# STRATFIELD SAYE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held remotely on Monday 8th February 2021 at 7.30pm

## ORDINARY MEETING

Present:

Cllr Speed Cllr Harborne Cllr Hall

Cllr Toms Cllr Preston Cllr Toosey

Cllr Mahaffey Cllr Vaughan Cllr Best

Mrs L. Webb (Parish Clerk)

2 members of the public

**1.21. Coronavirus**

On 23rd March 2020 the Government introduced measures requiring people to stay at home and avoid public gatherings in order to reduce the spread of the Coronavirus infection. In these circumstances, this meeting is permitted to be held remotely in accordance with [Statutory Instrument 2020/392](https://s.factsline.com/redir.php?trans=def49f99-862e-11ea-8bee-068e03beb944@emailer.factsline.co.uk&loc=http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/392) (effective 4th April 2020) permitting authorities to hold virtual meetings.

**2.21. Apologies for Absence**

No apologies were received.

**3.21. Minutes of the Meeting 7th December 2020**

Cllr Toms proposed acceptance of the minutes of the meeting of 7th December 2020, seconded by Cllr Hall and they will be signed by the Chairman Cllr Speed.

**4.21. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

35.20 The missing sign by West End Green. Cllr Toosey confirmed it has been replaced. No further action needed.

44.18a Lengthsman Scheme. Cllr Toosey will ask him to start trimming in March. **CT**

44.18b Football Pitch future. Correspondence received from Welllington Football Club - a new men’s football club in Basingstoke looking for a home ground. George Cox and Liam Doran from Wellington FC in attendance. They want to restore the pitch for us and we can rent to other clubs and generate some income for the village. Cllr Speed asked what their view is on what needs to be done and whether they have funds available? Mr Cox said they have generated a job list and are looking for contractors to help them. They will hire petrol movers etc. Funding generated by 24 members paying sign on fees and monthly dues. Cllr Speed informed Mr Cox that Kestral has already quoted a large figure to get it up to playing condition. They are a Sunday league team and will maintain the pitch too. Probably very few supporters, no coaches used as most people car share. They plan on speaking to the Iron Duke owners to see if they might be allowed to park there. They have not played anywhere else. They would like a pitch to use for home fixtures and training sessions during summer and spring evenings, in exchange for no rent. Cllr Toms asked what the maximum they can spend? Mr Cox said he doesn’t know yet as he’s still getting quotes but money should not be a problem. Advised that they will have to arrange their own insurance. They are speaking to Hampshire FA and Basingstoke BC so public liability and personal injury insurance will be obtained. They are connected to the Wellington Social Club. Wellington FC asked to provide more details. Subject to a legal agreement being put in place, to be drafted by LW and Cllr Preston. Cllr Mahaffey mentioned Paul at Silchester Cricket Club who has a roller and might be willing to help. LW mentioned that we have someone in the village who cuts the grass at £45 a time - he might also be willing to help. Cllr Speed to supply template Heads of Terms to LW to forward to Wellington FC to complete. **AS/LW**

**5.21. Borough Councillors’ reports**

Report provided by Cllr Mahaffey.

Proposed new 280 acre solar park in Bramley. Cllr Mahaffey objects to the size and impact of it on the local environment. The proposed site is on both sides Minchens Bridge. He is concerned that it will be a temporary thing and turned into a housing estate at a later date. End of consultation is on 16th March. There will be lots of heavy goods vehicles on a national cycle route.

Elections in May will be happening. The Conservative campaign will be entirely electronic and they are encouraging people to register to vote by post.

Library Task finishing group - Southam Library and Chineham - how can we help them as they are underused and under pressure to close. Any suggestions - please email Cllr Mahaffey.

Travellers in Silchester - the camp is going to go ahead. Any comments or objections need to be sent to directly to the Planning Inspector and not registered on the portal. Deadline for objections in March. The hearing is on 27 & 28 April.

Council meeting next week - hoping to get annual budget passed. You can comment on website.

Some councillors are looking for info about basic planning controls - is this of interest to us? Several councillors said yes - Cllr Mahaffey to send an email out.

**6.21. County Councillor’s Report**

Report from Cllr Vaughan.

He is also voting against solar farm in Bramley. He considers it an abuse of the countryside.

There was a £210million deficit in HCC’s budget due to covid. They now have more reserves and have put £160million in to cover it. Now they “only” have a £50million gap - they are hoping for government support.

During the elections in May they not allowed to go door to door due to Covid restrictions, although the expectation is that these rules will be eased.

£27million being given to school for refurbishment, solar panels, double glazing etc.

£320,000 granted to schools for meals for children over half term, as government is not paying.

Signs from HCC about non-littering. LW confirmed no sign received from HCC - Cllr Vaughan will send again.

**7.21. Parish Matters**

54.19.a Pest Control - Rabbits. Mr Wootten has carried not out any further pest control services . He will hopefully return in the spring. The Estate’s employee has attended with ferrets and a gun and he will keep going. AS will let us know numbers. **LW/AS**

b. New Street Phone Box.LW has inspected the phonebox. It still has an electricity supply but it is in quite a poor state of repair. The paint is peeling and the wood has rotted away in places. There is also a pane of glass missing and it needs cleaning. We have already registered the PC’s interest in adopting the phone box with BT and they have put up a notice to this effect in the phonebox. Their inquiries will take approximately 3 months’ to complete. LW has also written to Daniel Ayre of the Planning and Development Team at BDBC to ask them to consider serving BT with a Repairs Notice under Section 48 of the Planning Act 1990 to secure the full repair of the building. He is carrying out some research and has advised that it may take some time for him to reply. Cllr Speed said the Estate may be able to help. Cllr Preston said if the phonebox is listed, we cant do much to it. Cllr Speed confirmed if we are simply repairing the phonebox, no permission is needed but we cannot change the outside appearance. Cllr Speed confirmed said it is acceptable to change the use. BT will take the phone away, we just need to maintain and repair the outside. Does it need electricity - probably not. Cllr Preston said the English Heritage website may be of use to us. **LW**

c. New Village Noticeboards. A hook and eye system, should be sufficient to repair the noticeboards, apart from the one at Faircross. The lengthsman is ready to do the OSMO oil. The New Street and 5 Ways noticeboards can be opened, but the other two are badly damaged. They will be shut via bolts, but cannot be locked. The one by Chequer Lane is open to the elements as the front has been ripped off, should we look into how much a new one would cost? Cllr Speed suggested maybe the estate carpenter could make one or a new front? **AS/CT**

d. The Greenfields Trophy and the Purdues Trophy. The Mornington Cup has not yet been found but Estate is still looking. Cllr Hall confirmed Jane Hall is willing to organise the competitions, but not this summer. Cllr Hall says there is also a Wellesley Cup which is probably also with the Estate. Cllr Speed to find. It was agreed that these competitions will not be re-introduced until next year due to Covid risks. **AS**

e. Opening Residents Gardens for Charity. This idea will be implemented next year due to Covid risks.

f. Repairs to Electricity Box at the Recreation Ground. The cover has been ripped off. Cllr will get the estate to repair. **AS**

g. Parish Council Insurance. NFU has been contacted and they have asked whether we want to change insurers mid term? Cllr Speed confirmed we should do it in July when it is up for renewal. **LW**

8.21. Correspondence

a. Letter from SSE. They want to fit a smart meter at the pavilion in the Recreation Ground. It takes about an hour to install at no cost to us. We will only be charged for the electricity we use, there no line supply charges anymore. LW to double check this. A meter will stop estimated billing. Can we swap providers if we have a smart meter? LW to check. Cllr Harborne said sometimes they malfunction. It was unanimously agree that this sounds like something we should do.  **LW**

b. Email from Heartstart. They have spent £160 on a new battery for the defibrillator and are asking for reimbursement. They have offered to provide receipts if we need them. Cllr Harborne proposed reimbursing Heartstart £160, and the motion was carried unanimously. LW asked to obtain the receipts from Heartstart. **LW**

**9.21. Highways**

81.18a Cllr Toms gave an update on efforts to limit speeding in the village.

Cllr Toms confirmed that Cllr Vaughan has promised another £1,000 to SPPC if he is re-elected in May. The council expressed its gratitude to Cllr Vaughan.

Andy Laws is the new Special Constable for the village. They are going to start being more present on New Street and Mortimer Lane to deter speeders.

Speedwatch should restart in April and there is an option to retrain. Lets wait until March to see what we want to do as Burghfield have offered to show us how to use the kit and LW has retained all the instructions provided at the police training session.

The Police and Crime Commission are offering grants for traffic calming. Sherfield received £500 to help them buy a SID. They are happy to loan their kit to us. We have a budget equivalent to 16 weeks of use. We should use the budget accordingly. We will have to site it on approved sites approved by HCC. Sherfield will maintain the SID, we only have to pay rental fees. It was agreed we should we transfer some money set aside for the Speedwatch program to use for SID rental, seeing as we cannot implement the Speedwatch scheme at this time. We might be able to get 26 weeks use of the Sherfield SID rather than 16 weeks rental from HCC. We will move the SID every 2 weeks. Cllr Best asked if we have to use the SID 26 weeks in a row? Cllr Toms confirmed the device will probably alternate months between us and Sherfield. Cllr Toms to continue the negotiations with Sherfield. **MT**

**10.21. Hampshire Constabulary Matters**

All Basingstoke & Deane Police Partnership Updates circulated by email.

There has been a spate of people driving vehicles over Estate land. The vehicle on the field by the Iron Duke is stuck until a tractor can get in there without damaging the ground.

Report to 999 if you see it happening, or 101 if after the event. It is becoming a real nuisance.

Cllr Hall said a lot of fly tipping is happening.

**11.21.** **Planning Matters**

Fairoak Cottage on Fair Oak Land regarding proposed improvements to the rear of their property, removal of a balcony, extension to the rear and replacement of windows ref 20/03526/LBC. No comments made.

**12.21.**

**a. Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council (BDBC) Matters**

**b. Basingstoke & Deane Association of Parish & Town Councils (BDAPTC)**

**c.** **Hampshire County Council (HCC) Matters**

**d. Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) Matter**s

There were no reports available for any of these items

**13.21. Finance**

a. Payments Made. The Clerk read out the payments listed below made on behalf of the Council since the last meeting: -

SSE Electricity 178.51

**TOTAL £178.51**

Payments Received: -

**TOTAL £0**

Payments to be Made:-

Richard Gregory Grass cutting £540.00

**TOTAL £540.00**

b. The Chairman and Parish Clerk will sign the Bank Reconciliation for December 2020.

**14.21. Parish Councillors Comments**

Cllr Best informed the Council that there are two electric pylons broken near West End Green. They are poles with transformers attached and the whole village will lose electricity if they go down.He has repeatedly informed SSE but nothing has been repaired. Can we write to SEE to try and hurry them up. Cllr Speed confirmed he will contact SSE and Cllr Preston will give him the reference number for the broken poles. **GP/AS**

**15.21. Open Forum**

No comments made.

**16.21.** **Dates of Next Meetings**

Parish Council meetings will be held on the following dates:

17th May 2021 7pm AGM (followed by)

17th May 2021 7.30pm Ordinary Meeting

4th October 2021 7.30pm Ordinary Meeting

6th December 2021 7.30pm Ordinary Meeting (to include the setting of the precept for 2022/23)

**17.21. Closing**

The meeting was closed by the Chairman Cllr Speed at 8.45pm.