

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF STAPLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 21st of September at Waterford Village Hall at 7:30**

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

Apologies:, None

In Attendance: Danielle Houghton (parish clerk), Joe Thomas

1: Minutes of the meeting held on 13th July 2023: Signed as a true record.

2: Matters arising from the minutes.

Waterford Hamel S106: If there was money available from S106s the Parish would like to use this to clear up debris on Bullsmill Lane passing points.

Joe Thomas is to include Ken Crofton on the possibility of making Vicarage Lane access only.

Waterford Marsh Trees: Robin Juniper has completed the recommended work that was identified by the tree survey. Cllr Oakins is to organise another tree survey to be completed by the same company as last year (Ligna Consultancy) as the Parish is responsible for the upkeep of the area.

Breach in River / Waterford Marsh: The fence has now been erected; However, the water pumps and solar powered water trough haven't been added yet, even though they were part of the original quote. The Parish council was told that Country Side Management would be funding the drinking sites, however, this is now being disputed. The incorrect gate under the railway bridge has not been replaced yet; Cllr Oakins has asked Sarah Roberts to contact him.

Parish Council Website: Cllr Randall has written a piece for the website that has gone live.

Waterford Heath: Cllr Randall wrote to one Bengoe East Herts Councillor: they responded saying they would refer the matter to colleagues. This was about possibly reinstating occasional Heath meetings.

Internet Banking / change in mandate: Clerk to organise a time to meet Cllr George to go into branch as they haven't been in contact at all despite multiple change of address and mandate forms being posted.

Defibrillators for Stapleford & Waterford: Cllr George has been in contact with British Heart Foundation and they said they would let her know regarding funding and will this commence. Cllr George also mentioned it would be worth getting in touch with The Lottery as this could also be another route for funding.

ROSPA: Fencing around the toddler section at the Stapleford Recreation Ground needs some work, Cllr George is going to speak to local resident for some assistance. A new bin liner is also needed for the bin in the playing field, Cllr George to investigate this.

3: Correspondence:

- July Crime Reports
- August Crime Report
- Citizens Advice East Herts from Stephen Mcenally
- Draft Noise Action Plan 2024 -2028
- WIX Renewal

4: Finance and accounts

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

1. D Houghton Salary (September)	£250.00
2. D Houghton ¼ expenses	£94.57
3. J Oakins Grass Cutting	£75.00

RECEIPTS**BALANCES**

Current Account - £15,961.84 as at 21.03.2022

Money master Account - £350.39 as at 21.03 .22

5: Planning:

New Applications:

- Gabions, Stapleford
- 11 High Road, Waterford
- 42A High Road, Stapleford
- Willow Barn, Waterford
- 12 Waterford Common, Waterford

Applications Refused:

- Little Gabions, Stapleford

6: Any other business:

Cllr Oakins: Cliff Ward has trimmed the grass outside the play area. Clerk is to look back on how often Frank Cooper strimmed the grass. Cllr Oakins is to strim the area one more time before winter.

A local resident has complained that CMS have disturbed the riverbed and where birds nest, they were removing Himalayan Balsam (which is very invasive)

Clerk: A £50 one off donation was agreed for the Citizen's advice line, with hope that the local villages will make good use of the service if required.

WIX renewal has been approved.

Annual Governance and Accountability Return, yearly accounts were presented and agreed.

Date of next meeting: The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 19th October 2023 at Stapleford Hall at 7.30pm