

**STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET PARISH COUNCIL****FULL COUNCIL**

MINUTES of a meeting of the COUNCIL held at 7.45pm on Wednesday 28 July 2010 at Crafton Green House, 72 Chapel Hill, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex

**PRESENT:** Cllr G Sell (Chairman), Cllrs C Dean, B Gott, J Hudson, P L Jones, T Owen, R Rawlinson, J Rich, J Salmon, D Scott, G Sell and W Stiles.

**ATTENDING:** Mrs R Clifford – Clerk  
Cty Cllr Ray Gooding  
1 member of the public

**101 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs I Evans, J Freeman and J Loughlin

**102 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Salmon – item 9c as his wife works at this site.  
Cllr Dean – item 9b as the applicant is a neighbour.

**103 MINUTES**

Page numbering amended from 16-18 to 17-19. There being no further amendments, the minutes of the meeting held on 7 July were signed as a true record.

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Mr Woodcock addressed members regarding planning application UTT/0882/10/CLE. The application has been approved by UDC but if the reference to “travel parking” means airport, then this is against the Council’s policy.

Mr Woodcock then reported on events at the STACC meeting held earlier in the day.  
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**104 MATTERS ARISING**

77a – Recreation Ground Res Assn – Cllrs Hudson and Sell attended this meeting. Work will proceed if sufficient funds are collected.

**105 CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

Letter from UDC regarding a review of the parish boundary with particular regard to Forest Hall Park. Parish Council comments must be submitted by the end of September – agreed that Cllr Sell would make some notes and Cllrs Salmon and Jones would prepare the submission for approval by Full Council on 29 September.

Cllr Jones stated that the joint letter from Birchanger and Stansted Parish Councils was now ready to deliver.

**106 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN** - None

**107a DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT**

Cllr Sell reported that UDC is taking its summer break. A Governance workshop had been held the previous week – outcome not yet decided. Cllr Dean reported that the recent Croudace planning application has been approved. It was amended with 3-storey flats being reduced to 2-storey and the play areas made more secure. The density is 31 dwellings per hectare and affordable housing at 40% of the new numbers.

**107b COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Gooding reported that Children's Services has undergone an Ofsted inspection the outcome of which is awaited. ECC is now slightly over-staffed on social workers and all unallocated cases have been dealt with. They deal with 1200 referrals per month and all are being handled.

The Apprenticeship Scheme now has 350 young people employed (16-19 years starting group). 120 have completed their year of which 61% have found jobs in manufacturing and engineering. There is a need for more employers to sign up to this scheme. In response to a query from Cllr Stiles, Cllr Gooding confirmed that the 39% who are not yet employed will continue to be educated at college and will learn further new skills.

Cllr Sell asked if there was any indication yet as to the County's thoughts on future budgets. Cllr Gooding confirmed that there have already been swingeing cuts and many services will have to be streamlined.

**108 FINANCE**

- a The list of cheques for signature was approved
- b The VAT return to 30 June was tabled.
- C The income and expenditure statement to 30 June had been circulated.

**109 PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR COMMENT**

- A UTT/0993/10/AV – 17 Cambridge Road  
Replacement shop front incorporating illuminated fascia sign

Concern that this take-away business will increase litter in the street. Request a condition that the owner of the business be required to supply two litter bins to be sited in locations agreed with the Parish Council.

- B UTT/1002/10/FUL – 57 Recreation Ground  
Two storey and single storey side extension

No comment.

- C UTT/1074/10/FUL and 1075/10/FUL – M11 Business Park, Forest Hall Road  
Variation of condition C.13.8 of approved planning application UTT/0581/07 to read "no movement of vehicles in excess of 30cwt unladen weight shall take place or to enter or to leave the site from Forest Hall Road other than between the hours of 6.30 and 19.00 Mon-Sat nor at any time on Sundays or Bank Holidays.

Cllr Jones believed this was more likely to affect the residents at Churchill Corner than anyone else. There was a view that 6.30am was too early – 7.30am would be more acceptable. Is the weight relevant as lighter vehicles can also be noisy.

- D UTT/1111/10/FUL – 55 Mountfitchet Road  
Single storey extension to front. Two storey and single storey extension to rear.

No comment

- E UTT/1156/10/FUL – 51 Wetherfield  
Demolition of two garages and erection of detached dwelling and two replacement garages.

No objection as long as the ridge height is no greater than neighbouring properties and the new dwelling does not dominate the street scene.

- F UTT/1172/10/FUL – 27 Brewery Lane  
Basement and two storey side extension

Cllr Rich confirmed that he was the applicant and left the room for this item.  
No comment

- G UTT/1173/10/FUL – 26 Cambridge Road  
Single storey rear extension

No comment

- H UTT/1214/10/FUL – 6 Hargrave Close  
Erection of canopy over workshop doors

Concerned at the effect on the street scene – must not come forward of the building line.

## **110 TO CONSIDER MOVING THE COUNCIL'S BANK ACCOUNTS**

The Clerk had been investigating switching the Council's accounts to a building society which offered preferential interest rates and would not levy charges. However, the majority of banking would be on-line and, currently, town and parish councils are not permitted to do this. Clerk to ask Sir Alan Haselhurst MP to lobby the Minister in support of on-line banking.

## **111 BUDGET 2011/12**

Cllr Jones asked members to give some consideration to this item over the Summer, but it would be helpful tonight to establish an overall policy. The Clerk outlined the projects that must be undertaken next year, ie the independent test of memorials at the Cemetery and the electrical and structural test of all street lights.

The Chairman stated that, having spoken to other authorities, this Council is clearly under-resourced. When the clinic vacates Crafton Green House, that income will also be lost. Cllr Stiles asked about Foresthall Park – should we assume, for budget purposes, that the whole development will come into this parish? Cllr Jones believed that was the

right thing to do and maintenance costs must be considered, although initially funding through S.106 agreements will be forthcoming.

Cllr Dean reminded members of the desire to improve our play areas – if we are successful with grants, is there any money available for match-funding? Cllr Jones believed that if a scheme was successful with a grant application, the Council would be able to assist from reserves or switching funds within the precept.

Cllr Stiles referred to the forthcoming lighting trial in Sunnyside. If this is successful, will the Council wish to extend it? Cllr Jones believed that is the view of the Committee but it would have to be phased over a period of years.

The Chairman stated that this is a Council which wants to do things and believes that quality of life for the village is important. Doing things costs money, and he therefore believed that an increase of 5%, as in the current year, would be acceptable. This was echoed by several members and would be used as guidance to the F&GP committee through the budget process.

series of “blogs”/interviews about each member should appear on a monthly basis, together with a photograph. Cllr Owen agreed to undertake the necessary photography. It was further agreed that if the Council pages were white, the same as the rest of the magazine, this might encourage more people to read them! The new website will also assist with better and faster communication.

## **112 VILLAGE PLAN**

A draft of the plan was given to each member. It is hoped that the layout will be an A4 booklet, with a left-hand column on each page which would show tables/photos etc. The text would appear on the remaining two-thirds of each page. A list of the Action Points, the sections on Rail and Foresthall Park and a brief piece on the history of the village (post WW2) are to follow. Members were asked to read the document and let the Clerk or Cllr Jones have any amendments or suggestions by the end of the summer break.

The Clerk will endeavour to obtain ballpark figures for printing and the draft will then go to UDC and ECC, Police, Schools etc for feedback prior to the final version being adopted by the Council in October.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to Cllr Jones for the huge amount of time he has spent on this project, and also to the office. Cllr Stiles echoed this and hoped that the document would stand the test of time and continue to be updated so that it remained fresh and relevant.

**113 LIST OF CORRESPONDENCE** - circulated with the agenda.

**114 APPLICATIONS DETERMINED** - circulated with the agenda.

**115 CLERK’S RECORD OF PLANS** - tabled.

Meeting closed 9.50pm