

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF STAPLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON 25<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2021 ONLINE VIA ZOOM, AT 7.30 PM**

The meeting commenced with the following members present: Cllr J Oakins (Chairman), Cllr A Roe, Cllr M Randall, Cllr A George, Cllr Alison Juniper

Apologies: None

In Attendance: V Paskell (clerk), Cllr McMullen

Cllr Oakins confirmed the resignation of Harry Kirby and noted his contribution to the Parish Council over the years. Cllr Oakins and the other Councillors co-opted Alison Juniper to the Parish Council with immediate effect.

**1: Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020:** Signed as a true record.

**2: Matters arising from the minutes.**

**Bullsmill Lane / Waterford Hamel:** Work has started on the development.

**Stapleford Village Hall Update:** Nothing further to report at the current time.

**Waterford Marsh:** Robin Juniper has completed the tree work required to date. Further work will need to be carried out in the future.

**Breach in River:** Cllr Oakins and Cllr Randall (on behalf of the RBRA) are meeting with the Environment Agency but have nothing further to report at the current time.

**Waterford Marsh:** Cllr Oakins reported that Network Rail had caused damage to the marsh when felling the trees. The damage will be repaired by Network Rail as soon as the area dries up.

**Waterford Heath:** Damage has also been caused by the tree work on the railway embankment to the Heath, which will also be restored as soon as the weather permits.

**Internet Banking:** The Standing Orders can be amended which would then allow for internet banking. Clerk will review the Standing Orders and look to make the relevant amendment.

**ROSPA:** Cllr Oakins has passed the report onto the recreation committee.

**Waterford Village Hall Application:** Cllr McMullen has received a request from the recreation committee that the application for the new village hall be heard in front of the planning committee. Cllr McMullen advised that it was unlikely as most applications are dealt with by the planning officer and are not taken to committee.

**3. Correspondence:**

Various magazines/ journals received.

**4: Finance and accounts**

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

Payments:

PKF – Audit correction fee: £48.00

River Beane Restoration Association: £50.00

VP salary: £250.00

Current Account Balance: £13,059.03 as at 21<sup>st</sup> February 2021.

Money Master: £349.02 as at 21<sup>st</sup> February 2021.

Precept: The setting of the precept was discussed and agreed at £6500 for the year 2021/2022. It is an increase on the previous year due to the extensive tree work required on Waterford Marsh.

**5: Planning:**

**Applications Received:** The Threshing Barn – no objection

**Applications Granted:** None

**Applications Refused:** None

**Applications appealed:** Tree Heritage (Out of Parish). The Parish Council did object to the original application.

**Any other business:**

Cllr George reported that there was an incident in the village on Tuesday 23rd February which required an armed police response. Thankfully, no-one was hurt, and it was dealt with very quickly. At the time of the PC meeting, there had been no official police statement

Cllr Oakins raised concerns that when the cattle are put on the marsh to graze over the summer, they will be able to access the river and then onto Tree Heritage due to the breach in the river causing the river levels to drop. Cllr Oakins will contact Neil Duffield from CMS to see if they will provide fencing to stop the cattle wandering.

**Date of next meeting:** The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021 via Zoom, the following meeting (which will also be the AGM) will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021 in Waterford Village Hall, High Road, Waterford at 7.30pm. (Subject to Covid Restrictions).

**PC MEETINGS ARE BEING HELD IN A COVID SECURE ENVIRONMENT WITH SOCIAL DISTANCING**