jubilee Field Management & Users Group (JP, PB, PK) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/jubilee_fields_users_group.aspx
5. KALC Area Committee (RS, PK, PB, JP) Next meeting 16/06/15. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/kent_association_of_local_councils.aspx
6. Kent Community Alcohol Partnership (PB) Next meeting?
7. Knoxbridge A229 Residents' Group (BM, NK, PS) Next meeting?
8. McCabe Day Centre (JB) Next meeting? Report of meeting 19/03/15 to be posted at http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/mccabe_day_centre.aspx
9. Neighbourhood Watch (JB, NK) http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/police_liaison.aspx
10. Police/Parish Liaison (PB, NK, AS) Next meeting 20/08/15. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/police_liaison.aspx
11. River Bault Catchment Improvement Group (JP, NK, PS) Next meeting June/July 2015 (t.b.c.). <http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/others.aspx>
12. Sobell Cheshire Home (JP, PS) Reports of meetings 02/06/15 & 03/03/15 awaited. <http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/others.aspx> Councillor Spearink advised that some residents were still encountering problems when going into the village due to cars blocking the pavement. The home's management is seeking to unlock funds held by the charity's head office for a new conservatory. Helen Grant is to visit the home.
13. Speed Watch (JB) <http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/speedwatch.aspx>
14. Staplehurst Community Hub (JB) Next meeting?
15. Staplehurst Patients' Participation Group (JB, AS, RS). Next meeting 01/07/15. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/patient_participation_group_at_health_centre.aspx .
16. Staplehurst Primary School Liaison (AG, SL, BM, JR)
17. Staplehurst Surface Water Management Plan Group (NK, PS) Next meeting? Report of meeting 02/10/14 awaited.
18. Staplehurst Village Centre Trust (MA, PB) Next meeting? Report of meetings 11/11/14, 03/12/14, 06/01/15 and 24/02/15 awaited. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/village_centre_trust.aspx
19. Village Golf & Sports Club (PB) Next meeting? <http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/others.aspx>

Chairman.....

PUBLIC FORUM: No items were raised.

POLICE REPORT: PCSO Gardner's report showed five crimes: one theft; one theft from motor vehicle; two burglaries (other than dwelling); one criminal damage.