

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

MINUTES of a Meeting of the COUNCIL held at 7.45pm on Wednesday 27 February 2019 in the Day Centre, Crafton Green, Chapel Hill, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex

**PRESENT:** Cllr M Caton (Chairman), Cllrs A Barnes, S Dunn, J Hudson, M Jessup, P Jones, J Kavanagh, J O'Brien, J Salmon, G Sell, V Trundle and D Wallace-Jarvis

**ATTENDING:** Mrs R Clifford - Clerk

Cty Cllr Ray Gooding  
8 members of the public

**391 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs C Dean, R Rands and F Richards and from Dist Cllr Dean. Mr T Lloyd - Assistant to the Clerk

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A member of the public addressed the meeting on the subject of Stansted Football Club. The Club has an opportunity to be promoted, but requires funding to upgrade its facilities. He asked whether the Council could assist with advice on sources of funding. The Chairman suggested that the speaker should meet with Trevor Lloyd to discuss funding sources, and offered to raise the matter with the Stansted Business Forum. Cty Cllr Gooding said that he would raise this at County Hall.

A resident of High Lane spoke in support of her planning application – item 9 (5).

A resident of Cambridge Road referred to cars being parked outside the cottages – some of which were owned by a local car sales business and were for sale. The Chairman agreed that the Council would write to the business. The resident spoke again in favour of a Residents' Parking Scheme and he was reminded that an application would have to come from the residents and not the Parish Council.

**392 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - Cllr Wallace-Jarvis, item 9(5) as a neighbour.

**393 MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 30 JANUARY 2019**

The minute numbering was corrected, after which the minutes were approved.

**394 MATTERS ARISING**

395 (1) – Cllr Kavanagh reported that the Local History Society had commented on this application.

**395 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** - Attached

**396 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN** - None.

**397a DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Sell reported:

- UDC has approved a 2.99% increase in the budget which he supported. He disagreed with the proposed spending for a running track at Carver Barracks and with the Council's investment strategy. Suggestions for improvements in governance arrangements should be considered in April.

- On the many years of work undertaken by Cllr Wallace-Jarvis in her role as Secretary to the Birchanger Wood Trust. Through her hard work, and that of others, the Wood was rescued and its future in public ownership assured.
- Rebecca Dobson, Electoral Registration Officer, will be leaving UDC in April.

### 397b COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Gooding reported that:

- He understands there have been in excess of 20,000 responses to the Library Consultation. He has received emails direct, but also “commercial” emails. Cllr Sell asked whether Cllr Gooding thought that the letter signed by 11 Essex MP’s would have any effect. The Chairman reported that the Library Working Group had been speaking to people on the streets whilst handing out flyers and she was pleasantly surprised at how many people said they had responded, particularly youngsters.
- He echoed Cllr Sell’s comments about Cllr Wallace-Jarvis’s hard work; as a resident of Birchanger he had benefited from the upgraded paths.
- The budget has been reduced by £59m so an uplift of 2.99% had been approved, with a further 1% for Adult Social Care. £1m has been set aside to deal with mental health issues across the county, and £400,000 to target “county lines” and gang culture – this is county-wide and cannot be ignored.
- He has investigated the issue of the pavement outside Magna Carta primary school; there is no contractual obligation for further repairs but he is looking for ways that improvements might be achieved.

### 398 FINANCE

- a) The list of payments was approved.
- b) The income and expenditure statement to 31 January 2019 was received.
- c) The VAT return to 31 December 2018 was tabled.
- d) The internal auditor had noted that the Clerk’s salary increase, and NALC’s revision of the spinal column point system, meant that the Clerk is now on Scale 3 instead of Scale 2, but scale changes require the approval of the Council.

Having been proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr Sell, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** to confirm that the Clerk is now paid under Scale 3, at the relevant SCP.

### 399 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 1 UTT/18/3061/FUL - 1a Lower Street  
Change of use from D1 (cooking School) to mixed B1 and D1 use (office and training)

No comment.

- 2 UTT/19/0012/HHF - Ladbrookes, 21 Bentfield Road  
Demolition of existing brick wall and creation of hard standing parking for 3 vehicles

No objections as long as the wall is not protected, ie by the UDC Local Heritage List.

- 3 UTT/19/0169/FUL - 1 Water Lane  
Demolition of outbuilding and erection of new 2 bedroom dwelling and alterations to parking and access for existing dwelling

Members objected on the grounds of over-development of the site and out of keeping in the street scene. It was noted that the Neighbourhood Development Plan group had identified these cottages as being worthy of entry on the UDC Local Heritage List.

- 4 UTT/19/0312/FUL - The Stables, May Walk  
Change of use and conversion of an existing redundant livery stable block, into 2 dwellings

Members objected as contrary to policy 28STA17 in the deposited draft Local Plan, and policy S7 relating to the countryside.

- 5 UTT/19/0223/HHF - 1 High Lane  
Construction of driveway, turning and parking area. Replacement of concrete steps with brick risers and paving slabs, and reinstatement of handrail. Creation of dropped kerb/vehicular crossover.

Members supported this application.

- 6 UTT/19/0318/HHF - The Gunyah, Elsenham Road  
Replacement conservatory including ground floor rear extension, demolition of front porch, extension to front to create new entrance. Front and side extension, insertion of dormer windows to front and rear, replacement roof tiles, external wall insulation and recladding

No comment.

- 7 UTT/19/0319/HHF - The Gunyah, Elsenham Road  
First floor extension to garage including balcony, gable and external staircase

No objections but seek a condition tying the ownership of the garage to that of the main dwelling to prevent it from being sold off separately.

#### 400 OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Open Spaces Committee held on 16 January 2019 were approved.

#### 401 DAY CENTRE

A discussion about the future of the Day Centre is deferred pending further information being received.

#### 402 CRAFTON GREEN HOUSE

A report on the progress of the working group had been circulated with the agenda. After brief discussion, and having been proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr O'Brien, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** that two possibilities should be investigated as a matter of urgency:

- a) the cost of demolition of the house to enable an expansion of the car park
- b) the possibility of leasing the house for use as serviced offices, or other use

**403 LIBRARY – FURTHER RESPONSE OR DECISION TO ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL**

The Chairman reported that following the closure of the Library Consultation, an email had been received from Alex Garnett, Head of Customer Communities and Optimisation. She read the email to the meeting, which basically offered the Parish Council a one-off payment of £10,000 for the Library Service to move into and occupy the space in the new building for one year; ELS would meet the costs of the move and fitting out their space and opening hours would remain at 18.5 hours per week run by two staff initially.

Cllr O'Brien commented that it was positive news and gives an opportunity to demonstrate how important the service is to the local community, but the Council should still push for the full 10-year Lease and full payment. Cllr Barnes questioned whether 50% of the income should be accepted but Cllr Jones considered that the offer may be withdrawn if not accepted. Together with the Chairman, he would insist that Essex Library Service honour their original commitment. Cllr Sell agreed with this stance – it is important to get the library established in the new building. Its success would then depend on the quality and variety of services on offer. This one-year deal is a welcome step forward but is a drop in the ocean for Essex County Council.

The Chairman expressed her thanks to the Library working group and local campaign committee for their support through the consultation period. It was essential now to rally the local community, and those surrounding Stansted, to use the facility.

Having been proposed by Cllr Jones, and seconded by Cllr O'Brien, it was unanimously

- RESOLVED**
- a) to authorise the Clerk to sign a one-year lease with Essex Library Service at a cost of £10,000, and
  - b) to reiterate the Council's view that it expects ELS to honour its commitment to a 10-year lease at £13,000 per annum plus 50% share of the running costs.

Regarding an opening date, it was agreed that having received this news, the logical step would be for the Parish Council and Library to agree a joint opening.

- 404 LIST OF CORRESPONDENCE** - none.
- 405 PLANNING APPLICATIONS DETERMINED** - list circulated with agenda.
- 406 CLERK'S RECORD OF PLANS** - available in the office.

Meeting closed at 9.34pm