

## ANSTY AND STAPLEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the online meeting of Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> June at 7:30pm.

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic the Government has introduced new regulations which allow Parish Councils to hold their meetings online. These are the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

**Members present:** Brad Williams (Chairman), Bob Birthwright, Crispin Salimbeni, Maria Fielding, James Steadman, Simon Stokes, Dhana Mahendran, Jon Gilley. Nuala Hampshire  
**Also present:** Liz Bennett (Clerk), , Pete Bradbury (MSDC and WSCC Councillor)

### **1. Chairman's introduction and guidance for online meetings.**

The chairman outlined the arrangements for the online meeting.

### **2. Public Session.**

There were no members of the public present.

### **3. Apologies for absence.**

All members were present.

### **4. Co-option of new Councillor for Brook Street.**

Nuala Hampshire was co-opted as a Parish Councillor for Brook Street.

### **5. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda.**

Crispin Salimbeni and Maria Fielding declared personal interests in agenda item 8a at Holmsted Farm because they are on village committees with people connected to the application.

### **6. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020.**

The minutes were AGREED.

### **7. Planning decisions.**

The following planning decisions were noted:

- a. DM/19/5144. Description: proposed loft conversion including raising the roof to create second storey with rear facing balcony. First floor south side extension over new car port below. Demolition of existing north side larder/w.c. and replacement single storey gabled extension. (revised plans received 16/04)  
Location: Dunroamin, Valebridge Road, Burgess Hill. Granted.
- b. DM/20/0842 Description: (amended plans 21.04.2020) demolition of existing dwelling, outbuildings and garage. Proposed two storey, five bedroom dwelling with two storey garage and associated landscaping works. Location: Silverdale, Bolney Road, Ansty. Granted.
- c. DM/20/1322 Proposal: erection of porch and installation of roof windows  
Location: 2 Stonecourt Cottages, Rose Cottage Lane, Staplefield. Lawful

development certificate issued.

- d. DM/20/1314 Description: single storey rear extension and removal of chimney stack. Location: 2 Stonecourt Cottages, Rose Cottage Lane, Staplefield. Granted.

## **8. Planning applications.**

- a. DM/20/1529 Application Type: Change of Use Application Proposal: Change of use of agricultural building to a car body repair workshop (Use Class B2). Site Address: Holmsted Farm, Staplefield Road, Cuckfield. No objection.
- b. DM/20/1514 Application Type: Householder Application Proposal: Single storey garden studio. Site Address: Brookfield, 3 Deaks Paddock, Ansty. No objection.
- c. DM/20/0254 Description: Reserved Matters application for DM/18/5114 - the first phase of the Western Link Road, comprising the construction of a new all movements roundabout on the A273 Jane Murray Way, a single carriageway 7.3-metre wide highway link with two 3-metre shared footways/cycleways and two 2.75-metre verges, connecting to the A2300 via a new all-movements roundabout, junction to the UKPN electricity substation, junction to future employment uses, zones for two minor junctions, signalised crossing points, earthworks, surface water and foul drainage infrastructure, utilities corridors, lighting, and landscaping. Amended plans and updated supported documents received 17th March 2020 detailing amendments including the extension of the southern boundary of the site to accommodate increased drainage basins and inclusion of bridleway on north side of A2300. (Transport note received 30th April, Amended plans received 12th May showing minor increase in width of application site area either side of the proposed link road corridor and amended biodiversity report, planning statement and additional sections received 29th May) Location: Land West Of Burgess Hill Between The A273 And A2300 Burgess Hill. The Parish Council does not object in principle but it is concerned that there is the potential for severe bottle necks to form because the road has roundabouts at either end, two zebra crossings and at 7.3m is quite narrow meaning cars will have to weave in and out of parked vehicles. If the road is difficult to drive on, cars will be tempted to take alternative routes through nearby villages such as Ansty that cannot cope with additional traffic.

## **9. MSDC/ WSCC Reports.**

Pete Bradbury had another engagement and so he provided an update before he left. MSDC has now paid out £25m in small business grants from funds provided by the Government. They have now reintroduced parking charges. WSCC have waived fees for businesses who place tables and chairs on pavements outside their premises. More items can now be taken to recycling centres.

## **10. Parish Council Finances.**

The financial statement showing the payments for approval, receipts in May and the bank reconciliation was AGREED. The invoices have been scanned and email to the Councillors who are bank signatories.

## **11. Affordable Housing Proposal.**

The Clerk provided the advice that she obtained from MSDC legal department, which

confirmed the Parish Council's thinking. The site could be gifted to the Parish Council and then developed as a Rural Exception Site if there was a demonstrated need. If the affordable homes are gifted as part of the planning application for a wider development, then the Parish Council cannot take part in any further discussions. The Clerk will write to the developer.

**12. Staplefield Play Park maintenance.**

The quote of £135 was approved for maintenance work at the play park. It was agreed that the wooden fencing is rustic in nature, is a style used elsewhere in the district and that the fence will not be sanded.

**13. Hardstanding at Staplefield.**

Highways have confirmed that they do not own any of the land at Tanyards Lane beyond the back edge of the footway. The Parish Council agreed to consider the options and carry this item forward to the next meeting.

**14. Ansty Village Centre.**

The concrete has been poured and the timber frame is due to arrive towards the end of July. Local fundraising has begun for a hearing loop. The Clerk met with John Thorpe and MSDC to discuss how and when the s106 money will be spent. There is a meeting tomorrow to look at additional work needed at Ansty Rec including the re-location of the cricket nets.

It was agreed that a countdown type sign on the green next to the roundabout would help to promote the new centre.

**15. Mobile SID and Brook Street speeding issues.**

The SID has moved from Brook Street to Staplefield. The Clerk has a meeting scheduled with the Highways Manager to walk along Brook Street and see what other steps could be taken to reduce the speed of traffic.

**16. Staplefield Pavilion maintenance work.**

Crispin, Bob and the Clerk met with the contractor last week to finalise the spec for ordering the windows. Additional joinery work will be required which can either be done by the manufacturer or the contractor's joiner. Delegated authority was given to the Clerk plus the Staplefield Councillors to agree the final spec and order the windows with a total spend on the windows of up to £5000. The contractor hopes to start the maintenance work later in the summer once the windows have arrived.

**17. To receive an update on parish fingerposts.**

The Clerk provided an update from the fingerpost contractor. The posts should be in place this summer.

**18. Minor matters and items for the next agenda.**

- a. Trees next to A272 Ansty. The Clerk reported that a resident has complained about the trees which shade her property, and which are dangerous to vehicles leaving the lane by the old Ansty Cross. The trees are the responsibility of

Highways and the Clerk has already spoken to the Highways Manager, who has confirmed that the work will be done when it is safe to do so. A backlog of work from the lockdown period means that there will be a delay. The resident asked for this issue to be drawn to the attention of the Parish Council who asked the Clerk to write again to the Highway Manager.

- b. Licensing agreement with Enterprise Inns. The Clerk was asked to forward the recent email from Enterprise Inns to James Steadman who will advise on a response.
- c. Website accessibility. The Clerk reported that she is working on an assessment of the website to see how well it complies with Government regulations and to identify what can be done to make the site more accessible.
- d. Tree on Staplefield Common. The tree planted on Staplefield Common in memory of Ron Stevenson has been removed because it was not doing very well. It will be nurtured and replanted in the Autumn.

**MEETING CLOSED.**

**DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION.**