

# STEEPLE ASHTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Parish Office:** 2 St Mary's School, High Street, Steeple Ashton, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 6EU

**Clerk:** Nicola Duke, April Rise, 81 Studland Park, Westbury, Wiltshire, BA13 3HN 01373 864127

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on  
**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021** at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllr Leonard (Chair), Cllr Dampier, Cllr Jones, Cllr Dallison, Cllr Tapper and Cllr Cottle.

**In attendance:** Nicola Duke (Parish Clerk), Wiltshire Councillor Seed and 4 members of the public.

## Open Forum

Members of the public were invited to make representations to the Council on any matters relating to the work of the Council or to raise any issues of concern:

- A resident asked the PC to approach WC for an update on planning issues at The Sanctuary, Dark Lane North. The Chair confirmed that the WC officer dealing with the issues had been away but had acknowledged the Council's email and would send a report in due course. Cllr Seed would hopefully be able to give an update.
- A resident drew attention to the correspondence relating to Keevil Airfield and sought permission to contribute when the item was discussed, this was granted.

	AGENDA ITEM
21.182	<b>Election of Chair</b> It was proposed by Cllr Dampier, seconded by Cllr Jones and resolved to elect Cllr Leonard as Chair of the Parish Council for the remainder of the municipal year.
21.183	<b>Apologies for Absence and to consider the reasons given</b> None.
21.184	<b>Declarations of Interest and Dispensations to Participate</b> Cllr Cottle declared an interest in the two planning applications to be considered as as an adjacent landowner.
21.185	<b>Minutes of Council Meetings</b> The minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on <b>4<sup>th</sup> October 2021</b> were approved for accuracy and adopted (proposed Cllr Jones, seconded Cllr Tapper).
21.186	<b>Wiltshire Council Report</b> Wiltshire Councillor Seed apologised for his absence at the last two Council meetings and provided an update on planning issues relating to The Sanctuary, Dark Lane North. He reported that he had contacted WC in respect of this and had received confirmation that there was only one live planning application in the system relating

	<p>to this site, which related to the building itself. The external works had no live planning application in place, the previous applications having been withdrawn. The works causing concern were therefore an enforcement issue. A resident drew attention to the ambiguity as to which application was currently live (ie the 2006 or 2008 permission) and Cllr Seed undertook to clarify this as well as chase WC for a more proactive approach to outstanding enforcement issues.</p>
<p><b>21.187</b></p>	<p><b>Planning Applications</b> None at time of issue.</p> <p>Members considered planning applications received after the issue of the agenda (<i>where the response time fell outside of the meeting schedule</i>).</p> <p><b>PL/2021/09879</b> - Raydown Edington BA13 4NW - Construction of agricultural building to be used for the storage of agricultural machinery and commodities – No objection.</p> <p><b>PL/2021/10049</b> - 1 The Follies, Southbrook Lane, Steeple Ashton, BA14 6HN - 2nd Storey Extension over existing footprint. Replace pre-fabricated garages with carport – No objection.</p>
<p><b>20.188</b></p>	<p><b>St Mary's Playing Field</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Members received a report from Cllr Dampier on the responses from the football teams following a meeting with PC representatives. A response had been received from The Stiffs (Saturday team) which was felt to be constructive, particularly in respect of proposals for a wider engagement with the village. It was agreed to request that the team provide details of a Code of Conduct for players. It was noted that no response had been received from SA FC (Sunday team). Following debate, it was resolved to issue SA FC with a notice to terminate use of the pitch from January 2022 (proposed Cllr Dampier, seconded Cllr Leonard). It was further agreed that the football fees would be reviewed as part of the budget setting process in January 2022.</li> <li>b) Members considered quotations for the repair of the kick wall (information previously circulated) and the Chair reported that he had contacted a local contractor for a second quote. The item would therefore be listed for a future agenda when the second quote was available.</li> <li>c) Members considered a request from the Climate Group for permission to plant approx. 10 trees along the south boundary of the field. This request was approved.</li> <li>d) Cllr Dampier reported that 8 residents had agreed to join the Playing Field Working Group and a date for the first meeting was being arranged. It was confirmed that the group would meet in the village hall.</li> </ul>

<p><b>20.189</b></p>	<p><b>Overgrown tree, Newleaze</b></p> <p>a) Members received a report from Cllrs Cottle and Leonard following the recent inspection of the overgrown ash tree at Newleaze and it was agreed that the tree should be retained and trimmed. It was proposed by Cllr Leonard, seconded by Cllr Jones and resolved to accept the quotation from Acer Tree Surgeons at a cost of £1,290 plus vat. Cllr Jones raised the issue of the overhanging tree in Acreshort Park; which had been cut back by a resident. It was noted that the tree surgeon had also been asked to look at this tree and assess any damage. The requirement for tree surveys on PC tree stock was discussed and it was agreed to ask the Tree Surgeon for his thoughts on this.</p> <p>b) Cllr Leonard reported on the options for the associated repair of the footpath, which had been damaged by the tree roots and referred to his previously circulated suggestion that the gravel path be installed. The contractor had pointed out that this surface would wear over time and potentially cause a trip hazard. It was therefore felt that the reinstatement would need to be asphalt. A quote to relay the path had been received at a cost of £1,250 plus vat. A second quote was awaited and the item would be listed for a future agenda.</p>
<p><b>21.190</b></p>	<p><b>Community Speed Watch</b></p> <p>Information relating to the potential reinstatement of the CSW team had been circulated and Cllr Tapper spoke to the item. He reported that he had sought information from the CSW team leader at Trowbridge who had confirmed that the group would need to restart from scratch and surveys would need to be carried out, insurance liabilities would be covered by the CSW team and that the scheme could be run by parishioners, the PC or a mixture of both. Cllr Tapper reported that he was happy to act as the PC link to the new group and liaise with the CSW team for the relevant surveys to be carried out. This course of action was resolved (proposed Cllr Leonard, seconded Cllr Dampier). The Clerk would provide Cllr Tapper with the contact details for the volunteers and Cllr Jones would liaise with Cllr Tapper in respect of locations for the metro count required.</p>
<p><b>21.191</b></p>	<p><b>Westbury Town Council – Request for funding support</b></p> <p>Members received further information relating to the request from WTC regarding funding support for a legal challenge in respect of the NRE incinerator planning permission and, following debate, it was resolved that the Parish Council would not provide financial support at this time.</p>
<p><b>21.192</b></p>	<p><b>Highways</b></p> <p>a) Highways Strategy – Members considered 2-3 priority projects for progression having regard to a report previously circulated. Cllr Jones reported that he and Cllr Leonard had walked the village and looked at the issues included in the report. Following debate, it was agreed to invite WC to attend a site meeting to look at the top 3 priorities, which were agreed as:</p> <p>a. Visibility on the approaches to the village.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Issues with potentially dangerous parking on some parts of the High Street.</li> <li>c. Visibility coming into village from both entrances from the A350 into the 30mph, with consideration being given to the installation of red road surfacing and white lines to visually narrow the road.</li> </ul> <p>The Clerk would liaise with Wiltshire Council Highways and request a site visit. Cllr Tapper offered to assist Cllrs Jones and Leonard with these projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) SID – the Parish Clerk reported that the SLR device had been delivered and arrangements for its installation were being made.</li> <li>c) Verge side parking –information from Wiltshire Council had been circulated to members and consideration was given to the installation of white posts to prevent this. It was agreed to add this issue to the site visit with Wiltshire Council, noting that parking was an issue at Newleaze and any measures taken would need resident buy in to be successful.</li> <li>d) Footpath outside village hall –information from Wiltshire Council had been circulated to members and it was agreed to add to the agenda for the WC site visit, noting that more in keeping surfacing could be perhaps identified.</li> </ul>
<p><b>21.193</b></p>	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p>Members considered if a Neighbourhood Plan for Steeple Ashton was justified and, following debate, it was agreed that Cllr Dallison would research available consultancy support and report back to a future meeting.</p>
<p><b>21.194</b></p>	<p><b>Parish Office, Village Shop</b></p> <p>Members received and considered a report from Mrs Buffery-King re: the PC use of the parish office in the village shop. Following debate, it was agreed not to retain any presence in the village shop, to sort and scan any filing to be retained and liaise with the village shop for any future grant support required.</p>
<p><b>21.195</b></p>	<p><b>Correspondence (previously circulated)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Local resident re: hedge cutting at the front of Holmleaze - it was confirmed that this work had now been carried out. Cllr Cottle was liaising with Mr Matthews for the hedge cutting at St Mary’s.</li> <li>b) STASH re: temporary structure outside village shop for use of café patrons- Members discussed the request and agreed that they had no objection.</li> <li>c) Local resident: re Fibre-to-the-Premises BT project – it was resolved to formally support the project (proposed Cllr Dallison, seconded Cllr Cottle).</li> </ul>

	<p>d) Watchkeeper Force re: Airspace Change Proposal – members considered the correspondence and information contained therein and agreed to positively support the proposals.</p>
<b>21.196</b>	<p><b>Councillor and Clerk Reports</b></p> <p>a) Status of the new Website – the Parish Clerk reported that the PC information had been uploaded and sought instruction as to how best to deal with the input of community data. It was agreed that the website would be launched with the PC data and the community invited to submit content to the Clerk. This would be advertised in the village newsletter.</p> <p>b) Parish Covid Support Group – the Parish Clerk reported that Wiltshire Council had requested an update on the status of the Group and it was agreed to report that the group had stood down but would reinvigorate if required, at which time contact details will be provided.</p> <p>c) Planning Training – the Parish Clerk suggested that the Planning training be arranged prior to the December meeting. This was agreed.</p> <p>d) Defibrillator Awareness Event – the Parish Clerk reported that the Village Hall was available on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and this was approved. The Clerk was asked to obtain an update on the recent incident involving the use of the defibrillator (October minutes refer).</p> <p>e) Climate Group request for up to £500 for tree guards – Cllr Leonard spoke to the request, which was approved (proposed Cllr Leonard, seconded Cllr Dallison). Cllr Cottle reported that he had been offered some used tree guards, which would be investigated for suitability; wooden stakes would still be required for these.</p>
<b>21.197</b>	<p><b>Village Newsletter</b></p> <p>Members agreed the following items for inclusion in the village newsletter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New website</li> <li>• Call for Parish Councillors</li> <li>• Planning Applications</li> <li>• Chair’s Christmas Message</li> <li>• Christmas Event</li> </ul>
<b>21.198</b>	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Planning training event and Planning applications only (formal meeting only if required). The Clerk would look at available dates for the January meeting, given that the scheduled date was a bank holiday.</p> <p>Members considered any implications for in person meetings arising from the recent increase in local Covid infection rates and it was agreed to re-introduce social distancing and encourage the use of face masks.</p>

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9. 45 pm.

ADOPTED