

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF STURRY PARISH COUNCIL HELD VIRTUALLY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS  
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 3<sup>RD</sup> 2021.**

The meeting was opened by the chairman at 19.11. The delay in starting the meeting was due to technical IT problems.

**Present** – Cllrs Ashley Bubb (Chair of the meeting), Steve Birch, Sharron Hogben, John Hogben, Ann Davies, Peter Wenham, Trevor Pilbeam, Carole Birch (was able to see and hear the meeting but could only communicate via text), County Cllr Alan Marsh, District Cllr Georgina Glover and 6 members of the public. Anne Stevenson (Clerk to Sturry Parish Council joined the meeting at 19.30 hours).

Minutes were taken by Cllr Ann Davies.

Members of the public present

Liam Johnson

Mr. Johnson

Ken Dekker

Garry Smith

Sue Thompson

Roshna Ahmed

**7060 Apologies for absence.** Heather Taylor. Ben Davies still struggling with IT and can't get into the meeting, Jo Hitchcock, Alan Webster, Louise Harvey-Quirke.

James Brett from Environ Homes was unable to attend the meeting.

**Public questions**

Garry Smith – didn't have an agenda – commented on and set out concerns over the size of the development, that we already have chronic problems with parking in the high street and that sufficient parking for all staff and customers had not been provided on site.

Mr. Johnson commented on CA/20/02882 11 High Street, also concerned over the additional parking needed and was further concerned over noise and disturbance late at night from people walking back to cars parked on the street.

**7061. To receive Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Significant Interests and Voluntary Announcements of Other Interests on any agenda items and a reminder to think of any changes to the DPI Register held at CCC such as change of job or home**

Cllr Davies declared an interest in Item 7070 having been involved in distributing the leaflets.

**7062. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held virtually January 13<sup>th</sup> 2021 (and to note that these will be signed by the Chairman at a later date when face to face meetings can resume).**

Cllr Davies asked for a small amendment to minutes for item 4048 "Only half of the site in question was mentioned in the Local Plan." should read "Only half of the site in question was mentioned in the SHLAA (Strategic Housing land Availability Appraisal) prior to its allocation in the Local Plan..." Cllr Davies apologised for not spotting this sooner. The Chairman will ask for the amended minutes to be brought back to the next meeting for approval.

### **7063 Matters arising not agenda items.**

Item 7047 The toilet for the cemetery as now been delivered and installed. (I didn't work out exactly who was speaking for the next but.....) Some Cllrs said the toilets were still locked, Cllr Bubb (I think) said that the key is the same as needed for the gate and all those with a gate key can get in. The work to trees in the cemetery will be done this week.

### **7064 Chairman and Councillors' Reports**

No reports

### **7065 County and District Councillors' Reports**

City Cllr. Georgina Glover – Two planning applications affecting Sturry will be coming to Planning Committee this week. There has been a review of car parking and the budget and council tax and policy will be set next week. A list of car parks remaining and a modification of changes to parking charges open was given.

County Cllr Alan Marsh reported that he would be chairing CCC Parking Review on 16/17<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and stated that the word review should be change. The review included extending the double yellow lines in Fordwich Road and there being no parking allowed on the pavements. Also a request had been received for a parking ban in the lay-by and verge outside the Mercedes garage. Cllr Marsh suggested SPC should respond to both of these changes.

Cllr Marsh will monitor the application for the Sturry development as it goes to committee on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

Cllr Marsh reported that the budget for KCC would mean an increase in Council Tax of 4.9% which he had personally lobbied against.

Brexit is going well despite some concerns, although there are still some lorries at Manston where the drivers had tested positive for Covid-19, the cases of which in Kent have dropped from 60,000 to 19,000 but Cllr Marsh reported latest information suggested droplets can actually travel 8m/25ft so the current guidance of 2m social distancing would require extra controls so recommended wearing a face covering everywhere except in the home.

Clerk took over taking the minutes at this time.

Cllr Harvey-Quirke sent in the following report

*Good Evening all,*

*Apologies for not being with you this evening.*

*I have an update for you on the adjustments to the highway along Shalloak Road, Broad Oak; Last week, several residents contacted both Georgina and me in relation to the new access at Goose Farm. This is for application **CA/1801906** (storage of seasonal worker caravans), which was granted at Planning in 2018.*

*When adjustments to the highway commenced, residents believed the conditions of grant were not being met. Therefore, Enforcement is currently dealing with this. In addition, the issues with the grounds water going into the sewers have been passed to Alan Marsh.*

*I have contacted Enforcement for an update and will reach out to you when I know more.*

*As per my email in the week regarding the sports provision contribution from the Sturry/Broad Oak development – Mr Thomas, Head of Planning, has confirmed that the Section 106 is flexible. Therefore, if Sturry Parish Council can identify a project in Sturry for sports provision, discussions can take place about the possibility of moving that funding over. This is time sensitive, as I explained in the email.*

*The new waste company, Canenco, is now up and running. Contact details are on the Canterbury City Council Website, plus I have shared them on social media too. Currently, I believe the quickest way to report missed bins is using the online tool. However, if anyone has any issues using this method for any reason, please reach out to me. In relation to Canenco, there continues to be staffing issues caused by Covid which may affect service delivery.*

*Recycling collections have been slightly behind in some areas. However, I have not been notified that this refers to Sturry.*

*There have been issues with food collections. However, new, dedicated food collection vehicles will be in service soon, which will hopefully remedy any outstanding issues.*

*There are as many staff and vehicle resources out on the roads as possible. Catch up collections will be taking place in addition to scheduled collections. Therefore, residents are being advised to leave missed bins out. As before, these can be reported online.*

*As city councillors, we have been given a single point of contact. Therefore, if any issues arise, please report these to Georgina or myself as your ward councillors. This will help coordinate enquiries and avoid duplication*

*The Sturry/ Broad Oak applications will be appearing at the Planning Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> February, as outlined in my email to you last week. As before, I will be speaking at the meeting and refraining from voting. This is due to the position I previously held on Sturry Parish Council, who are a statutory consultee on the applications and as such, have publicly commented.*

*Once again, I apologise for not being with you this evening. I do, however, hope to see you tomorrow for your Extraordinary meeting.*

#### **7066. Community Warden and Police Officers reports.**

Community Warden report was read out by Clerk as follows –

A warning regarding Investments Scams along with details of how to contact Kent Police Action Fraud on 0300 123 2940 or [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)

Vaccine Scams - If you receive an email, text message or phone call purporting to be from the NHS and you are asked to provide financial details, or pay for the vaccine, this is a scam .

If you are not sure if an email or letter is genuine, then contact your GP to confirm or if you receive a call supposedly from the NHS/GP and you are still not sure, then ring them back via a Trusted number using a different phone to the one which you were rung on or if you do not have another phone to hand, then ring a family member or friend to ensure that your line has been cleared.

“The bottom line though is that the NHS will never ask for payment or bank details for the vaccine.”  
If you believe that you may have fallen victim to this type of scam, then please contact your Bank immediately and then report to Action Fraud as soon as possible

#### Resurgence of HMRC scams

As we get closer to the end of the financial year and with us all in the continuing lock down, fraudsters will look to take advantage of the situation by sending out emails, texts and phone calls promising Tax refunds and requesting your financial details or with threats that you owe tax and will be arrested.

HMRC will never send you an email or text requesting you click on a link or call you to say you need to pay a fine and that you need to pay by Gift Cards. Beware of requests to also pay fines directly by Bank Transfer, as these are scams. Never send copies of passports or other identity documents as these can be used by the fraudsters for identity theft. Always protect your personal data.

If you believe that you may have fallen victim to this type of scam, then please contact your Bank immediately and then report to Action Fraud as soon as possible by calling 0300 123 2040

#### Mental Wellbeing – Every Mind Matters.

This week saw the launch of a much needed national campaign to include new resources such as a Coronavirus and mental wellbeing toolkit from [nhs./uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters](https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters).

National census – Census will take place on March 21<sup>st</sup> 2021 and our local Census Engagement Manager is Carl Dewhurst who will have posters and information available.

Free Flood Warden Training is available with information on [www.kentprepared.org.uk/flood-wardens](http://www.kentprepared.org.uk/flood-wardens)

A report from the local PCSO was read out as follows – Burglary in Milner Court 6.1.21

Flytipping – Popes Lane 17.1.21

General patrolling by Police for crime and ant-social behaviour.

#### **7067. Village Caretaker’s report.**

None available.

#### **7068. Cemetery report.**

In Jo Hitchcock’s absence, Clerk reported the work on the trees had been moved forward to 4.2.21, the new watering cans had been purchased and the toilet was now in place. Cllr Carole Birch asked why the toilet was locked and was told this was to protect it from vandalism but that the code to unlock it was the same as the code for the cemetery gates so people who had a genuine reason to be visiting the site would be able to access it and it would be unlocked before any funeral took place.

#### **7069. Clerk’s report.**

The food bank is still going strong and we are still receiving the meat on Sundays from Brogdale Butchers and we still have some of the vouchers left for use at Broad Oak Farm Shop. We have a core of residents that we are supporting but if there are any others that you may know of that would

benefit from this, please let Jo or Clerk know and again, a big thank you to Trevor and Doreen for their continued support and work on this.

Clerk attended the virtual meeting with CCC and other parishes on Monday evening where the local plan review, neighbourhood plans and Village Design Statements along with the Community Infrastructure Levy were on the agenda and presentations were delivered on all three. There was some useful information in the presentations and once the minutes etc. have been sent out, Clerk will circulate everything to Cllrs. The next meeting will take place on March 1<sup>st</sup> with climate change on the agenda.

Clerk has been asked about the situation with virtual meetings and confirmed virtual Parish Council meetings are allowed until early May this year under the Covid-19 legislation and as yet, this has not been amended but NALC are lobbying the Govt. to have an extension to this given the current situation. Clerk will update Cllrs when further information is available.

Clerk is taking some lieu time and annual leave next week which Cllr Bubb has agreed and will be back on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February but will prepare the planning meeting agenda ready for publishing and distribution during her absence.

Cllr Bubb handed the meeting over to Cllr Ann Davies to Chair.

#### **7070. Planning-**

CA/21/00023, 28 High Street, CT2 0AX. Change of use from retail ground floor and house in multiple occupation on first and second floors to 3 no. residential dwellings. **Last objection date 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021.**

Cllr Davies introduced this application and informed the meeting that the site was Stockbridge Carpets. Cllr John Hogben queried the number of residential properties planned with a view to lack of parking for vehicles connected with these properties.

Cllr Davies reported there was planned parking to the rear of the premises but agreed that the area identified would seem to be too small and the whole application looked to be very cramped resulting in vehicles having to reverse out on to the main road.

Cllr Bubb agreed re the parking and went on to query the legality of possibly driving over the pavement to access the parking, but Cllr Davies stated there was a drive shown on the plans and Cllr Steve Birch reported that there must be access to enable deliveries to be made at present.

Cllr Davies thought that there would not be enough space to enable vehicles to manoeuvre safely.

Cllr Steve Birch stated that if parking was to be limited by CCC review both in the High Street and by the Mercedes garage, this application if granted would cause major parking issues.

Cllr John Hogben confirmed there was a dropped kerb outside the property but it was on the bend which was far from ideal.

Cllr Davies called for a vote on whether to object to this application on grounds of limited parking and access. Agreed unanimously.

**Resolved – SPC to object to this application on the grounds of access and lack of suitable parking.**

CA/20/02882, 11 11 High Street, Sturry, CT2 0BD. Application for listed building consent for internal/external alterations including single-storey rear extension to public house with covered walkway and associated works. **Last objection date 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021.**

Cllr Davies introduced this application and informed the meeting it was regarding The Swan public house, which application had been submitted some time previously and SPC had objected to it then. Cllr Davies continued that with 6 holiday homes plus staff/residents of The Swan, building onto part of the car park and garden would reduce the available parking dramatically with only 12 spaces available on the property itself .

Cllr Bubb asked what the application for the building was for and was told a carvery and pub which he agreed would lead to an increase in the number of cars trying to park in an already limited number of suitable areas, but added that if the holiday homes were removed from the application so the whole of the current space on the site could be used for customer parking, this would be more acceptable. Cllr Davies agreed.

Cllr Pilbeam added that staff vehicles also had to be included which would put the number of cars parked even higher.

Cllr Steve Birch asked if parking in The Hamels would be allowed but was informed this land was owned by The King's School and there were signs up that prevented parking apart from people attending church services. It was also agreed that parking in Church Lane would also not be a feasible option.

Cllr John Hogben summed up the application by saying it was a good idea but in the wrong place, Cllr Bubb agreed and added that a new business in the High Street would be welcomed but this application wasn't practical due to the lack of available parking.

Cllr Davies called for a vote on objecting to the application as it stood but if the holiday homes were removed to enable parking, to support the application.- Agreed unanimously.

**Resolved – SPC to object to the application on the grounds of lack of parking but to support the carvery if the holiday homes part of the application is removed.**

Cllr Davies handed back the meeting to Cllr Bubb to chair.

**7071. To discuss and decide on any donation from Sturry Parish Council to the cost of printing leaflets regarding planning application CA/20/02826.**

Cllr Bubb reported that the Working Group had sent out leaflets to all properties in the parish at their own expense and asked whether SPC should reimburse them.

Cllr Steve Birch stated there was a budget for this and that the group should be repaid in full as the invoice had been circulated by Clerk as proof of payment. Cllr Pilbeam agreed.

Cllr Bubb proposed the full amount of £65.99 be repaid to the Working Group, seconded by Cllr Pilbeam. All in favour.

**Resolved - £65.99 to be paid to the Working Group.**

**7071. To discuss and decide on disposal of old iPads.**

Cllr Pilbeam asked if anything had been decided on what to do with the old iPads as he had been made aware of a scheme run by the BBC called Make a Difference where such devices were given to children working from home in then lock down who didn't have access to any suitable device.

Cllrs thought this as a good idea but Cllr Sharron Hogben felt they should be donated to local schools. All agreed.

Cllr Bubb asked Clerk to investigate a way where we could donate the iPads locally and to donate them once a school had been identified.

**Resolved- Clerk to contact local schools with a view to donating the old iPads.**

**7072. To discuss and decide issues regarding the footpath towards the river and how Sturry Parish Council can improve and protect this deferred from previous meetings.**

Cllr Davies reported she had spoken to Ashley Clark and also Philip Lewis from Fordwich Town Council regarding this issue. Ashley Clark had warned it would be slow progress and Fordwich Town Council had suggested holding a joint meeting to work together to make the area a protected site. It was agreed that working together would be the best way forward. Cllr Davies suggested getting the application forms prior to any meeting with Fordwich Town Council and stated losing access to this land would be a great loss to the community. The forms for a footpath creation are available via KCC but proper plans would be required and there would be costs involved. Also, the application would need to be advertised. Cllr Davies went on to suggest getting the plans together with the application forms before holding the joint meeting. All agreed.

**Resolved – SPC to apply for application form and to draw up plans before meeting with Fordwich Town Council.**

**7073. An update on Brett’s land and to discuss and decide how to take forward the proposal to have this area designated as green space deferred from previous meetings.**

Cllr Bubb reported that Sturry Football Club had still not received their confirmed contract as the person dealing with it had become ill.

Cllr Davies reported that she had spoken to Ashley Clark who had experience in applying for village green status and he had stated status cannot be applied for if people use the area with permission of the owners, but that the owners of the land can apply themselves. Protection under a Local Plan can be removed by subsequent Local Plans so was no guarantee so granting of village green status was the best way forward.

Apart from Sturry Football Club, other organisations who would be affected would include the Canterbury and District Model Engineering Society, King’s School boatyard, the disabled sailing group and the angling society. A meeting with Fordwich Town Council would also be a way forward.

Cllr Bubb stated he would contact Ernie Millard and ask him to approach Bretts with a view to them applying for village green status.

Cllr Steve Birch asked if Cllr John Hogben had any further information and Cllr Hogben replied that Bretts would be moving out within 2 months but some of the material on site would take considerably longer to remove. Cllr Hogben also reported that he had been told all clubs and societies on the land would be safe and that some of the space had allegedly been rented by another company.

Cllr Bubb suggested a meeting with Fordwich Town Council. All agreed.

**Resolved – Clerk to contact Fordwich Town Council to arrange a joint meeting.**

**Cllr Bubb to contact Ernie Millard.**

**7074. Finance**

**a) To approve payments presented at this meeting.**

Spectrum Safety - £83.76 for servicing of fire extinguishers.

John Caddick - £1153.98 for grounds maintenance

Proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Pilbeam. All in favour.

**b) to report on monies received**

None

**Resolved – payments agreed.**

**7075. Any other matters of an urgent or special nature.**

Cllr Pilbeam asked if there was any news on the work being done to the entrance at Goose Farm and was told CCCC Enforcement were looking into it.

Cllr Carole Birch asked for the purchase of new Christmas lights to be put on the agenda for the March meeting.

**7076. To discuss and decide date and format of next council meeting.**

Wednesday March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021 via Microsoft Teams.

Public meeting closed 20.26 hours.

Signed .....

Dated .....

