



STANDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 25th October in the Community Centre, Puckeridge, at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr Richard Stacey (Chairman), Cllr Mrs Ruth Arikans, Cllr Mark Acford, Cllr Ken Goodsell, Cllr Mrs Mary Wilkinson, Cllr Colin Marks.
Belinda Irons: Clerk

PCSO Stephen Whittaker

PUBLIC: 7

11.246 Councillor apologies for absence: Cllr Ben Harris-Quinney, Cllr Graham Cowell, Cllr Alex Lang

11.247 Other Councillor absences: Cllr Mrs Graves

11.248 Declaration of Members' Interests (prejudicial/personal):

Cllr Stacey:	Employee of Herts County Council:	Personal interest
Cllr Acford:	Wife is Chairman of Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre:	Personal interest

11.249 Minutes of Previous Parish Council Meeting: 27th September 2011

Minutes of the meeting held on the 27th September 2011 were distributed to Councillors via email for their consideration before the meeting.

PROPOSAL: 'That the minutes be agreed as a true and correct record of the meeting'.

PROPOSED: Cllr Goodsell, seconded Cllr Mrs Willikinson. AGREED AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

11.250 Urgent matters not listed anywhere else on the agenda (for inclusion on the next agenda for full discussion): none.

11.251 PCSO Report

PCSO Whittaker reported that there had been one reported crime this month. There have been suspicious vehicles and persons in the area. The vigilance of a Neighbourhood Watch member resulted in an arrest in Cheshunt. The member had taken a vehicle registration number and reported it as suspicious. The Neighbourhood Watch team was very active in the area. Members of public were urged to report anything suspicious.

The next Community Meeting was due to take place on the 27th October and is open to everyone.

Any suspicious activity can be reported on the non-emergency Police number 101.

Meeting suspended for

Adjournment for Public Discussion: limited to 15 minutes

Allotments: the clerk apologised for not supplying the breakdown of costs to the allotment group. A member of the allotment group said that they understood that hedging works which formed part of the Standon Charity lease agreement had not been carried out by the Parish Council. Cllr Acford will investigate.

Cllr Acford reported that Standon Charities had reduced the land rental costs to ensure that this was not deterring applicants from taking allotments. As all allotments are now let, the Charity was reverting to a market rent. This would then increase in line with annual national inflation guidelines.

A parishioner commented that the PCSO referred to 'the village' which indicates Colliers End is not included. PCSO Whittaker stated that Colliers End is included as is Barwick and Wellpond Green.

Meeting resumed

11.252 Chairman's Announcements:

11.253 Planning:

Planning Applications

3/11/1619/FP Planning application Amended description 3.10.2011	Shenley, Cambridge Road, Puckeridge Raise roof to provide first floor accommodation, 2 storey front extension and new porch. 2 x front, 2 x rear dormers and insertion of roof light, new brick plinth <i>No objection</i>
3/11/1732/FP Planning application	1 Arches hall Cottages, Morley Lane, Latchford Single storey rear extension and rear dormer window. <i>No objection</i>
3/11/1767/FP Planning application	62 Station Road, Puckeridge Rear/side extension, part 2 storey, part single storey. <i>Object: scale and street scene.</i>

Planning Decisions

3/11/0924/FP Permission granted	Tollsworth Way Caravan Site, Puckeridge Erection of 25 residential units & associated car parking, access, amenity land & landscaping
3/11/1063/FP Decision awaited	2, Hammarsfield Close, Standon Proposed Porch Extension
3/11/1040/FP Decision awaited	The White Cottage, Latchford Demolition of existing conservatory and extension and erection of a replacement two storey extension

3/11/1039/FP Decision awaited	The White Cottage, Latchford Demolition of an existing two storey extension and erection of a replacement two storey extension
3/11/1161/FP Decision awaited	22 Southfields, Standon Single and two storey side extension
3/11/1256/FP Permission granted	Lower Wheeler, Rigery Lane, Colliers End Proposed loft conversion with rear dormer window.
3/11/1328/FP Permission granted	Stanmore, Wellpond Green Amendment to previously approved scheme ref 3/09/0679/FP for demolition of existing garage block and erection of garage and playroom with study at first floor. Alterations to provide a gym in lieu of playroom.
3/11/1314/FP Permission granted	74 High Street, Puckeridge Single storey rear extension
3/11/1219/FP Permission granted	Corona. Barwick Lane, Barwick Proposed double garage with store/workshop
3/11/1220/FP Permission granted	Corona. Barwick Lane, Barwick Conversion of existing garage to guest annex
3/11/1405/FP Permission refused	Wallace Land, Buntingford Road, Puckeridge Temporary access for construction for period of 6 months
3/11/1263/FP Permission granted	Dowsetts Farm, Colliers End Freestanding solar PV installation
3/11/1495/FP Decision awaited	46 High Street, Standon 1 st floor extension, removal of chimney stack, insertion of 3 dormer windows to roof, insertion of 2 rooflights.
3/11/1508/FP Decision awaited	The White Hart, High Street, Puckeridge Retrospective application for timber framed play equipment
3/11/1463/LC Conservation Area decision awaited	46 High Street, Standon Removal of a chimney stack
3/11/1514/FP Decision awaited	10 Town Farm Crescent, Standon 1 st floor side extension
3/11/1587/FP Decision awaited	2 Southfields, Standon Single storey side and front extension
3/11/1620/FP Decision awaited	26 St John's, Puckeridge Erection of a glazed canopy

APPEALS

App/J1915/A/11/2153815/NWF	Agricultural workshop and farm office Dowsetts Farm, Dowsetts Lane. Colliers End.
3/10/1692/FP; 3/10/1688/CL; 3/10/1691/CL Under Appeal APP/J1915/A/11/2152982/NWF Informal Hearing: 26/10/2011. 10am. Wallfields.	The White Cottage, Latchford Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling. Raising roof ridge line of existing garage with alternations and use as an annexe.
3/11/0173/FP Under Appeal	Barn Cottage, Mill End, Standon Front dormer window

National Planning Policy Framework:

Consultation:

A letter has been sent objecting to the principle of a presumption in favour of development, commenting that the Planning Authority currently appears to take little notice of Parish Council recommendations and questioning why Neighbourhood Plans would give greater power to Parish Councils.

PC planning procedure:

proposed change:

Currently, the Planning Committee take decisions on planning applications at the Planning Committee meetings, but the whole Council takes decisions on planning applications presented at a Parish Council meeting. This may lead to a lack of consistency in decision making. It was proposed that a Planning Committee meeting be held before the Parish Council meeting to enable the Planning committee to take all decisions on planning applications.

PROPOSAL: 'That Standon Parish Council Planning Committee discuss and comment upon all planning applications at Planning Committee meetings to be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month, commencing at 7.00pm.' PROPOSED: Chairman. AGREED AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY.

East Herts Association of Parish and Town Councils:

This is a new Association formed with the help and advice of HAPTC, to enable parish and town councils to come together to discuss issues of common interest.

Plans available to Town Councils: survey on PC needs: EHPTC was advised that whilst EHDC stopped hard copies of plans being sent to parish clerks, town councils continued to receive hard copies. EHAPTC is conducting a survey to ascertain parish need for hard copies.

ACTION: Cllr Mrs Wilkinson

Exclusion of elected Councillors from SLAA: EHAPTC has written to Cllr Mike Carver on this and other issues arising from the Strategic Land Availability Assessment. The response from Cllr Carver did not answer the specific questions posed, and a second letter will be sent.

Cllr Marks said that issues around EHDC planning policy were a priority for EHAPTC, particularly the SLAA Partnership, where clerks and parish representatives were outnumbered 3 to 13 by developers and land agents. Councillors who had expressed a desire to be present had been told they would be denied access if they attended the meetings.

There was general agreement that a meeting be requested with Cllrs Andrews and Dearman to discuss the Parish Council concerns over planning issues. **ACTION: CLERK**

EHDC Local Development Framework:

It was recommended that a representative from the Planning Committee attend the meeting.

11.254 Finance: Itemised Payments will be shown on a separate Appendix

Finance Summary:	Balance Brought Forward:	£92,812.85
	Plus Income	£0.00
	Less Payments	£4,638.90
(less Ring Fenced:		
Community Led Plan	£473.05	
Play Equipment	£6,936.94	
Jubilee Trust Fund	£1,785.87	
Locality Budget Grant	£3,550.00	£12,745.86
	Total available to Council	£75,428.09

PROPOSAL: 'That the monthly accounts be approved, and payments be authorised'.

PROPOSED: Cllr Mrs Arikans, seconded Cllr Acford. AGREED AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

Bank Signatories: bank accounts: update: Cllr Mrs Arikans to be added.

The clerk commented that the Co-Operative Bank is offering a higher interest rate than the Parish Council bank. Cllr Marks suggested retaining the existing current account and opening a higher interest savings account. Item for the Finance meeting agenda.

11.255 Highways Issues:

Minutes of the Highways Meeting: To be circulated.

South Road/Station Road junction: Tree Preservation Order: update: no information available

Memorial Bench: Circle Anglia update: no information available
Dowsetts Lane: update: Cllr Lang in contact with family.

A120 Update: The resurfacing works have now been completed. Patching works are still to be undertaken. Further surfacing works are to be undertaken next spring.
Cllr Mrs Wilkinson commented that whilst thanks are offered to HCC for replacing the broken sign post in Standon High Street, the broken sign had been put back, not replaced.

Salt bin provision/ self help Town and Parish Councils are to be offered up to 85kg of salt to be used at points where there is an identified risk. However, the Council would need to provide secure storage, and have an operative able to distribute when the weather was icy. The council

would not have liability provided it adhered to operational directives from HCC.

ACTION: NOV AGENDA

Mentley Lane East

Road Closure: to take place between 14/11/2011 and 30/8/2012 for 10 days. Noted.

11.256 Community Centre:
Minutes of the meeting:
Guttering missing

The clerk is to seek additional quotes.

ACTION: CLERK

Leak

There is considerable cracking on internal walls, which may be connected to standing water on the footpath outside the building, but on the sewage pipe run. Quotes are to be sought. (NOTE TO MINUTES: cracking worsened over the following weekend and a surveyor has been appointed to investigate). **ACTION: CLERK**

11.257 Standon Village Hall:
Minutes of the Standon Village Hall Committee: 2011

11.258 Playing Field, Playground and green spaces:

Cricket Square: update: no update available. **ACTION: CLERK**

Playground Inspection report: update/decision: Skate ramps were not included in the report. The clerk will contact EHDC and arrange for this to be done. **ACTION: CLERK**

Play Equipment Replacement Programme: One quote has been received. Two further quotes will be sought. **ACTION: CLERK**

Skate ramps: incidents: Several emails had been received concerning children using scooters on the ramps and receiving injuries when they fell off the scooters. A risk assessment needs to be completed, and the suitability of the ramps for scooter use assessed. **ACTION: CLERK**

Play area: No dogs allowed signage required. **ACTION: CLERK**

11.259 Allotments: Update:
Cllr Mrs Wilkinson reported that no residents attended the Allotment meeting. Cllr Mrs Wilkinson suggested that Standon Parish Council pay a year of the land rent to pump prime the Allotment Group if it formed an Association. Cllr Mrs Wilkinson also suggested that the allotment site be made secure by the installation of a gate at the entrance.
Cllr Acford reported that the Standon Charities increase in land rental was a 'one-off' increase, and all further increases would reflect inflation rates.
Cllr Acford will investigate terms of the lease. **ACTION: CLLR ACFORD**

The clerk is to supply the requested financial breakdown. **ACTION: CLERK**

Community orchard: discussion/decision:
Further information is to be sought from Three Villages Eco Group **ACTION: CLERK**

11.260 Community Led Plan:
Distribution: decision:
Cllr Mrs Arikans suggested the document be amended to show the new non-emergency Police contact number '101'.
It was recommended that the Finance Committee make the decision regarding distribution and related costs. **ACTION: FINANCE COMMITTEE**

11.261 Litter Agency:
Litter bin emptying: Return of contract to EHDC: update:
The clerk reported that EHDC now required a list of EHDC owned bins, and Parish Council owned bins, to enable a recharge of the cost of collection. Councillors stated that all bins were supplied by EHDC. The clerk will contact EHDC with this information. **ACTION: CLERK**

Dog bins un-emptied:
Residents had advised both EHDC and the Parish Council that some bins had not been emptied. The clerk contacted EHDC, and the bins were subsequently emptied.

Dog bin Station Road : update:
The clerk had been assured by EHDC that the order had placed with a contractor for installation. The clerk will check again. **ACTION: CLERK**

11.262 PC Noticeboard: Barwick: notice board knocked down by vehicle
The Parish Council contractor has repaired and reinstated the notice board.

11.263 Standon Charities: Update
The next meeting will take place on the 7th November.

11.264 East Herts Association of Parish & Town Councils: Report: Cllr Marks
Cllr Marks commented that the inaugural meeting of EHAPTC was very well supported by Parish Councils, and that there may need to be a limit of two PC representatives at any meeting. There is to be a rotating chairman. The concept is that EHAPTC will be the corporate voice for East Herts Town and Parish Councils, particularly when dealing with EHDC and HCC, but also when responding to Central Government consultations.

The main issues raised related to Planning, particularly the cessation of supply to hard copies of plans to Parish Councils, and the Strategic Land Availability Assessment Partnership, which has been covered above.

Town Clerks have independent meetings with EHDC officers, and would like parish support. It was reported that EHDC Officers take a very detached view of issues in the District, and it was not felt that Councillor involvement was appreciated.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Marks for attending the meeting.

11.267 Dates of Next Meetings:

Finance Meeting:	15 th November 2011
Planning Committee:	8 th November 2011
Agenda Meeting:	8 th November 2011.
Highways Meeting:	Thursday, 17 th November 2011
Standon Village Hall Committee:	2011
Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre:	2011

Parish Council Meetings:

22nd November.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

AGENDA AND MINUTES AVAILABLE VIA EMAIL FROM THE CLERK FREE OF CHARGE