

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF STAPLEHURST PARISH COUNCIL
held at Staplehurst Village Centre on
Tuesday 6th May 2014 at 7.25 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Ashby, Buller, Gosling, Kelly, Lain-Rose, Manning, Reardon, Spearink and Burnham who was in the Chair.
Parish Clerk: Mr M J Westwood

APOLOGIES: Councillors Butcher, Green, Kemp, Perry, Sharp and Silkin whose reasons for apology were accepted.

URGENT ITEMS: - Councillors agreed to take one item of urgent business in relation to the AGM of Kent County Playing Fields Association.

COUNCILLOR DECLARATIONS:

Lobbying – Councillors Buller, Burnham, Gosling, Lain-Rose, Reardon and Spearink declared they had been lobbied about Staplehurst Running Club. Councillor Buller declared she had been lobbied about the Neighbourhood Plan.

Changes to the Register of Interests – none declared.

Interests in items on the agenda – Councillor Reardon declared an interest in Staplehurst Running Club. Councillor Kelly declared an interest in the proposed purchase of a gazebo.

Requests for dispensation – none requested.

APPROVAL OF FULL COUNCIL MINUTES Pages 1342-1344 of 22nd April 2014 were proposed for approval by Councillor Lain-Rose, seconded by Councillor Spearink, approved by councillors nem con, signed by the Chairman and made available at http://staplehurstvillage.org.uk/minutes_of_the_last_meetings.aspx.

CORRESPONDENCE & CURRENT ISSUES for noting or decision:-

1. Urgent Item – The Clerk advised that notice of the KCPFA AGM on 21st May had been received and asked any interested attendee to notify him.
2. Request for Donation – Staplehurst Running Club. *Councillor Burnham closed the meeting to allow contribution from members of the public.* The proprietor of Beginners 2 Runners presented his plan for a running club in Staplehurst; clubs are already established in Barming and Coxheath. He discussed the community and health benefits of such a club, advised that he ran Beginners 2 Runners as a sole trader and confirmed that clubs were not affiliated to England Athletics. He reported that Coxheath Parish Council had given £250 to Coxheath Running Club and invited the Parish Council to support the launch of a Staplehurst club with an equal donation to acquire 50 hi-viz bibs for the club. He offered to the Council the opportunity to have its name on the bibs. He was supported by a resident runner who highlighted that local runners raised significant sums for charity. *Councillor Burnham reopened the meeting.* After discussion, proposed by Councillor Spearink, seconded by Councillor Lain-Rose, councillors voted with one abstention to approve the requested donation.
3. MBC Draft Local Plan & CIL Charging Proposal – Response. Councillors reviewed the Parish Council's proposed response to the MBC Draft Local Plan, which had been drafted by Feria based on input from the Council. Proposed by Councillor Ashby, seconded by Councillor Lain-Rose, councillors approved the draft subject to corrections from proof-reading and the addition of comment on the need for MBC to state positively how it would work with neighbourhood plans.
4. Neighbourhood Plan – Arrangements for Reg. 14 Consultation. Councillor Buller advised that the aim was to start a six-week consultation period at the beginning of June, with a

- consultation event on 11 or 12 June. She advised that the Regulation 14 draft of the plan was being reworked following discussion with Fera. Councillor Lain-Rose volunteered to provide some input on gypsy and traveller policy within a week.
5. Caretaker's Report – The Clerk advised that the caretaker continued to collect sacks of rubbish but that the Parade had private cleaning arrangements. Councillors discussed the poor state of the bins there but noted MBC Environmental Enforcement's advice that there was no legal compulsion on the landlord to upgrade them.
 6. Housebuilder Awards – Request from Taylor Wimpey (for decision). By majority of five votes for, two against, two abstentions, councillors agreed to provide a statement, for use only in connection with the Housebuilder Awards, that it welcomed the company's refreshing approach to communication during the pre-application period.
 7. Kent & Medway Funding Fair – Notice of Event (for decision re attendance). Councillor Lain-Rose volunteered to attend, which was agreed by councillors noting the cost of £15.
 8. Marden Neighbourhood Plan – Invitation to Meeting. The Clerk advised that Councillor Kemp had volunteered to attend the meeting on 4th June, the invitation also being extended to the Chair of RSG.
 9. Staplehurst Parish Council Equipment – Purchase of gazebo and banner (for approval). Councillors agreed to purchase a gazebo at a cost of £70, plus a banner for use with it carrying the words 'Staplehurst Parish Council' and the website address in black on a white background. Councillor Spearink volunteered to arrange the banner.
 10. Street Lights – Part Night Lighting (for decision). Councillors discussed the invitation from KCC to adopt part-night lighting for parish-owned street lights in line with KCC policy. They considered the Assistant Clerk's report on the 21 parish lights that will remain after decommissioning. Noting that KCC was not intending to reduce lighting on main routes in the village, Councillors agreed to part-night lighting in Crowther Close, Maidstone Road and Nicholson Walk but decided to retain all night lighting in Headcorn Road.

COMMITTEE & FOCUS GROUPS – Reports and recommendations:-

1. Local Transport (TB, BM, PS) Next meeting 20/06/14. Report of meeting 11/04/14 posted at http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/hawkhurst_transport.aspx Councillor Burnham advised that he had attended the KCC Rail Summit and although no Network Rail representative was present, he had subsequently identified a contact and would pursue a meeting.
2. Staplehurst Emergency Help Team (JB, PB, NK, RS, PS) Next meeting 19/06/14. Report of meeting 24/04/14 awaited. Report of meeting 24/03/14 posted at http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/kcc_emergency_planning_group.aspx
3. Planning Committee (PB, MA, JB, TB, AG, SG, PK, NK, JP, PS) http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/minutes_of_the_last_meetings.aspx
4. Allotments Project Group (JP, TB, PK, JB, BM) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/sub_groups_1.aspx
5. Strategy & Policy Group (JP, TB, PK, PB, SL, SG, RS) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/policy_group.aspx
6. Finance Group (JP, TB, PK, PB, SG, SL, JR) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/finance_group.aspx Report of the meeting with the Internal Auditor on 24/04/14 was noted.
7. Playscheme (TB, JB, NK) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/youth_activities_1.aspx Councillor Buller advised that she was expecting fliers from Play Place for distribution with the Annual Report. The Clerk said he was submitting a funding application to MBC.
8. Publicity & Website Group (JP, TB, PK, MA, JB, NK, SL, JR) Next meeting? Report of meeting 25/03/14 awaited. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/publicity_website.aspx Councillor Buller advised that she was aiming for distribution of the Annual Report in the week commencing 9th June. Councillor Manning said he would check on progress with the Carnival & Fete programme for distribution at the same time. Councillor Spearink suggested thought be given to changes for future

reports. Councillor Lain-Rose thanked Councillor Buller for all her work on the publication.

9. Rural Settlement Group including Neighbourhood Plan (JP, MA, JB, AS) Next meeting 14/05/14. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/rural_settlement_group.aspx.
10. Surrenden Playing Field Group (TB, BM, JR, AS) Next meeting? <http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/others.aspx>
Councillor Reardon said he would arrange a meeting of the group to discuss quotations for resurfacing of the play area.
11. Village Enhancement Group (JP, TB, PK, JB, PB, SL, JR, AS) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/sub_groups.aspx.
12. Youth Club (SL, PK) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/staplehurst_youth_club.aspx Councillors Kelly and Lain-Rose reported the club's positive experience of the new youth worker.

REPORTS FOR NOTING from local community groups:-

1. Carnival & Fete (SL, BM) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/staplehurst_carnival_fete_committee.aspx
2. Churchyard Liaison (PB, PK) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/sub_groups_2.aspx The Clerk said he would ask whether the PCC had yet signed the new agreement.
3. Headcorn Aerodrome Consultative Committee (JP, BM) Next meeting 03/06/14. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/headcorn_aerodrome.aspx
4. Jubilee Field Management & Users Group (JP, PB) Next meeting? Minutes of meeting 27/03/14 awaited. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/jubilee_fields_users_group.aspx
5. KALC Area Committee (JP, PB, PK, RS, PS) Next meeting 28/05/14. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/kent_association_of_local_councils.aspx
6. Kent Community Alcohol Partnership (PB) Next meeting? Report of meeting 04/09/13 awaited.
7. Knoxbridge A229 Residents' Group (BM, NK, PS) Next meeting? Councillor Manning said he was awaiting hard copies of an A229 speed survey.
8. McCabe Day Centre (JB) Next meeting 15/05/14. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/mccabe_day_centre.aspx
9. Neighbourhood Watch (JB) http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/police_liaison.aspx
10. Police/Parish Liaison (PB, PS) Next meeting? Report of meeting 20/02/14 awaited. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/police_liaison.aspx
11. River Beult Catchment Improvement Group (JP, NK) Next meeting 09/06/14. <http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/others.aspx>
12. Sobell Cheshire Home (JP, PS) Next meeting 03/06/14. <http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/others.aspx>
13. Speed Watch (JB) <http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/speedwatch.aspx> Councillor Buller reported that the Speed Watch team had that day recorded 45 speeding vehicles in three hours on the High Street.
14. Staplehurst Community Hub (JB) Next meeting?
15. Staplehurst Patients' Participation Group (JB, RS, PS) Report of meeting 22/01/14 awaited. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/patient_participation_group_at_health_centre.aspx
16. Staplehurst Primary School Liaison (SL, BM, JR)
17. Staplehurst Village Centre Trust (SL & PB) Report of meeting 15/04/14 awaited. Next meeting 13/05/14. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/village_centre_trust.aspx
18. Village Sports & Social Club (PB) Next meeting? <http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/others.aspx>

Chairman.....

PUBLIC FORUM: A resident asked about plans for commemoration of World War One and advised that a church service was being planned for Sunday 3rd August.