

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF STAPLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON 27<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2022 IN STAPLEFORD VILLAGE HALL, 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, Cllr McMullen

Apologies: None

In Attendance: V Paskell (clerk)

**1: Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021:** Signed as a true record.

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

**Bullsmill Lane / Waterford Hamel:** The development is nearing completion.

**Stapleford Village Hall Update:** The PC will now be holding alternative meetings in Stapleford village hall.

**Waterford Marsh Trees:** Cllr Oakins is waiting for the alternative tree arborists details from CMS to arrange an alternative quote.

**Breach in River / Waterford Marsh:** A letter was received from Richard Young CMS outlining the ecological benefits of keeping livestock on the marsh. The issue raised regarding livestock sheltering under the railway bridge and making it difficult for walkers to pass can be resolved by additional fencing. The PC also need to consider the residents of Waterford who have grazing rights on the marsh. Cllr Oakins will arrange to meet the EA, they are strongly supporting the fencing option on the marsh to enable the cattle to be grazed. There will be an area of the marsh that people can picnic and paddle in the river away from the cattle. All Cllrs were in favour of the fencing option and will confirm with Tony Bradford from CMS.

It was noted in regard to river breach, the Millrace campaign group have written to CMS / EA to request that the river is re-routed once again via the Millrace.

**Waterford Heath:** The Heath meeting has not been held due to staff changes. Cllr Randall has written to the Heath Management Group to enquire into the next meeting dates.

**Internet Banking / change in mandate:** HSBC have sent a further mandate to be completed by all Cllrs for the additional signatories to be added. Clerk to return to HSBC Hertford.

**Waterford Village Hall Application:** The Pre-Planning application has now been submitted.

**Bus Shelter, Waterford:** Cllr Oakins is still waiting for the proposed plans for the bus shelter that can be submitted to Cllr Crofton.

**Bridge Damage, Vicarage Lane:** Herts Highways are currently reviewing the damage. Nothing further to report.

**Parish Council Website:** The website has been refreshed and is up to date.

**Speeding Traffic Stapleford:** Cllr Crofton has confirmed that a review of the signage has been requested, however due to severe budget constraints it is unlikely to be for some time.

**Children Playing Sign Church Lane:** Clerk has written to Cllr Crofton for an update.

**Bridge Church Lane, Stapleford:** Work has now commenced on the bridge. The road past the school has been cleared and some passing places improved. There is pedestrian access up Church Lane. Between 7am & 7pm traffic marshals are in place to control the traffic in and out of the village using the road past the school. It is anticipated the work will take 4-6 weeks to complete, however no formal timeframe for the work has been given. There has been extremely poor communication from Highways to the villagers regarding the work. There is no access to the playing field while the work is being completed.

**Defibrillators for Stapleford & Waterford:** Cllr George is currently obtaining prices.

**Advert for Cllrs:** Cllr George will submit and advert for the Parish News advertising the current vacancies on the PC.

**Noticeboard Replacement:** Cllr George will obtain some prices.

**Damaged fencing Network Rail:** Clerk has reported and is waiting for a response.

### 3. Correspondence:

- Dealt with in matters arising
- Various journals

### 4: Finance and accounts

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

1. V Paskell Salary	£250.00
2. Waterford Village Hall	£32.00

### RECEIPTS - None

### BALANCES

Current Account - £13,655.91 as at 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021

Money master Account - £349.06 as at 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021

**ANNUAL PRECEPT:** After a lengthy discussion regarding the potential cost of the future tree work required on Waterford Marsh it was agreed by all Cllrs that the precept should be raised by £1000 to £7500 per year for the 2022/2023 year.

### Planning:

New Applications:

- 15 Vicarage Lane, Waterford
- Waterford Common Cottage
- 24 High Road, Waterford

Applications Granted:

- The Willows, High Road, Waterford

Applications refused: None

- **Any other business: None**

**Date of next meeting:** The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022 in **Stapleford Village Hall**, High Road, Waterford at 7.30pm.