



Stock Parish Council

The Tythe Barn, High Street, Stock, Essex. CM4 9BU

Council Minutes

held at Stock Cricket Club, The Club House, Common Road, Stock, CM4 9NF
at 7pm on Tuesday 13th February 2024

ATTENDEE'S: P Fenwick (Chairman), P McAlister, M Baker, M Eade, R Pritchard, J Pye, G Fullam (Clerk)

1. Apologies of absence

P Fenwick accepted the apologies of absence from
Ian Grundy
Sophie Porter
Mark Rolph
Matthew Gray

2. Minutes of last meeting

P Fenwick agreed and signed the minutes from the meeting dated 9/01/24

3. Co-option of new Councilors

P Fenwick co-opted Mandy Baker onto the council

4. Declaration of Councillor Interests relating to the Agenda

Later into the meeting M Baker declared an interest in planning application for 24/05602/CAT – The Rectory Hall High Street Stock

5. Public participation

A resident from Smallgains Lane brought up the issues with flooding and wanted to know what could be done as the planned roadworks to fix the pot holes had been cancelled by Essex Highways

P Fenwick said he had spoken with one of the farmers in Smallgains Lane and mentioned a ditch on private lane needs digging out. Look to liaise with C Swift to dig the ditch out. This should help reduce the surface water.

ACTION: P Fenwick to erect a sign on the private land to give notice of ditch being cleared.

ACTION: P Fenwick to speak with Swift and get a date they can start work on clearing the ditch

A Downham Road resident would like to see speed restrictions on Downham Road. Especially around Leather Bottle Hill. R Pritchard added that the flooding has got worse on Downham Road since the road had been resurfaced. A resident wanted to know if it was possible to have the ditches cleared every 2 to 3 years in Downham Road

ACTION: R Pritchard to investigate the problem with flooding and report back

ACTION: G Fullam to liaise with Jill for Neighbourhood Watch in Downham Road

A resident asked about the gabion wall on the common and if it was finished.

P Fenwick advised it isn't completed yet. The Planning permission was given for the extension of the car park for a total of 15 spaces. Plus the excavation of 1 swale to the south side of the car park to the depth of 300mm. The gabion baskets run adjacent to the road to help drain the verge and support it collapsing and to try and help drain the common. The sole purpose is the road side and not the common side. This is a conservation area, so we had to abide by the rules and one of them being root protection. Once work commenced the gabion basket was originally planned to be 500mm deep but we could only achieve 300mm in places because of the roots to trees. So there is in some areas 200mm above ground, the planning did state the way we applied for the planning that it would be grassed over at ground level. When the swales are dug out it is intended that we have grips put in, which are small channels from the common into the gabion cage, this has yet to be started. With regards to the height of the gabion baskets there are options to look at moss and planting. There has also been comments about people tripping over it from the cricket club

The other potential issue is that if we keep it level, vehicles could drive onto the common.

At the back of the common where the gabion finishes the ditch will be dug out along there, which will then connect it to the ditch by the play area. The original ditches that took the water away from the common are no longer in use due to modern development over the years. We undertook a project 'Where does the water go', alongside having meetings with chief civil engineer at Chelmsford. We walked the whole of the common with the engineer and confirmed it was the best solution we could put in.

With regard to cost, the money is taken from CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) money and can only be spent on open spaces. We have a certain timeframe to spend this money otherwise Chelmsford City Council can reclaim it.

Councilors agreed after hearing from Paul we should continue with the works and complete the application that we have permission for.

A resident asked about back filling to the gabion wall to make it level from the common side.

P Fenwick advised that would potentially cause more of an issue with water.

We will need to talk to the cricket club and update them.

A resident asked if we could communicate it better to the parish.

2 drains were found that were under the road blocked. G Fullam has already reported this to Highways Reference No: 2899874

R Pritchard said as a cricketer he understands why they have concerns about it being a trip hazard

ACTION: R Pritchard to put an article in Stock Press & on SPC website with an update

6. Planning Matters

M Baker advised at this point she had forgotten to declare an interest in planning ref no: 24/05602CAT

Ref. No: 24/00012/FUL – Heathfield Dowsett Lane Stock CM11 1JH

Construction of replacement entrance gate

All councillors agreed No Comment

Ref. No: 24/00031/FUL – Farrows Farm Stock Road Stock CM4 9QX

The erection of a detached cartlodge to serve Plot 3 which was approved under extant planning permission

All councillors agreed No Comment

Ref. No: 23/01522/FUL – 4 Stock Lodge 60 High Street Stock CM4 9BS

Demolish existing walls and pillars and construct replacement with wider access. Installation of new electric gate. Replace driveway surface with gravel

All councillors agreed No Comment

Ref. No: 23/01994/FUL – 11 Mill Lane Stock CM4 9RY

Conversion of approved garage outbuilding and splitting the plot into two separate dwellings

All councillors agreed No Comment

Ref. No: 24/00051/FUL – Ashridge Grange Stock Road Stock

Retrospective application for the creation of 7no. parking spaces

G Fullam to ask Chelmsford Planning for more information as to why 7 additional spaces have been applied for. Closing date 14.2.24. G Fullam to send email for decision to be made by councillors

Ref. No: 24/00099/FUL – 1 Kingdom Way West Hanningfield Chelmsford CM2 8FW

Erection of temporary marquees for a maximum period of 12 weeks

(Please note we have been advised that this does not lie within Stock Parish but we are being consulted on due to close proximity to the boundary)

All councillors agreed No Comment

Ref. No: 24/05602/CAT – The Rectory Hall High Street Stock

Section fell all trees in the row to as close to ground level as possible. Reason: These trees have become too large and dominating and are now causing damage to the hall building

All councillors agreed No Comment

Ref. No: 24/00124/TPO – 25 Mill Road Stock CM4 9LJ

T1 Oak -Trim back by 3m max cutting to suitable growing points and remove deadwood over 25mm in diameter. Reasons: Branches are often blown off in high winds and could injure or damage, to safeguard the future life of the tree and promote good arboricultural practice.

All councillors agreed No Comment

7. Community Areas

Highways and Maintenance

Survey Update

- G Fullam read through the results of the Survey. Which have been added onto the SPC website as a document for residents to read. This survey helps show the village support for the LHP's that have been submitted to Essex Highways. G Fullam has shared this information with Essex Highways on 7/2/24
- A parishioner brought up about Well Lane ATC being put in when the Flooding is cleared as won't give a clear indication of volume of traffic due to that part being impassable currently
- **ACTION:** G Fullam to liaise with Smallgains Lane & Well Lane Neighbourhood Watch contacts.

Parking

J Pye talked about the parking issue's in The Square and around school drop off roads. He advised if we require any new parking restrictions that he has been advised by SEPP that it would take 12-18month to implement. It was discussed at considerable length with the parishioners and councillors present that there is a lot of differing opinions to restrictions. Look into access and flow in these areas, how many people have car's per household. BT in Bakersfield will not be decommissioned any time soon. All stakeholders, business owners & residents to be consulted before a solution can be found.

ACTION: J Pye & P Fenwick to have a meeting with Stock School Headteacher and Governors

ACTION: J Pye to meet with SEPP representative and get them to walk the village

ACTION: To create a strategy on what the community engagement would look like

ACTION: G Fullam to contact Essex Highways about safety and visibility concerns with parked cars by corner of The Bear.

Speeding & Road Safety

It was agreed to continue with all the LHP forms that are in place. Additionally to add in 30mph LHP for Downham Road.

Well Lane Quiet Lane & Speed reduction 1 x PO for 2 ATC £736.40

Zebra Crossing into Pelican crossing 1 x PO raised for 1 PV2 £973.10

All councillors voted and agreed to the costs for 2ATC and 1 PV2

ACTION: G Fullam to raise PO for 2 x ATC and 1 x PV2

ACTION: G Fullam to raise LHP for Downham Road to be 30mph

Speed Watch

Speed Watch in Mill Road on 10/2/24. 1.5hrs and no one was caught speeding. Will advertised for more Speed Watch Volunteers

ACTION: R Pritchard to add into the Stock Press article and SPC Website for volunteers

Signs

Painting S Porter Swan Lane sign removal – Update for March meeting

Bakers of Danbury cheque raised £2,244

ACTION: J Pye to arrange new wooden post for sign

Lushhill post & Common Post – Swift to confirm start date

ACTION: P Fenwick to arrange Lushill post

J Pye brought up about black posts near The Paddocks on the High Street need replacing

ACTION: G Fullam to add to March agenda

Gravel Path's resurface

- Alms Houses & High Street Frontage Road Swift – awaiting start date

Highways Reporting

- Yellow lines faded by square – G Fullam reported to South Essex Parking Partnership email address 7/2/24

J Pye said we need to look at the village as a whole for repainting crossing and junctions. A resident reported an accident occurred junction Mill Road and Common Road and that the give way road marking have badly faded.

- **ACTION:** G Fullam to report more road signs Common Road/Mill Road give way, and a road sign is covered by foliage. The Bear/Mill Road, give way sign

Environment

Hankins Wood

- P Fenwick update from our solicitors
M Deans assured final document to sign will be ready and then return to Chelmsford solicitors
- G Fullam has found the Hankins Wood Management Plan from S Plumb for 2022-2027. P Fenwick advised we can't start anything until we have the lease

The Common Tree Survey, Drainage and Car Park Project.

- Work has begun on the drainage 16/01/23. This was discussed at length in the Public Participation section 5
- **ACTION:** P Fenwick to formulate a reply back to Stock Cricket Club

Bus Shelter

- Update March meeting when M Gray is back

Tree's

- Raised a planning application for TPO tree on the common to be reduced D Swift will remove the dead tree that is pushing into the fence of a neighbour.
- Smallgains Lane Flooding. Discussed at length in Public Participation section 5 Environmental Floods department still waiting for a response to email dated 15/01/24. Confirmation of receipt of email, expected response time 28 days

Community Initiatives and Events

Affordable Housing Update

ACTION: G Fullam put an article in Stock Press and SPC website for a 'call for sites'

8. Matters Arising

Councillors

Defibrillators – Upgrade the current ones as they were discontinued in 2019 so spare parts are becoming hard to get hold of. Cost for new defib with pads £945+VAT.

Councillors voted in favor to pay for these.

ACTION: G Fullam to contact Liz to get these ordered.

Move Queens metal bench to Daykin Drive or another location. Keep on agenda for March meeting

Summer Fayre & Christmas Fayre. Planning Committee S Porter, G Fullam, M Eade, R Pritchard.

Stock Against Speeding Campaign. Date confirmed 16/03/24.

ACTION: R Pritchard to advertise Stock Against Speeding

9. Finance

Review Monthly Schedule of Accounts Payable. Cheques HMRC £38.92. Clerk Wages John Lewis Voucher for J Waters £70, Curry's Ink £62.97, S Type Security £546, Bakers of Danbury £2,244

Review bank Balances £131,314.94 Current Account, £88,861.39 Savings

10. Essex County Council / Chelmsford City Council Report

No report as I Grundy absent

11. Chairman's Report

No additional report

12. Clerk's Report

A resident has emailed about some tree's they have had surveyed on Stock Road Hill near Hereward Mount. Who owns these? P Fenwick advised we struggled to find this out in the past so to speak with Swift to get them looked at.

£71 returned from Tees lawyers for court fee refund

Love your parish email. Add Mill Road as an area to have road sweeping. Add litter pick to March Agenda

13. Village Information Exchange

M Eade said to speak with School governor's to see if they can help with parking issues around the school.

J Pye mentioned about the Footpath notice. G Fullam advised she has put notice up on SPC notice board.

14. Date of Next meeting

Tuesday 12th March

Close of meeting 9.26pm