

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET PARISH COUNCIL**FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES**

MINUTES of a meeting of the FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held at 7.45pm on Wednesday 12th April 2017 in the Council Offices, Crafton Green House, 72 Chapel Hill, Stansted, Essex.

PRESENT Cllr P L Jones (Chairman), Cllrs M Caton, J Hudson, J O'Brien, F Richards, J Salmon and D Wallace-Jarvis

ATTENDING Mrs Ruth Clifford - Clerk
Mrs Emma Philbrick - Administration Assistant

476 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr G Sell

477 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- None

478 MINUTES - The minutes of the meeting held on 7 December were approved.

479 MATTERS ARISING - None

480 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - None

481 FINANCE -PAYMENTS FOR AUTHORISATION - To follow

482 LIGHTING**(a) OUTAGE REPORT**

The Clerk reported that a resident on Bentfield Road had reported that one of the heritage lanterns had fallen off the column. After inspection it was noted that there was no damage to the lantern and it looked as though the light had been taken off rather than fallen off. A & J Lighting are attending tomorrow to look at this. Cllr Salmon noted that this was the light that someone had previously tried to steal approx 3-4 years ago.

One light on Brewery Lane and one light on Normans Way which had been reported as out of lighting were actually beyond repair so would need to look at costs and discuss the options.

(b) CONSIDER REPLACEMENT OF TWO LIGHTING COLUMNS

As per above regarding the two lights beyond repair.

Cllr O'Brien had previously reported that in Water Lane column WL1, which is on land owned by Network Rail, was being obscured by tree growth. The Clerk commented that this also applied to another column further down. Ruth to contact Network Rail regarding this.

(c) REVIEW UPGRADED LIGHTING COLUMNS IN RAINSFORD ROAD AND CROASDAILE ROAD

Cllr O'Brien reported that issues and complaints had been received with regards to the new lights. The results had not been good with the main issue being that the columns are too far apart and the LED lights are leaving large areas of darkness between each column. One alternative may be to have different lamps which would spread the light further.

Cllr Jones asked Cllr O'Brien to meet with Andy from A & J Lighting to discuss possible solutions. Proposed solutions and costings to be added to the agenda for the next Full Council meeting on Wednesday 26th April 2017. Cllr Jones suggested that unless certain that the next move would work then only a small number of lights should be trialled instead of the whole street.

In response to Cllr Wallace-Jarvis, the Clerk undertook to find out if the new footpath in High Lane would be lit.

483 GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Clerk reported that, to date, three applications for grants had been received. These were from the Uttlesford CAB, Uttlesford Community Travel and St Mary's Church organ restoration fund.

After a brief discussion Cllr Jones proposed the following:

RESOLUTION That £750 be awarded to CAB, £500 to Uttlesford Community Travel and £500 to St Mary's Organ restoration.

This was seconded by Cllr Salmon and agreed unanimously. This left a balance of £150 in the fund and it was suggested by Cllr Caton that this could possibly be used towards a notice board for the skate park if they arranged fund raising for the remaining amount.

484 WINDMILL

Cllr O'Brien reported that the pathway beside the new storage container was completed after quotes were received. Unfortunately this was carried out in March when the weather was bad so the work looks dismal. The contractor will be given the opportunity to correct this.

A quote has been received to carry out internal repairs, re-plastering and repainting of the windmill. Currently trying to source a second quote for this. Attempts were made to gain quotes for external repairs but no-one came back regarding these. Further attempts will now be made to obtain quotes for this. Cllr O'Brien also stated that the paint used last time the work was carried out was in fact the wrong paint.

New LED lights will be used for the floodlights and this will be organised by the Clerk/Cllr O'Brien.

485 YOUTH CENTRE

Cllrs Caton and Jones, along with Trevor Lloyd and Ruth Clifford had met with Linda Barnes and the notes of that meeting had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that meeting dates with Linda Barnes should be added to the diary.

Cllr Jones noted that the house at the Youth Centre appears not to be used and Linda Barnes has no access. This is an issue that should be raised in the future with our county councillor.

Cllr Salmon referred to the on-going issue of the trees behind the Youth Centre which interfere with the building. This is an issue for ECC Property Service.

Meeting closed 8.26pm

DRAFT