

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF STAPLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 26th JANUARY 2017
AT STAPLEFORD VILLAGE SCHOOL, STAPLEFORD AT 7.30 PM**

The meeting commenced with the following members present: Cllr J Oakins (Chairman), Cllr H Kirby, Cllr M Randall
Cllr A Roe.

Apologies: Cllr A George.

In Attendance: V Paskell, Cllr M McMullen.

1: Minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2016: Signed as a true record.

2: Matters arising from the minutes.

Bullsmill Lane / Waterford Hamel: Some trees have been cleared in preparation for the footpath to Bengoe. Nothing further to report on the development.

School Parking problems / grass verge: The work to restore the verge and put the post and rail fence in has been completed and will prevent erosion to the verge. A number of school parents who do not live in the village have complained about the scheme. The PC feel that the scheme does not give provision for children /prams / wheelchair users to access the park from the footpath. To address this the PC will write to Highway's to ask if they can put an access point into the fence opposite the park entrance.

It was agreed that the PC would arrange to have the hedge between the park and Church Lane cut back to prevent cars being scratched as the hedge is overgrown.

General rubbish bins Stapleford & Waterford: Nothing further to report.

Waterford Marsh / Heath, Nature Walk: Cllr Randall reported that the leaflets are have been printed, and the way markers are currently being put up. The CMS launch will take place on 18th March 2017. Cllr Randall will publicise the new walk through the parish news.

Hertfordshire Local Minerals Plan - Bengoe / Rickney's Quarry: No further news on the current application.

Woodhall Arms: The application to nominate the pub as a community asset was turned down.

Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities / Website: The website is now live. The PC have received a quote of £100 to add a news page to the website, and £25 for uploads The PC have, as suggested applied for a further grant through the HCPC for funding. Clerk will arrange for the news page to be added.

Stapleford Village Hall Update: Cllr Randall and Cllr Oakins attended the village hall AGM on 18th January 2017. Four trustees were in attendance. The Parish Council verbally advised the trustees that they felt the hall should no longer be let due to its disrepair. They agreed that they would not take any new booking, but would continue with existing regular bookings. Cllr McMullen has advised EHDC about the condition of the hall as it is used as a polling station.

Various suggestions were discussed to try and start making progress with the hall including a new hall on a new site or repairing the existing hall to a useable standard. Cllr Randall has stated that she will represent the PC at the village hall meeting but is not prepared to become a trustee until all the safety issues are resolved. A further meeting has been arranged for 15th March 2017.

Speeding Traffic in Waterford: The application to the Police and Crime Commissioner's has been submitted.

Joint Funding a PCSO: Watton PC raised the suggestion of the joint funding of a PCSO with a number of villages. The PC did not feel that it would appropriate to raise the precept for funding as Stapleford and Waterford do not have a crime problem so felt the PCSO would spend the majority of time in the larger villages.

Stapleford Recreation Ground: Cllr George and Cllr Randall are meeting with Network Homes as they have indicated a grant maybe available for Stapleford. The issues ROSPA raised will be considered around this meeting if funding is available.

3. Correspondence

- BT wish to remove the telephone box in Waterford. The PC have no objection as it isn't used.
- Letter from DEFRA regarding Nitrate regulation for Waterford Marsh. Cllr Oakins will review.
- Hertfordshire Transport Data Reports 2016.
- CVS Broxbourne, community transport leaflets.

4: Finance and accounts

The Council is asked to approve/note the following payments:

1.	V Paskell – Salary (DD)	£250.00
2.	Metrosigns – Stapleford Walk	£48.00

RECEIPTS - None

BALANCES

Current account - £16833.41 as at 21.12.16

Moneymaster account - £347.50 as at 21.12.16

The setting of the Precept for 2017/2018 was discussed and it was decided to keep the precept at the same level as last year at £4796.22.

5: Planning

Applications Received:

- 65 High Road, Waterford - no objection.
- Waterford Common, Waterford – no objection.

Applications Granted:

- Warrenwood Industrial Estate

Applications Refused:

- Waterford Quarry - Stables

Any other business:

Cllr Randall reported that there was mink activity on the river. The mink traps have been set and are being checked.

Cllr Randall enquired as to when the fish paths would be implemented on the Beane. The survey has been completed as the work will be funded in 2018.

Date of next meeting: The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 9th March 2017, in **Waterford Village Hall, High Road, Waterford** at 7.30pm.