# STRATFIELD SAYE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 4th October 2021 at 7.30pm

at Stratfield Saye Village Hall

## ORDINARY MEETING

Present:

Cllr Speed Cllr Harborne Cllr Hall

Cllr Toms Cllr Toosey Cllr Preston

Cllr Mahaffey Cllr Tomblin Cllr Robinson

Mrs L. Webb (Parish Clerk)

4 members of the public.

**35.21. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Vaughan.

**36.21. Minutes of the Meeting 17th May 2021**

Cllr Harborne proposed acceptance of the minutes of the meeting of 17th May 2021, seconded by Cllr Hall and signed by the Chairman Cllr Speed.

**37.21. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

44.18a Lengthsman Scheme. Update provided by Cllr Toosey. Work tasks agreed in June and July now completed. Mainly work on done on the noticeboards since then. Year ends March 2022 – plenty of money left. Awaiting bill for noticeboard work. West End Green noticeboard looking much better – it has been opened and cleaned the inside. **CT**

44.18b Football Pitch future. Update provided by Cllr Speed. The latest team to approach us about renting the pitch is Rooksdown FC. They will pay for the pitch to be revitalised and carry out the work.

The main issue is local residents and the disturbance they will encounter. We cannot pay for the repairs ourselves, so what should we do with the recreation ground?

Mr Richard Gregory has been cutting the grass. He confirmed the pitch is badly damaged and unplayable. It is in a terrible condition.

Mrs Veronica Upton asked why does he Parish Council want it to be used as a football pitch? Cllr Speed said it has historically always been a football pitch. Mrs Upton said in the past the pitch was abandoned mid-season as it was too waterlogged. Another team has previously put in some drainage but found it didn’t work. Its only possible to play on the pitch at the start and end of the season. You cannot drain the field, because the water table is too high.

We would like to generate some income to spend on the village but it was acknowledged there was very little support for the idea within the village.

The other main other issue is traffic and parking.

LW said we must consider that this is the only asset that the village has that is capable of generating an income for the parish in the future.

We have also received an offer of financial help from Mr & Mrs McKellar if the PC decides to do something different with the recreation ground.

It was agreed to keep the existing goal posts.

We should think about enhancing the space and creating value for the village. Wild flower meadow is a good idea. Lots of ecological funding available.

If anyone has any suggestions as to how to use the recreation ground, please send them to the Parish Clerk.

Cllr Mahaffey said Greenham Trust is giving out grants. LW to respond to their email.

Rather than rent out the recreation ground, a better income stream may be holding fairs and village fetes. Historically a big earner.

Jubilee celebration coming up in 2022 – lets raise some money with this.

**Resolution**: Cllr Speed proposed refusing to rent out the recreation ground as a football pitch in the future. This was agreed unanimously by all Councillors present.

Cllr Speed will ask Kestral if they will help roll it. **AS/LW**

7.21b New Street Phone Box. Contract of Sale has now been returned to BT. LW to contact

Marc Sillince and Steve and Julie Carter to coordinate repair work once the sale has completed.

Mrs Upton said she and Mrs Kelly Dillon are willing to paint it. LW said it is currently covered in lead paint so you need to be careful.

Alan Robinson, a local handyman has repaired other kiosks in the area. Cllr Harborne will provide his contact details. LW to obtain a quote. **AH/** **LW**

7.21c Village Noticeboards. Update already provided by Cllr Toosey. **CT**

54.19a Pest Control. Mr Kane Wootten has been asked to attend again but he has not responded. Mr Phil Buley has come from the Estate a couple of times too. **AS**

7.21g Parish Council Insurance. Renewed by LW in June at a cost of £766.92 which was significantly cheaper than last year. Our insurers are still Hiscox. **LW**

8.21a SSE Smart Meter. Being installed 15th October after SSE failed to keep the last appointment. **LW**

6.21 Littering posters. Have been displayed around the village. No further action required. LW to give Cllr Preston 2 laminated copies of the poster for West End Green **LW**

7.21f Repairs to electricity box cover at Rec Ground. Estate will repair. **AS**

**38.21. Borough Councillors’ reports**

Report from Cllr Nick Robinson. Councillor since May 2022 and Chairmian of licensing and planning committee. Please get in touch if he can help. BDBC working on future development plan. Nothing is planned for this area.

Solar farm in Bramley. Going up before the committee either this month or next.

Report form Cllr Chris Tomlin. He has been in the area for 30+ years. He was Chairman of his Parish Council for years. He understands the constraints that we are operating under – particularly financially. The Local Plan will not have much effect in this area. 17,000 new homes to be built in Basingstoke and suggested sites have been put forward.

There is also a new battery storage facility being proposed by a different energy company. This is currently being decided and will consist of 65 shipping containers in the middle of a field.

There is a Borough Councillor Grant Scheme available. Capital investment for good causes in the local area. You can apply for up to £1000. Must be a new venture, not for repairs or improvements. To be spent by February 2022.

Cllr Simon Mahaffey reported that the new solar farm industrial estate application will be heard next month. Please attend the committee personally if you can.

The Local Plan is required to be reviewed and extended to 2039. Basingstoke has to build 17,500 new houses by 2039. Consultation has produced a possible site list. All sites are being considered. Believed there are not enough suitable sites. Most sites are around Bramley. 29 objections raised at last meeting – but these are just initial discussions. One concern was transport links, flood assessment. There is little infrastructure or shops being built with the new homes. BDBC pleading exceptional circumstances to the Government, but this has never been successfully pleaded before.

Cllr Tomlin also confirm that Thames Water said the sewage system is not fit for purpose in Basingstoke. River Lodden was flooded with raw sewage over 400 times last year. It’s a big problem.

Cllr Mahaffey continued by stating that the BDBC minutes recorded that there was imperfect knowledge around the sites, and Cllrs reserved the right to go back to it.

Climate change might be the only way to challenge the requirement for these new houses.

The trouble is that any development of 10+ is considered a major development, but how do we decide who has to put in new shops etc.

Early 2023 the Local Plan should be in place if approved by councillors and inspector.

**39.21. County Councillor’s Report**

LW to follow up the £1000 grant that we have applied for. **LW**

**40.21. Parish Matters**

7.21d. Mornington and Wellesley Cups still not found – 2002 or 2003 when they were last won. LW to include in next LVL article a request for the missing cups and to advise residents to get their garden ready! Mrs Hall happy to organise the competitions. She will produce a leaflet and distribute around the village. LW to check back through the minutes to see if they confirm who last won the 2 missing cups. **LW**

Announce the date of the tea party Sunday 5th June 2022 in LVL. **LW**

24.21b. Sign at the top of Green Lane is unreadable. LW has reported to HCC for repair. No further action required.

a. Village coffee mornings. Restarted today – 9 people attended. Issues with Dial-a Ride trying to be resolved. The coffee morning takes place on the first Monday of every month.

b. Email received from the Greenham Trust inviting us to apply for a tree to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee next year. It should arrive next month. It should be put in the recreation ground.

c. The pavilion has been vandalised. External door handle broken and wooden window frame damaged. This has been repaired by local handyman Jake Baldwin at a cost of £89.99. No further action required.

**41.21. Correspondence**

None received.

**42.21. Highways**

81.18a Cllr Toms gave an update on speeding in the village. Speedwatch hopes to restart in October. Baughurst PC will lend us their equipment and they have been asked for dates. PCSO and a Baughurst representative will be in attendance.

SLR signs - the traffic still seems light so let’s hold off until the traffic increases. We should rent Sherborne’s SLR – cheaper than from BDBC.

The police decide where we can stand. **MT**

**43.21. Hampshire Constabulary Matters**

Nothing to report.

**44.21.** **Planning Matters**

Two planning consultation letters received for Goodchilds Hill West End Green Stratfield Saye RG7 2DR

Proposal: Erection of single storey extensions and first floor extension to create

additional living accommodation with dormer windows.

No planning comments.

**45.21.**

**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

**46.21. Finance**

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

SSE Electricity 31.91

Came & Co Insurance 766.92

Lightatouch Accounts 200.00

Cllr Toosey Noticeboard repairs 106.17

Jake Baldwin Pavilion repairs 89.99

**TOTAL £1194.99**

Payments Received: -

F Bere Hire of pavilion 30.00

BDBC Precept 2065.00

**TOTAL £2095**

Payments to be Made:-

**TOTAL £0**

b. The Chairman and Parish Clerk signed the Bank Reconciliations for April, May, June, July, August and September 2021.

**47.21. Parish Councillors Comments**

What should we do with the pavilion? Considerable money spent refurbishing it in the past. We don’t want to compete with the village hall.

Should we consider turning off the electricity and water if it’s not being used?

LW to put something in LVL about being able to rent it. **LW**

Cllr Harborne is considering putting up a wooden garage at her property which falls within permitted development. A Certificate of Lawfulness is required and will be obtained.

**48.21. Open Forum**

Mrs Upton enquired why the Clerk felt that the recreation ground was the only way that the Parish can make money in the future? Surely the village hall is also able to do this. The village hall does not belong to the PC. The recreation ground is the only asset owned by the PC that can be rented out and have its profit reinvested into the village.

Mrs Upton said she believed the recreation ground belonged to the whole village.

Cllr Preston confirmed that the recreation ground is definitely owned by the PC, we have a court order from the 1970’s confirming this.

**49.21.** **Dates of Next Meetings**

Parish Council meetings will be held on the following dates:

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

**50.21. Closing**

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