***STAPLEFORD ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL***

c/o Ellie Thomas, Interim Parish Clerk

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**Draft Minutes of the Council Meeting**

**7pm Tuesday November 3 2020 ONLINE**

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| **Present:** |  | | |
| **Councillors:** | Jayne Jackson (Chair) JJ | Marion Francis (Deputy Chair) MF | |
|  | Colleen Atkinson CA  Barrie Challingsworth BC | Catherine Burnett CB | |
| **Officers:** | Ellie Thomas, Interim Parish Clerk | | |
| **In attendance**: | 5 Residents | |  |

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| 657/20 | **Apologies for Absence** |
|  | Kim Lidlow KL |
| 658/20 | **Declarations of Interest** |
|  | CB: I am declaring an interest in Oak Hill Green for the following reasons: Whilst living opposite the site does not constitute a conflict of interests nor does being part of an informal (non constituted) neighbourhood group, I do, voluntarily, hold information which enables communication within the group. The group, Stapleford Abbotts Residents Group (SARG), does not have a chair or a leader as it is purely an informal group of residents. That said however, in holding this information and being the key coordinator for communication I would not want any misinterpretation and then criticism of myself or any other councillor. I am therefore declaring and interest under this rationale. |
| 659/20 | **Minutes of last Meeting** |
|  | Passed & signed as a true record. August Extraordinary minutes also passed & signed as a true record |
| 660/20 | **Matters for Report** |
|  | **Clerk’s Report**  All communications from County and District have been circulated and if anyone wishes to have another copy please let us know:  EFDC sustainable & healthy living consultation  EALC health & wellbeing conference  EF Reuse alert that they are looking for a manager  Remembrance day ideas for lockdown & EALC guidelines for same  Rutting season road safety warning from EFDC  VAEF bulletins  - and the VAEF AGM which will take place 17/11 online  Ongar Leisure Centre refurb update  ECC Libraries update  Citizen & Volunteer of Year - EFDC are looking for nominations  Social Active Strong programme for residents, instituted by EFDC Health  EFDC member briefing on Sustainability Guidance  Superfast Broadband latest update  COVID high alert briefings: awaiting lockdown ones.  CEA info on moving on unauthorised encampments  EFTAG - transport group activities and updates sent direct to Cllr Francis  EFDC local plan examination update  Covid in Essex Immediate Response: this was circulated but has been superseded  Sewer map of Oakhill Road area is here - copies have gone to all and copy in our digital files  Clean air day - environmental statistics and activities  Greener Homes grant - EFDC information about the grant and how to apply  Road signs and survey – Clerk to write and see if Maggie McEwen and ECC can assist in sign cleaning.  Footpaths update – Clerk to write and see if Highway Rangers can assist in clearing footpaths and cutting back foliage. The paths need to be safe for walkers, especially if smaller groups are using them in lockdown. MF advised that landowners should keep footpaths clear, and that we should notify the farmers with paths on their land and ask them to keep them clear. CA – we’ve considered building a library of where the paths are and prioritise the ones that need attention most. Suggested a rolling programme of refurb and to pick one path as a test case to see if there are volunteers. MF: we have asked Peter Spence of the Ramblers to help set up and register a group with ECC Highways. CB – we have a local walking group, and they’d be OK to be the initial group – MF & CB to liaise about protocols going forward.  Website – Clerk has presented 3 quotes, Council has seen other websites and will retire to study them and revisit at the next meeting.  Oak Hill Green – Not going to Planning Committee till 2021 please take note, Environmental issues are being dealt with in the interim.  Salt bags – A seen in Linkup, salt bags are now at the Village Hall carpark, just inside the entrance on a pallet. All are welcome to help themselves! |
| 661/20 | **Finance** |
|  | Transactions for October 2020 – All agreed and actioned   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | S FREEMAN | POPPY WREATHS | 40 | | E THOMAS | CLERK OCTOBER SALARY | 495 |   Budget – we need to start working towards this now, so Clerk to send across budgets and headings for the last year or two for reference and this will be revisited in December.  Finance update for December – Clerk to tabulate income & expenditure from last Year End up to December 1 for next time.  VAT – Clerk and JJ to liaise about the return – we have some recent purchases plus aircon and defibrillator to consider under this subject. |
| 662/20 | **Planning** (Development Control & Enforcement Team) |
|  | **Application No:** EPF/2161/20 **Officer:** David Maguire  **Applicant Name:** Urmila, Vimal and Roshnie Pokar  **Location:** Field End and Ralwyn Oak Hill Road Stapleford Abbotts RM4 1EH  **Proposal:** Application for Certificate of Lawful Development for a Proposed erection of an outbuilding.  Return: OBJECTION - Letter has been sent to EFDC: grounds of flood risk, size and scale and the new construction not being like for like.  **Application No:** EPF/2282/20 **Officer:** Muhammad Rahman  **Applicant Name:** Mr & Mrs G Gurrieri  **Location:** 7 Kensington Park Oak Hill Road Stapleford Abbotts RM4 1AF  **Proposal:** Single storey side and rear extension.  Return: NO OBJECTION |
| 663/20 | **Parish Council Projects** |
|  | Remembrance Sunday – with the recent lockdown taking effect the week before the day, the church service proper is off, but it will be on Zoom and Ray will lay wreaths for us on November 7, which will be filmed. Zoom link to go on our website now. |
| 664/20 | **Correspondence** |
|  | Residents views on lack of parish level consultation re. tier change – discussed. Democratically elected government should make changes democratically as well. Some people have asked to put it on record that they did not feel consulted. Time lines however made this difficult but residents have the right to comment that it was not helpful. JJ – we try to speak for everyone, and we have the right to voice opinions, but we’d like people to come to PC meetings and voice opinion in person. MF – people can also write to ECC and their MP, to speak for residents’ groups. CB – if you can’t come to meetings due to work pressures or technology, you could tell your Parish Councillors to raise it. CA – we should minute “some residents” expressing concerns if the views presented are only a fraction of the populace.  Horse breaking loose – reported recently. The horse is reported to have kicked someone. JJ has contacted the landowner of the field concerned, it is uncertain where the owners are at present and what their intentions are, the police and the neighbour are aware, and the RSPCA apparently have no sway here. Police advise that if it gets loose again to call 999 as it’s classed as a hazard.  Airfield noise - recent calls & emails on file, Clerk has given concerned residents the standard advice of contacting the Tower to ask for a break in flights, JJ to approach the airfield officials to see what else can be done.  Manhole cover leaking constantly on corner of Oak Hill Road and Tysea Hill – this manhole is blocked and water run-off made worse because of a cracked kerb. Clerk to inform ECC Highways to get the drain emptied and kerb repaired.  Skips and chain shields – we have had comments from residents about noise and speed from skips – Clerk contacted the skip company and they kindly updated us that two lorries have new chains covers and that they regularly review driving standards – so we should let them know if there are speed issues and they will make the drivers aware. They are also moving and the land where their HQ is will be sold – we are told it may be for a caravan site. In any case we believe the land is under Navestock’s jurisdiction: Clerk to liaise with Navestock PC and we will support them in any way we can.  Grit bin request –there aren’t any, but reiterating that all residents are welcome to grit from Village Hall.  Pot holes and car damage – resident was advised to log it on ECC website, and hole was fixed. |
| 665/20 | **Meetings of Outside Bodies and Training Courses** |
|  | CB would like to register for the Wellbeing Conference re. learning more about helping mental health. |
| 666/20 | **Highways** |
|  | Accident at Tysea Hill/ Oak Hill area 2/11 early – 2 cars written off. CB added to list of incidents here. |
| 667/20 | **Matters for future Agendas** |
|  | Website  Action group for pathways  Finance – update, VAT, budget |
| 668/20 | **Open Forum** |
|  | Resident confirmed that she had written to her MP about the lack of communication re. democratic consultation about tiers.  Redbridge – half the land is for sale, should we make extra comments? JJ suggested putting it in a letter, Clerk to get info from JJ and CA to enable this. |
| 669/20 | **Time & Date of next meeting**  Meeting ended 8.07pm  Next meeting will take place on December 1 2020, 7pm by Zoom  First 2021 meeting will take place January 5 2021 |

**Signed by Chair:..........…………………………………………………………..Date:…………….**

**Signed by Clerk: …………...………………………………………………………Date:…………….**