



STANSTEAD ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL

Telephone and text: 07943602877 – Email: clerk@stansteadabbottsparishcouncil.gov.uk

Stanstead Abbots Parish Council Meeting

Held on Thursday 24th June 2021 at 7.45pm

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Mike Dormon (Chairman), Sarah Chapman, Mariesa Howlett, Julia Witting

OTHERS PRESENT: Cllr Eric Buckmaster (Hertfordshire County Council)
Sarah Neighbour (Parish Clerk)

11/21 PUBLIC FORUM

There were two members of the public present, one spoke about the Parish magazine. Lynn Paddon talked about the plans to reinstate a 3 parishes magazine. Residents can sign up to an electronic version or a paper copy for free. Funding would need to be provided from Stanstead Abbots Parish Council, Stanstead St Margarets Parish Council and Great Amwell Parish Council for the magazine to go ahead.

12/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Paul Breach, George Cassidy, Julia Davies, John Hickford, Chris Poulton*
Cllr Joe Dumont (East Herts District Council)

*Due to the current social distancing restrictions, government guidance only allows a maximum of six people to meet indoors, as a result several members stood down to allow the meeting to go ahead in person.

13/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

14/21 DISPENSATIONS

None needed.

15/21 APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on the 27th of May 2021 were agreed by the Council and were signed by the Chair.

Cllrs are reminded that minutes circulated are taken as read at the next meeting. If they have any comments, they should contact the Clerk prior to the meeting.

16/21 TO APPOINT A VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

RESOLVED: Cllr Mo Howlett was appointed Vice Chairman of the Council on unanimous vote.



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17/21 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

A report from Cllr Buckmaster was circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. Cllr Buckmaster advised that he is now a Cabinet Member at Hertfordshire County Council, and his portfolio is Environment and Waste, which means the Minerals Plan is now in his remit. He advised that the Gilston development has been further delayed and there will be an announcement soon. Cllr Buckmaster left the meeting after this item.

18/21 CRIME AND POLICING IN STANSTEAD ABBOTTS

Cllr Chapman gave an update on the latest police priority setting forum. The two main areas of focus in Stanstead Abbots by the police continue to be drug dealing and speeding. Cllr Witting highlighted that a resident recently raised concerns after witnessing drug dealing in the car park at St Margarets train station. Councillors want to encourage residents witnessing a crime to report it to the police who can use the CCTV as a tool.

19/21 BUDGET AND PAYMENTS

RESOLVED: The payments and bank reconciliations for May and June 2021 were approved.

20/21 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 20/21

1. The Internal Audit Report 2020/21 and its recommendations were noted; and
2. The signed Annual Internal Audit Report 20/21 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ending 31st March 2021 was noted.

21/21 THE ANNUAL RETURN 2020/21 AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

1. **RESOLVED:** Section 1 - Governance Statements of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ending 31st March 2021 was approved.
2. **RESOLVED:** Section 2 - Accounting Statements of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ending 31st March 2021 was approved.
3. **RESOLVED:** The dates for the Period for the Exercise of Public Rights of Monday 28th June to Friday 6th August 2021 was approved and the relevant notice advising of such rights will therefore be displayed on the Council website and on the noticeboards

22/21 PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MEADOW

The Chairman and Clerk met with officers at East Herts District Council to discuss the Parish Council applying for some monies from The Welcome Back Fund to purchase some additional seating for the village playground and the Meadow.

1. **RESOLVED:** the Chairman to sign the Welcome Back Fund Service Level Agreement on behalf of the Parish Council.
2. **RESOLVED:** expenditure of up to of £5,000 for new seating for the village playground and the Meadow to be reclaimed in full as part of the Welcome Back Fund via East Herts Council was approved.
3. **RESOLVED:** the draft costings and re-design of the Meadow area as a seating and potential barbeque area to the Management and Traffic Committee was approved.



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23/21 PLANNING

Planning applications can be viewed on the East Herts District Council website at: <https://publicaccess.eastherts.gov.uk>. Please enter the application reference, keyword or address and then Search

Applications submitted where deadline has passed were noted:

3/21/1230/HH PROPOSAL: Single storey front and rear extensions AT 3 Abbots Court High Street Stanstead Abbots Hertfordshire SG12 8UZ CONSULTATION Deadline: Please send me your comments by: 9th June 2021

Current Planning Applications –

3/21/1476/ARPN PROPOSAL: Change of use of Agricultural Buildings to create 2 dwellings AT Black Barn Halfway House Farm Stanstead Road Hertfordshire CONSULTATION Deadline: Please send me your comments by: 30th June 2021

Planning Application Decisions were noted –

3/21/0647/HH : Loft conversion with three roof lights and replacement windows . AT: 133 Cappell Lane Stanstead Abbots, Hertfordshire SG12 8DA. this matter was considered by the Council on the 7th May 2021 and it was decided to Grant Planning Permission subject to Conditions.

Other Planning Items –

Update on the progress of Websters Planning Application for the Netherfield Lane Brownfield Site

The Chair reported that it was possible that the outstanding application for 20 houses and 8,000 square foot of commercial space on the Netherfield Lane Brownfield site would go to EHDC Committee in July. It is understood that it has officer recommendation for approval.

24/21 NEW LGA MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT

The Chairman and the clerk recently attended some training provided by HAPTC on the new model Member Code of Conduct and a Councillor training session is available on 7th July 6- 8pm which all Councillors are encouraged to attend.

RESOLVED: The new LGA Member Code of Conduct including EAST HERTS DISTRICTS COUNCIL amendment (previously circulated) was approved.

25/21 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - UPDATE

Cllr Chapman advised that an onsite meeting was held for the residents of Netherfield Lane which was well attended, the questions and responses have been added to the neighbourhood plan website at: www.stansteadabbottsneighbourhoodplan.uk. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group are currently fine tuning the policies. A mediation meeting is taking place on 29th June to try and come to an agreement on sites to put forward in the plan.



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26/21 CCTV UPDATE

Cllr Cassidy and Cllr Dormon attended a very interesting site visit in Stevenage to view the CCTV control room. There are currently between 5 and 10 criminal incidents a month in Stanstead Abbots and we hope to start receiving a monthly report on these incidents. A recent fly tipping incident which occurred in Kitten Lane was picked up by the CCTV and the footage was used by the police to catch the individuals concerned who were issued with a fine.

27/21 SPEEDING IN THE VILLAGE

Cllr Cassidy has applied for a Speed Indicator Device (SID), the clerk will look into signing the parish council up to the 20's Plenty for Hertfordshire campaign.

28/21 LITTER, FLY-TIPPING AND RUBBISH COLLECTION

Councillors commented that the village is looking a lot more litter free thanks to the continued efforts of public volunteers going out and regularly litter picking.

29/21 PARISH MAGAZINE UPDATE

Councillors thanked Lynn Paddon for her update at the start of the meeting. They requested a further update on costs at the next Council meeting.

30/21 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday 9th September 2021 at 7.45pm.

Signed Chair Date.....