

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF STAPLEHURST PARISH COUNCIL
held at Staplehurst Village Centre on
Monday 2nd September 2013 at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Ashby, Buller, Burnham, Butcher, Gosling, Green, Kelly, Kemp, Lain-Rose, Silkin, Spearink and Perry who was in the Chair.
Parish Clerk: Mr MJ Westwood

APOLOGIES: Councillors Manning and Reardon whose apologies were accepted. Councillor Sharp was absent.

URGENT ITEMS: - No items were requested.

COUNCILLOR DECLARATIONS:

Lobbying – Councillors Ashby, Buller, Burnham and Spearink declared they had been lobbied about local bus services. Councillors Ashby, Buller and Burnham declared they had been lobbied about supermarkets. Councillor Buller declared she had been lobbied about the Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor Spearink declared he had been lobbied about social media policy.

Changes to the Register of Interests – none declared.

Interests in items on the agenda – none declared.

Requests for dispensation – none requested.

APPROVAL OF FULL COUNCIL MINUTES Pages 1289-1292 of 19th August 2013 were proposed for approval by Councillor Butcher, seconded by Councillor Spearink, approved by councillors nem con, signed by Chairman Perry and made available at http://staplehurstvillage.org.uk/minutes_of_the_last_meetings.aspx.

CORRESPONDENCE & CURRENT ISSUES for noting or decision:-

1. Neighbourhood Plan – *Chairman Perry closed the meeting to allow a contribution from the Chair of the Rural Settlement Group.* The Chair of RSG discussed the promotion of the forthcoming Neighbourhood Plan events. *Chairman Perry reopened the meeting.* Councillors agreed that two banners be ordered for siting at the Village Centre and possibly at the station. Councillor Buller asked that a letter be written to the Women's Institute about refreshments at the events. Councillor Green asked that a point be raised with MBC about the barrister's report commissioned by Boughton Monchelsea PC that questioned MBC's housing numbers; Councillors agreed this should be taken up at KALC area committee.
2. Caretaker's Reports – The Clerk advised the Caretaker was re-staining the memorial seats and would attend to a repair of one of them.
3. Churchyard Agreement – Chairman Perry said a date for a meeting with the Rector was still awaited.
4. Developers' Proposals – The Clerk said that he was awaiting some dates from Bacchus Partners for a possible meeting about the company's proposals.
5. Five Oak Lane – Councillors noted correspondence from South East Water about water main replacement in Five Oak Lane.
6. Land at Oliver Road – Councillors agreed, subject to minor modifications, the draft of a proposed letter from the Chairman to Taylor Wimpey covering the possibility of further discussions about the green space at the site.

7. MBC Development Session – The report of the MBC seminar on the topics of enforcement and Section 106 was noted. Councillor Green asked for clarification of what would happen in the transition from S106 to Community Infrastructure Levy.
8. Section 106 – Following discussion in public forum there was no further debate about the content of the proposed list. Chairman Perry said he had received a letter from the Head of Environment & Public Realm at MBC about the ownership of Bell Lane car park and planned to discuss it with borough councillors. Councillor Spearink said he would speak to the appropriate MBC officer about community asset transfers. Chairman Perry reported he had received from MBC an acknowledgement of his letter about the freehold of Surrenden Playing Field.
9. Supermarkets – Councillor Kelly advised that work was beginning at the DK Holdings site.

COMMITTEE & FOCUS GROUPS – Reports and recommendations:-

1. Local Transport (TB, BM, PS) Next meeting 20/09/13 http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/hawkhurst_transport.aspx
Councillors noted the correspondence with Arriva about service shortfalls. Further to discussion in public forum Councillor Spearink said he was taking up issues with the area manager and asked that he be advised of all service incidents.
2. Staplehurst Emergency Help Team (JB, PB, RS, PS) Next meeting? Verbal report from meeting 29/08/13. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/kcc_emergency_planning_group.aspx Councillors discussed a donation request raised by Councillor Butcher relating to acquisition of a defibrillator and asked for further information about how the equipment would be managed and used.
3. Planning Committee (PB, MA, JB, TB, AG, SG, PK, NK, JP, PS) http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/minutes_of_the_last_meetings.aspx The Clerk advised that MBC Enforcement were hopeful of further progress in restoring the site at Huntsman's Stables.
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 Chairman Perry presented a draft policy on use of social media and invited comments. After discussion councillors agreed to some redrafting to reposition the policy as guidelines.
6. Finance Group (JP, TB, PK, PB, SG, SL, JR) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/finance_group.aspx Chairman Perry said he would arrange a meeting shortly.
7. Playscheme (TB, JB, NK) Next meeting 04/09/13 http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/youth_activities_1.aspx Councillor Buller reported that a debrief following this year's play scheme would be held on 4th September.
8. Publicity & Website Group (JP, TB, PK, MA, JB, NK, SL, JR) Next meeting? Report of meeting 02/07/13 awaited. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/publicity_website.aspx Councillor Buller thanked all involved with the Village Update, particularly Origination Studios, Paxman Services and Jenny Fairfax. Councillor Silkin volunteered to assist Councillor Spearink to install a new noticeboard.
9. Rural Settlement Group including Neighbourhood Plan (JP, MA, JB, AS) Next meeting 11/09/13. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/rural_settlement_group.aspx. – *Chairman Perry closed the meeting to allow a contribution from the Chair of the Rural Settlement Group.* The Chair of RSG highlighted that the Group's next meeting would be the day before the Neighbourhood Plan Visioning event. He hoped that as many of the Group as possible would attend this event on 12th September. *Chairman Perry reopened the meeting.*
10. Surrenden Playing Field Group (TB, BM, JR, AS) Next meeting? <http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/others.aspx>
11. Village Enhancement Group (JP, TB, PK, JB, PB, SL, JR, AS) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/sub_groups.aspx.

REPORTS FOR NOTING from local community groups:-

1. Carnival & Fete (SL, BM) 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
3. Village Sports & Social Club (PB) Next meeting? http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/ot_hers.aspx
4. Headcorn Aerodrome Consultative Committee (JP, BM) Next meeting 01/10/13.
http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/headcorn_aerodrome.aspx
5. Jubilee Field Management & Users Group (JP, PB) Next meeting 03/10/13 (AGM). Report of meeting 27/06/13 awaited. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/jubilee_fields_users_group.aspx Councillor Buller asked that the presence outside the field of a KCC 'CATS' bus on 23rd August be raised with KCC to ascertain what activity was taking place.
6. KALC Area Committee (JP, PB, PK, RS, PS) Next meeting 25/09/13.
http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/kent_association_of_local_councils.aspx
7. Kent Community Alcohol Partnership (PB) – Next meeting 04/09/13.
8. Knoxbridge A229 Residents' Group (BM, NK, PS) Next meeting? Report of meeting 29/05/13 awaited.
9. McCabe Day Centre (JB) Next meeting 25/09/13 (AGM). http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/mccabe_day_centre.aspx
10. Neighbourhood Watch (JB) http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/police_liaison.aspx
11. Police/Parish Liaison (PB, PS) Next meeting 19/09/13. http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/police_liaison.aspx
12. Sobell Cheshire Home (JP, PS) Next meeting 17/09/13. Report of meeting 02/07/13 awaited.
<http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/others.aspx>
13. Speed Watch (JB) <http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/speedwatch.aspx>
14. Staplehurst Community Hub (JB) Next meeting?
15. Staplehurst Patients' Participation Group (JB, RS, PS) Next meeting 25/09/13. Report of meeting 31/07/13 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) Next meeting?
http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/village_centre_trust.aspx
18. Youth Club (SL, PK) Report of meeting 21/08/2013 awaited.
http://www.staplehurstvillage.org.uk/staplehurst_youth_club.aspx.

Chairman.....

PUBLIC FORUM: Before the meeting a resident reported a service failure of the no.5 bus on 28th August, unsatisfactory responses from Arriva and a bus breakdown on 2nd September. Another resident questioned the wisdom of sharing with developers information about what the Parish Council would like to see covered by S106 payments, but commended the idea of developing such a list of items and using it in the Neighbourhood Plan consultation. Other speakers felt there was merit in discussing the Parish Council's wishes openly. Chairman Perry referenced advice from MBC's Chair of Planning that all parishes should draw up a 'wish list'.

After the meeting a resident spoke about his survey of traffic in Staplehurst that indicated 14% of drivers observed travelling through the village did not wear seat-belts. In response to a resident's question it was confirmed that the Neighbourhood Plan workshop sessions in October would be open to all.

LIBRARY SURGERY: 14th September – Councillors Kemp and Spearink; 12th October – Councillors Buller and Green.