

STAPLEFORD ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL

c/o Ellie Thomas, Clerk 131 Bentley Drive, Church Langley, Harlow, Essex CM17 9QY Tel: 07599 249962

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Draft Minutes of the Council Meeting 7.15pm Tuesday JULY 1 2025

Present:

Councillors: Jayne Jackson (Chair) (JJ) Marion Francis (MF) Kim Lidlow (KL) Colleen Atkinson (CA)

Officers: Ellie Thomas, Clerk

In attendance: 8 Residents/ Visitors

1350/25	Apologies for Absence		
	None from SAPC Members – only from Cllr C Amos (EFDC)		
1351/25	Declarations of Interest		
	None		
1352/25	Minutes of last Meeting		
	Confirmed as a true record		
1353/25	Clerk’s Report		
	Bulletins from EFDC, ECC, EALC, Police, Travel Essex, Speedwatch, Tourism Essex, Libraries and Trading Standards circulated. Lorries on bridges: nothing from Theydon Bois as yet. Lambourne have not noticed an increase or had any complaints from residents but will research. Chris Finney of NERA residents association and NotoMoto has been thanked for his presentation last time and is keeping us up to date with news. A large poster has gone up at the village hall and he is sending material for the website. There will be updates in August edition of Linkup under SAPC. Clerk approached Welcome Break for an update but heard nothing from their PR people. Gallows Corner closure is now online with a map. Updates will be added as and when. Consultation details also online. Chapel House fence - Clerk approached EFDC twice for plans and info – nothing yet. Notice Board at bus stop – Clerk has sent Matt Bates details of the board and stand - awaiting his advice. Clerk saw “Liam The Sign Guy” in Instagram – he is fairly local so we have messaged him about sign cleaning (possibly pro bono). He is popular so the may be a waiting list so other options will be explored too. EALC queried payment of our affiliation fees - they were sent last month.		
1354/25	Matters for Report		
	Chapel House Fence: Laurel is a nature plant. Parish Council do not have any plans, or details on hedge care. It is unsure how the application was passed as it's too high. the hedge is on the highway and the Tysea Hill sign should be replaced outside the fence. Action – to speak to Alex in EFDC Planning and possible then to enforcement. To determine - are there consequences to it being left for a certain length of time. Does it become legal, and if so how long would that be?		
1355/25	Finance		
	Transactions for the month – All agreed and actioned.		
	E THOMAS	CLERK JUNE2025	407
1356/25	Planning (Development Control & Enforcement Team)		
	● EPF/0941/25 Wrights Farm, Bournebridge Lane, Stapleford Abbots, Romford, RM4 1LU No objection providing neighbours don’t object and that they have a condition not to change to a dwelling in the future. There's a precedent locally, as one of the neighbours has a garage like this. The height seems quite high for cars. We would question that. ● EPF/1105/25 Wrights Farm, Bournebridge Lane, Stapleford Abbots, Romford, RM4 1LU No objection – but why was Meadow View not notified. ● EPF/1192/25 5, Kensington Park, Stapleford Abbots, Romford, RM4 1AF (TPO/EPF/01/09) No objection, so long as the tree is maintained and managed. Clerk to contact EFDC Trees to inspect the tree at gated house over the road from Village Hall - oak on left looks dead.		
1357/25	Parish Council Projects		
	Flower festival sponsorship for the toilet: clerk to write to estate agents to see how they arrange sponsoring projects and announcing it on their boards. Caplin, Bairstow Eves., John D Wood, Balgores, Durden and Hunter, Butler and Stagg and any others local		
1358/25	Correspondence		
	Alex Burghardt MP acknowledged the copy-in from our email re. the HGV lorries: they told us to refer to Brentwood Borough Council. He has contacted them and is awaiting a response, which will be forwarded when he receives it. JJ has contacted Julia at Havering Council, who has had the same problems with the lorries. JJ is sending information to him re speed and safety at the school. Salt Bag Scheme - up and running. Clerk contacted Stephanie at EALC about how many houses constitute only 1 pallet, as we ran out of it within the first month of delivery last year. The village has also increased in size and we require more. No response yet.		
1359/25	Meetings of Outside Bodies and Training Courses		
	None		
1360/25	Highways		
	Passingford Roundabout flood issue has been fixed. Affinity Water was in the village this week, uncertain why. ECC Highways surveyed Oak Hill Green site – remarked it was very dangerous. They should commence in two weeks, for two years work.		
1361/25	Matters for future Agendas		

	"Green" projects in conjunction with the church
1362/25	Open Forum
	Church Report: toilet is in position and sanitation is in preparation but won't be finished for flower festival. £8500 pounds short. Suggest Parish Council and Church could look at how to make the community greener as church HQ are promoting this. Ask the school and research Essex County development scheme grants. Lamborne Flower Festival, 12th and 13th July. Stapleford Abbots Flower Festival 26th and 27th July. Appeal for large cakes for the festival, due to sickness among their team. John Freeman ill – SAPC to send an E-card to him. Crossfire BBQ – 3rd August. Book your tickets now, because it's going fast. Coronation trail, 22nd August. The poster should be able to be legible in black and white, because it is going to be in Linkup. There are spare numbers for the 100 club – ask church for details. Trevor at EFDC will go and see residents re. responsibility for the land at Spencer's farm, The residents who were worried about light pollution by their property said that it is now resolved. Meadowbrook new houses: Clerk to write to nos 1-8 to explain about new black, blue and green bin system from EFDC: New bins, green for grass waste, black for ordinary domestic waste, and blue for any recycling. They will all be around in July. Also send a caution about leaving binbags outside the gated wall. Please note that every resident is responsible for their own rubbish. There has been a rumour that soon we will have to pay for green bins, but it's not been proved yet. # Action - to ask enforcement to check the for-sale sign is removed. PC Footpaths: July 25: - Alongside the vegetation clearance at this time of year the team are working with Essex to clear defects which are registered on the online reporting site. These include reopening of 37 with the locked gate at Stapleford Road, noted in last month's report, and currently working on the removal of the farm apparatus blocking route 31 at the church, a tree disposed of by a resident blocking footpath 33, which runs from the Top Oak to Nupers Hatch and a drainage ditch that has been dug across footpath 17/18 across the fields between Nupers Hatch and Olives Farm. - Our usual plea to please continue to report any issues on our village footpaths using the Essex highways tell us/report a problem site and select PROW. It really does help keep our beautiful footpaths open and maintained. We do work through the cases reported as quickly as possible. - No update on PROW 22, the footpath which passes through High House Farm, as yet which should be open. For now, walkers will need to continue to use the alternative 37 route which is back open. - Walkers may find slight changes to their usual routes as we are working to reinstate footpaths to the definitive legal line rather than habitual routes which have come about over the years. This is an important piece of work to ensure where land ownership changes paths are not lost due to walkers re-routing around fields and properties due to correct lines having been blocked or moved over the years. An example of this is footpath 5 which runs through the gardens of the properties on Church Lane forcing walkers onto the narrow road. We will keep you updated of adjustments to routes through reports. One completed re-route is footpath 8 which is part of the Rogation Walk. - Many thanks as always to all those who help keep our beautiful rights of way accessible. More volunteers always welcome. Contact Catherine Burnett if you are able to join. High House farm site was advertising an open house/ development land available sign - this sign is gone now. JJ to ask Stormbond, the owners of the land about this. For public right of way 22 progress, JJ also to ask Stormbond.
1363/25	Time & Date of next meeting
	NEXT MEETING 2/9/25 AT 19:15. No meeting in August. KL gave apologies in advance. Meeting today closed. 20.28.

Signed by Chair: Date:

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