

# SPC STANDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Standon Parish Council held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2024 at 7.30pm in the Lankester Lounge, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre, Station Road, Puckeridge

**PRESENT:** Cllr Tony Cracknell (Chairman), Cllr Sally Crook, Cllr Ralph Granville, Cllr Chris Leage, Cllr Michael Marshall, Cllr Maureen Wren.

**CLERK:** Belinda Irons

**PUBLIC:** 4

24.124 Councillor absences: Cllr Pat Foot: resignation  
Cllr Yates: no apologies

24.125 Declaration of Members' Interests for this meeting:  
Cllr Cracknell Community Centre committee  
Cllr Leage Community Centre committee  
Cllr Wren Community Centre committee  
Cllr Crook Village Hall committee: PC representative  
Cllr Marshall Village Hall committee: PC representative

24.126 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting  
**RESOLUTION: *That Standon Parish Council herewith agrees the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2024***

PROPOSED: Cllr Cracknell, seconded

24.127 Public comment or representation:

No comments received.

24.128 Standon Village Hall: Cllr Marshall & Crook

Culvert: progress update: the culvert has now been completely cleared and repaired. All health & safety requirements have been adhered to. The cost to date is £63,716. A further invoice is anticipated from the Health & Safety consultant. A vote of thanks was extended to Standon Village Hall Committee for it's donation of £10,000. A formal letter of thanks is to be sent.

**ACTION: CLERK**

Updated security re Southport incident: Parish Council representatives to raise with the Standon Village Hall Committee.

24.129 Recreation Ground Management Committee: Report

Updated security re Southport incident: Cllr Leage and the Clerk met with a door entry specialist and Wilby & Burnett to discuss increasing security. New main front doors are needed as they are not fit for purpose. A specialist door lock system which will connect with the automated system is required. Anticipated total cost is approximately £6,000. Linking with the CCTV would be an additional cost. It is hoped that this will be funded through the Section 106 grant with the propose canopy.

Veterans Football Club: a representative of the Club attended the meeting and explained that the Vets cannot afford the full cost which was set due to low numbers playing. A compromise position was agreed that when Vets mow and mark out the pitch will be £30. When matches fall in the grass mowing season, they will pay £40 per match. Fixtures are to be supplied.

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Facebook bullying: extensive Facebook bullying has taken place related to a business using the Community Centre and an issue specific to that business. This is completely unacceptable behaviour from friends and family of that business and will not be tolerated.

Standon Parish Council acts without fear or favour and for the benefit of the whole Parish. The Parish Council has repeatedly explained the situation to the business, and this was stated as accepted. Using Facebook to bully Parish Councillors has resulted in two highly valued Councillors resigning.

Cllr Foot resignation: *I have made this decision in the light of recent events concerning social media and feel that the work of parish council volunteers is not valued by all members of our community.*

Cllr Wren resignation: *I am afraid this is due to the recent abuse and bullying on social media of Parish Councillors and I find this totally unacceptable and I am not willing to volunteer my services to people who have no appreciation of the work we do on their behalf.*

Cllr Wren removed from the table and joined members of the public.

The Chairman offered a vote of thanks to Pat Foot and Maureen Wren for their long and diligent service. They are a great loss to the community and will both be very missed.

Whilst the Parish Council will always work towards a mutually agreeable solution to a problem, sometimes decisions have to be taken which may be unpalatable to some. No decision is taken lightly and mitigation is often achieved – in this case additional storage for outdoor toys in the football shed.

The level of misinformation disseminated on Facebook will be reviewed and those responsible held to account.

**RESOLUTION: That Standon Parish Council herewith agrees to send a second formal warning to a specified Community Centre business hirer over staff behaviour.** PROPOSED: Cllr Cracknell, seconded Cllr Crook. AGREED AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY. This business hirer will be called to a meeting to explain behaviour of staff. **ACTION: CLERK**

A formal response to the Facebook comments will be posted to the Parish Council website.

Options regarding management of the Community Centre will be explored.

Cllr Marshall advised that the Community Centre Car Park height barrier has been damaged by persons unknown. A repair is needed to be undertaken as a priority. Item for the next agenda. **ACTION: CLERK**

Cllr Marshall further advised that the Community Centre power consumption has never exceeded the capacity. Eon charges for capacity use on a daily basis. UK Power Networks are reviewing the situation. Item for the next agenda. **ACTION: CLERK**

Cllr Marshall advised that tree and hedge work is needed and a quote has been achieved. Item for the next agenda. **ACTION: CLERK**

- 24.130 Station Road Bus Shelter: install new roof  
 Contractors quotes:  
 UK City Roofing Contractors: £1,200.00 including new noticeboard  
 L Olivers Roofing: £900.00  
 CLS Roofing: £5,600.00  
**AREOLUTION: That Standon Parish Council herewith agrees to appoint UK City Roofing Contractors to replace the flat roof on the Station Road, Puckeridge bus shelter.** PROPOSED: Cllr Cracknell, seconded Cllr Marshall. AGREED AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY.

24.131 Planning Matters: Cllr Leage Planning applications:

3/24/1457/OUT	Land north of Standon Hill (Café Field), Puckeridge Outline planning application for up to 91 dwellings (including affordable homes) with all matters reserved apart from access. <i>Objection: Highway access, emergency access on top of the hill, cycle access onto Standon Hill footway, hydrology, density, views, landscape, lack of consultation</i>
3/24/1390/HH	20 Vicarage Close, Standon Proposed garage conversion, replace garage door with new front window. Proposed pitched roof to replace the front porch flat roof. New first floor side window. Replacement windows. Alterations to external materials. Creation of additional parking space on front lawn. <i>No objection</i>
3/24/1313/HH	The Powder House, Barwick Single storey side extension <i>No objection</i>

Other Planning Matters:

**Enforcement:** 24 Southfields, Standon: E/22/0239/ENF: 3/22/1713/CLPO

Withdrawn: Retrospective planning application awaited\_Case

Reference: EHDC567143343

Chaldean Farms, Great Barwick Farm, Barwick: E/23/0041/ENF

**Standon Business Park** EHDC update received.

Little Croft, Colliers End: 3/23/1659/CLEO: Erection of 2 separate outbuildings within the curtilage of a dwelling house as a use incidental to the enjoyment of a dwelling house: permission refused: appeal submitted. APP/J1915/X/23/3336014

Little Croft, Colliers End: Appeal: Retrospective application for the temporary use of outbuilding as C3 dwellinghouse during construction of primary dwellinghouse

Little Croft, Colliers End: 3/23/2094/FUL Retrospective erection of a workshop and change of use of land to residential land. Appeal submitted

Kings Yard, B1368: E/23/0056/ENF Concerns raised regarding change of use, encroachment on highway verge, dangerous parking resulting in sight obstruction of entrance to highway, dangerous working practices. The current planning application shows the original buildings have been removed. This is to be raised with EHDC.

**ACTION: CLERK**

EHDC: Village Hierarchy Study: response submitted

EHDC: District Plan Call for sites open 5.7.2024 to 30.9.2024  
 24.132 Finance: Cllr Foot  
 July Payments

Cheque No	Description	Supplier		VAT Type		Net
	Play Inspection	Broadmead Leisure Ltd	S	60.00	12.00	72.00
	Payroll	James Todd & Co Ltd	S	36.00	7.20	43.20
	Play Repairs	Broadmead Leisure Ltd	S	235.00	47.00	282.00
	Asset Maintenance	Pearce	Z	16.45		16.45
	Community Centre	Paxtons Home Improvements Ltd	S	399.90	79.98	479.88
	Community Centre Cleaning	Cleaner	Z	569.72		569.72
	Community Centre Cleaning	Eman Industries Ltd	S	765.59	153.12	918.71
	Community Centre	Wilby & Burnett Surveyors	S	276.79	55.36	332.15
	Community Centre	Hall WD refund	S	316.67	63.33	380.00
	Broadband	BT Group plc	S	60.89	12.18	73.07
	Clerk mobile phone	EE Ltd	S	20.18	4.04	24.22
	Pension	NEST Pension	Z	116.45		116.45
	Salary	Belinda Irons	Z	1,664.73		1,664.73
	PAYE & NICs	HMRC	Z	648.96		648.96
	Community Centre	Mrs J	Z	17.53		17.53
	Community Centre electricity	Eon	S	646.80	129.36	776.16
	Community Centre	East Herts District Council	Z	786.00		786.00
	Play Repairs	Broadmead Leisure Ltd	S	1,200.00	240.00	1,440.00
	Broadband	BT Group plc	S			
	Community Centre Trade Waste	East Herts District Council	Z	345.42		345.42
	Community Centre	East Herts District Council	Z			
	Culvert beneath Village Hall	Jonathan Wilson (Contracting)	Z	4,575.00		4,575.00
	Asset Maintenance	The Community Heartbeat Trust (Solutions) Ltd	S	275.00	55.00	330.00
	Community Centre Cleaning	Cleaner	Z	576.00		576.00
		<b>Total</b>		<b>13,609.08</b>	<b>858.57</b>	<b>14,467.65</b>

**RESOLUTION: That Standon Parish Council herewith agrees the payments presented on the schedule provided to Councillors by email in advance of the meeting** PROPOSED: Cllr Cracknell, seconded Cllr Leage. AGREED AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY  
 Bank Reconciliation 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024 (Scribe)

Cash in Hand 01/04/2024	264,846.64
ADD Receipts 01/04/2024 - 31/07/2024	73,391.74
	338,238.38
SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2024 - 31/07/2024	102,622.84
A Cash in Hand 31/07/2024	<b>235,615.54</b> (per Cash Book)

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Cash in hand per Bank Statements	
Petty Cash 31/07/2024	0.00
current account 31/07/2024	71,490.46
reserve 31/07/2024	22,808.75
Unity Bank 31/07/2024	51,075.19
Building Society 31/07/2024	81,147.14
Standon Recreation Ground Charity 31/07/2024	0.00
	226,521.54 B
Less unrepresented payments	906.00
Plus unrepresented receipts	10,000.00
Adjusted Bank Balance	<b>235,615.54</b>
A = B Checks out OK	

**RESOLUTION: That Standon Parish Council herewith agrees the bank reconciliation for 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024 calculated through the Scribe accounting system, against the bank statements emailed to all Councillors in advance of the meeting** PROPOSED: Cllr Cracknell, seconded Cllr Leage. AGREED AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

- b. Bank signatories: update: Building Society. Following the resignations of bank signatories Cllrs Foot and Wren, new signatories are required as a matter of urgency.

**RESOLUTION: That Standon Parish Council herewith agrees to remove Cllrs Chalkley, Foot and Wren as signatories, and appoints Cllrs Cracknell and Granville as signatories with immediate effect.**

PROPOSED: Cllr Crook, seconded Cllr Leage. AGREED AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY.

- c. Unity Trust Bank Instant Savings Account:  
d. Audit: documents submitted to PKF Littlejohn and on Standon Parish Council website.

24.133 SECTION 106:

- a) Outdoor Sports Provision: MUGA: proposal to install a multi-use games area between the playground and the skate park to enable netball, basketball and 5 a-side football. Suitable fencing with a tarmac top. Planning permission will be applied for as necessary. Budget: **£101,210.38**

Quotes received:

Wicksteed: £108,938.92 with 3 meter fencing

Sovereign Play £60,815.44 – wetpour 3 meter fencing: waiting tarmac quote

Caloo £99,995.00 with 3 meter fencing

Cllr Granville advised that he has met all three contractors. Sovereign Play has not provided the necessary information in a timely manner and, despite repeated phone calls, has failed to advise on key aspects of the quote. Wicksteed has provided information swiftly, and inspires confidence that they will work professionally and produce a good facility.

**RESOLUTION: That Standon Parish Council herewith applies to East Herts District Council for Section 106 funds to assist with installation of a Multi-Use Games Area on the Recreation Field with the preferred contractor named as Wicksteed** PROPOSED: Cllr Granville, seconded Cllr Crook. AGREED AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

The Clerk will make the application.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**RESOLUTION: That Standon Parish Council herewith applies to East Herts District Council for planning permission for installation of a Multi-Use Games Area on the Recreation Field**

PROPOSED: Cllr Cracknell, seconded Cllr Crook. AGREED AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY Cllr Cracknell will submit the planning application.

**ACTION: T CRACKNELL**

- b) Parks & Public Gardens - towards the improvement of parks & public gardens facilities within the Parish of Standon - **£10,306.11**: options:  
To implement in part or whole the EHDC biodiversity plan  
To install an 'open garden' area to the entrance to the allotments for community benefit. It was reported that some allotment holders do not want a garden at the entrance point. NOTED.
- c) Community Centres and Village Halls Contribution - Towards an extension to the Puckeridge Community Centre – total available **£32,820.29**: option: front extension with new automated entry doors. Wilby & Burnett are in the process of seeking three quotes for submission to EHDC.

24.134 Correspondence

HCC Highways: Micro-surfacing Gaudie Way: 2-4 September

HCC Highways: Micro-surfacing Park Lane: 2-4 September

24.135 Dates of Next Meetings 2024:

26<sup>th</sup> September; 24<sup>th</sup> October; 28<sup>th</sup> November;

24.136 Planning decisions and awaited decisions: Cllr Leage

3/20/1146/OUT Decision awaited	Standon Business Park Stortford Road Standon Outline planning permission for demolition of existing buildings and construction of mixed use development comprising 30 residential dwellings and commercial development of 1021 square metres of B1(a) office use, with associated 96 car parking spaces and landscaping - all matters reserved except for access.
3/23/1659/CLEO Permission refused: appeal submitted	Little Croft, Colliers End The erection of two separate outbuildings within the curtilage of a dwellinghouse as a use incidental to the enjoyment of a dwelling house.
3/23/2094/FUL Permission refused: appeal submitted	Little Croft, Colliers End Retrospective erection of a workshop and change of use of land to residential curtilage
3/23/2010/FUL Permission granted	New Street Farm, Kents Lane, Standon Change of use from agricultural roadside barn to Class B2 (industrial),

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	<p>p. 2024.69</p> <p>Class B8 (storage and distribution) and Class E (commercial, business and services). Timber part glazed screen and wall added to the South elevation. New window added to East elevation.</p>
<p>3/23/2210/FUL Decision awaited</p>	<p>Vintage Corner Service Station, Cambridge Road, Puckeridge Demolition of filling station, shop and associated outbuilding. Erection of small supermarket with car parking and plantroom. Creation of new vehicle and pedestrian access ways</p>
<p>3/24/0491/LBC Permission granted</p>	<p>New Street Farm, Kents Lane, Standon Conversion of agricultural roadside barn to industrial, storage and distribution and commercial, business and services. Timber part glazed screen and wall added to the South elevation. New window added to East elevation. Internal alteration to remove partition wall, install new partition walls and doors.</p>
<p>3/24/0282/LBC Decision awaited</p>	<p>Mentley Farm, Mentley Lane, Puckeridge External works to include - Re-pointing of chimneys, replacement of roof slates, replacement and repair of parapet copings. Replacement of rainwater goods and waste pipe. Re-pointing to brickwork, Window and door repairs, works to outside toilet to include the replacement of roof, SVP and lead verge. Internal repairs to include - Provision of insulation, replacement of ceilings to attic, stairs and cellar. Repairs and replacement of joists, posts, brick plinths, and fireplace in cellar. Replacement of electrics and plumbing and housing of new boiler. Replacement of all bathroom fixtures and fittings.</p>
<p>3/24/0920/LBC 3/24/0919/FUL Decision awaited</p>	<p>St Edmunds College, Old Hall Green Creation of a new covered atrium including first floor glazed lantern within an existing courtyard, which forms part of the Grade II listed main school block and the Grade II listed Allan Hall including removal of windows and low level brickwork, internal corridor partitions and doors,</p>

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	p. 2024.70 and the installation of new corridor doors, partitions at ground floor, with the installation of an external ground level air source heat pump
3/24/0968/HH Decision awaited	The Old House, Wellpond Green Construction of 1 <sup>st</sup> floor rear balcony & eternal spiral staircase.
3/24/1089/HH Decision awaited	Cotta, Hadham Road, Standon Removal of chimney. Proposed loft conversion, roof extension raising the roof height and alterations to roof comprising 2 rear facing dormers, 2 front facing roof light windows, re-align front gables and covered front porch. Re-position front door and windows. Alterations to fenestration.
3/24/0862/FUL Permission refused	Land adjacent to Falkenham, Wellpond Green Demolition of sheds. Erection of 2 single storey dwellings with associated access, car parking, amenity space, air source heat pumps, cycle/refuse storage and landscaping.
3/24/1088/FUL Decision awaited	Skeleton Green, Buntingford Road, Puckeridge Retention of containers ground and first floor with associated external stair access
3/24/1141/AGPN: Prior Approval application: Decision: Prior Approval not required	Dowsetts Farm, Dowsetts Lane, Colliers End Erection of general storage building, primarily for machinery and fertiliser:
3/24/0812/FUL Decision awaited	Rigery Farm, Colliers End Creation of agricultural access
3/24/1214/HH Decision awaited	The Poplars, Wellpond Green Erection of Car port/ outbuilding
3/24/1504/HH 3/24/1205/LBC Decision awaited	42 High Street, Standon Demolition of rear conservatory. Construction of single storey rear extension, installation of 3 side facing rooflight windows to detached garage. Internal alterations to the ground floor to install partition walls to create new shower room, block up 1 door and remove internal wall and to the first floor to install partition walls to create new en suite and cupboard and create 1 new doorway.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

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