

STAPLE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting, Wednesday 10th July 2019
Staple Village Hall

Present: Cllr Bartlett (in the Chair)
 Cllr G McCollum
 Cllr N McCollum
 Cllr J Kirk
 Cllr Loukes
 District Cllr Conolly
 Acting Clerk to the Council Miss L Fidler
 6 Members of the public

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr D Kirk (holiday) and Cllr Mrs Coulson (holiday).

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interest were made.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Staple Parish Council held on 12th June 2019 were received and considered.

RESOLUTION: The Minutes were approved as accurate and signed.

4. DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL & KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

Cllr Bartlett provided the following updates:

- (i) The Dover District Council Community Grant Scheme 2019/20 has opened. Applications for the 2019/20 DDC Community Grant Scheme will close at 12 noon on Monday 19th August 2019 and grants of up to £1000 are available.
- (ii) East Kent Housing were found to be at fault on gas safety records, swift action is now being taken to correct this matter.
- (iii) A consultation appraisal scheme will start soon on the future of Tides Leisure Centre, which is now 30 years old, and a number of options will be considered – move the centre, rebuild the centre, don't move/rebuild but improve existing.
- (iv) A new joint approach between Dover District Council and Folkestone and Hythe District Council is aimed at helping rough sleepers within the districts. The councils have been successful in obtaining government funding for two bids totalling £422,000 to tackle homelessness and reduce rough sleeping. The money will pay for 8 new posts managed by the homelessness charity Porchlight. These posts include 2 specialist 'Navigators', who will support vulnerable female rough sleepers and those suffering from addictions. There will also be a new specialist Mental Health provision across both council areas, giving vital support to rough sleepers who suffer from mental health issues. Rough Sleeping Coordinator Alan White is managing the bids within the two districts.
- (v) Attendance at the "Dover District Local Plan – Town & Parish Council Meeting" on 25th July 2019 was considered.

RESOLUTION: Cllr Bartlett and Cllr N McCollum will attend this event.

5. PUBLIC RIGHT TO SPEAK

A local resident noted that there's a problem with dog owners visiting the village to walk their dogs and leaving uncollected dog waste and bags of waste behind. This is particularly problematic in the layby outside Orchard Lea, The Street.

RESOLUTION: Cllr Bartlett will raise this matter with Dover District Council.

6. SANDWICH TAXI BUS SERVICE

The following report was read out by the Clerk on behalf of Mrs S Facey "The service is being well received by those who use it. The drivers are extremely friendly and helpful, particularly insofar as the "hail and ride" stops are concerned.

The Staple take-up is better than Northbourne and Great Mongeham but a new turning point in Great Mongeham has been identified, which provides a better link with buses to Deal, and this is now being used and should help improve the Northbourne/Great Mongeham usage.

Funding for an extra later run has been approved by Great Mongeham and it is hoped that Northbourne will approve their share of the funding at their meeting tomorrow (11th July). Grant applications have been made to KCC through the Combined Member Grants Scheme, and also to Sandwich Town Council. The grants are being requested in an effort to reduce the financial burden on the parishes concerned.

Timetable amendments have been agreed with Northbourne and Great Mongeham and are in agreement with what Britannia has found in light of experience. These provide for turnaround time in Staple and Great Mongeham as well as breaks for the drivers. The revised timetable, which includes the extra run, has been submitted for consideration to KCC.

John Kirk has kindly set up a dedicated Taxi-Bus section on the Staple-online website. This includes information relating to the service plus a means whereby individuals can provide feedback on the bus service."

Mrs Facey was thanked for her ongoing support and correspondence.

7. COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH & SID REPORT

The following information was provided by Cllr Loukes:

Speedwatch

We have been doing Speedwatch for 7 months and have recorded 128 vehicles exceeding the 35mph speed criterion. During June we recorded 21 vehicles.

Overall in Kent 7346 vehicles were recorded last month!

5 letters were sent out by the Police for speeding - 4 for second offences (one of these without Tax) and one for a third offence.

In Staple 85% of vehicles are travelling at or below 38 mph which means in the event that they need to stop in an emergency they travel roughly an extra 12 metres given normal conditions on the road and average driver. That could mean the difference between life and death.

We have six sessions planned for July and a further 5 in August.

Speed Indicating Device

Durlock Road - north direction

85 % of vehicles were traveling at or below a speed of 35.8 mph

Max Speed = 70.0 mph on 25/06/2019 21:55:00

Total Vehicles = 16,747 counts

Average Speed: 26.3 mph

The Street - west bound

85 % of vehicles were traveling at or below a speed of 35.0 mph

Max Speed = 65.0 mph on 22/06/2019 05:40:00

Total Vehicles = 22,561 counts

Average Speed: 26.5 mph

RESOLUTIONS:

- (i) **The Clerk will introduce Cllr Loukes and Mr T Butler (Intelligent Transport Systems Manager at KCC) to discuss installation of another pole for use with the SIDs.**
- (ii) **The Clerk will find out if a “Highways Improvement Plan” for the parish would be supported by KCC.**

8. PLANNING

The following updates were provided:

- (i) The footpath at the Land Adjacent to Orchard Lea The Street Staple CT3 1LN planned for four dwellings is only intended for the private use of these dwellings and the Highways Officer at KCC has confirmed that KCC have no intentions of adopting any footpath at this development. Cllr Barlett has queried this with DDC, as this footpath is stipulated for public use on the planning application.
- (ii) A planning application in connection with Barnsole House is expected soon.
- (iii) Cllr Bartlett has asked DDC to investigate the purpose of a caravan on the site opposite the Village Hall.

9. FINANCE

- (i) The following cheques were presented for approval:

Amount: £190.00

Cheque # 200318

To: Miss L Fidler

For: Invoice received for services of an Acting Parish Clerk in July 2019.

Amount: £243.91

Cheque # 200319

To: Kent Association of Local Councils

For: Annual Subscription for 2019/20

Amount: £39.18

Cheque # 200320

To: Miss M Barden

For: Mower fuel for Old Church Yard

RESOLUTION: The above listed payments were approved and the cheques were authorised.

- (ii) Matters relating to the audit for 2018/19 were deferred and an extra-ordinary Council meeting will be arranged for August to consider the Annual Governance & Accountability Return.

10. FOOTPATHS REPORT

There were no updates or matters raised.

11. HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

- (i) A pothole in Wingham will be reported to KCC.
- (ii) A report from Cllr D Kirk was read out regarding the condition of the two bus shelters in Shatterling.

RESOLUTIONS:

- a) **For £90.00 Mr D Kirk should cut down, bag up, and appropriately dispose of the ivy that covers the bus shelter nearest to Ash.**
- b) **For £120.00 Mr D Kirk should remove the Verdigris covering the bus shelter nearest Wingham, repair the top surround and repaint the bus shelter. Councillors considered information obtained from Miss Palgrave relating to the “Parish Bus Shelter Grant Application 2019/20”.**

- (iii) A report from Cllr D Kirk was read out regarding the condition of the Old Church Yard wall.

RESOLUTION: Cllr Bartlett, Cllr McCollum and the Clerk will each obtain a quote to repair the Old Church Yard wall.

2) Most cars are speeding and they speed most on Durlock Road.

3) Durlock recorded a 90mph record at 12:50 on Saturday 2

nd

December beating even the previous Shatterling

best.

4)

Statistics month by month and day by day are pretty consistent. Even week-ends are

similar to week-days

without the peaks as marked.

12. VILLAGE HALL & RECREATION GROUND

Cllr J Kirk reported that the committee room has been redecorated, meaning that the entire building has now been done. The window frames and gutters will now be considered for repair. Cllr D Kirk has undertaken a play area inspection. No damage followed the Country Fayre. And no suspicious vehicles have been seen since CCTV was installed.

13. CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

(i) It was AGREED that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.

(ii) Councillors were asked to consider the employment status of the Acting Clerk to the Council and the recruitment of a new Clerk to the Council.

RESOLUTION: Cllrs J Kirk, T Barlett and G McCollum will interview the candidates for Clerk to the Parish and the Clerk will draft questions to be asked.

14. ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

No additional correspondence was reported.

15. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Staple Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 11th September 2019 at 7.30pm. An extra-ordinary meeting in August will also be arranged, date & time TBC.

The meeting was closed by Cllr Bartlett at 21:00hrs

Approved: (Chairman)