

ANSTY AND STAPLEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council held in Ansty Village Hall on 29th November 2022 at 6pm.

Members present: Brad Williams (chairman), Bob Birthwright, Dhana Mahendran, Nuala Hampshire, Crispin Salimbeni, Jon Gilley, Simon Stokes

Also present: Liz Bennett (Clerk)

1. Public Session.

There were no members of the public at the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence.

None were received.

3. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

The Clerk has issued dispensations to all members for matters relating to the Mid Sussex District Council Draft District Plan Review.

4. Staplefield Flooding.

During the recent heavy rain, water was streaming down the road behind the pavilion in Staplefield. No properties were affected. This appeared to be mainly due to blocked Highways gulleys, which Eliot and Maria Fielding helped to clear on the day. Highways were notified and visited the next day.

It was AGREED that the ditches either side of The Victory should be cleared, and Crispin and the Clerk were authorised to appoint a contractor within the amount held in reserves for Watershed maintenance schemes.

A member of the public thought that the granite setts around the perimeter of the car park are now a trip hazard because some of the shingle from inside them has washed away. However, the granite setts were designed to be raised partly to prevent water flowing in across the car park and partly to denote where cars should park. Debris had built up by the side of the granite which was now washed away leaving the setts as originally designed. Crispin and the Clerk will take a closer look tomorrow and ask the opinion of the contractor doing the ditch clearance.

5. Draft District Plan Review Consultation.

Cuckfield Parish Council have commissioned a consultant to help with a response to the Regulation 18 District Plan Review consultation. ASPC does not have the expertise or resources to develop their own response and so the Chairman suggested that they also engage the services of the same consultant. His work will include a review of the landscape, transport and planning reports commissioned by Cuckfield PC, ASPC and the Cuckfield Society. The quote from the consultant was accepted and it was AGREED to appoint him. The focus of the work will be on the Ansty Farms/ Cuckstye site, but he will also be asked for an opinion on the Land East of Borde Hill Lane site (Sugworth Farm).

Meeting Closed. Draft minutes subject to confirmation.