



**Stock Parish Council**

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

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**Annual Council Minutes**

Held at Stock Cricket Club, The Club House, Common Road, Stock, CM4 9NF  
at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14th May 2024

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Present: P Fenwick, M Rolph, R Pritchard, M Gray, S Porter, P Mcallister, I Grundy & G Fullam

**Minutes**

P Fenwick Welcome to Stock Parish Council Annual Meeting

**1. Election of the Chairman of the Parish Council 2024-25**

M Gray put forward P Fenwick for Chair and was seconded by S Porter. All councillors agreed

**2. Declaration of acceptance of Office by the Chairman for 2024-25**

P Fenwick accepted

**3. Election of Vice Chairman of the Council 2024-25**

M Gray put forward M Rolph and P Mcallister seconded. All Councillors agreed. M Rolph accepted.

R Pritchard asked can we change it to Chairperson. Councillors agreed it to be called Chair and Vice Chair

**4. Apologies**

Mandy Baker, Mark Meade, John Pye send apologies

**5. Minutes of last meeting**

9<sup>th</sup> March and 12<sup>th</sup> April Meetings approved and signed.

**6. Declaration of Councillor Interests relating to the Agenda**

P Fenwick declared and interest in Public Car Park at All Saints Church

**7. Public participation**

A member of All Saints Church PCC were interested in the bollard discussion. They mentioned they couldn't open the attachment previously by P Fenwick.

A parishioner, K. Spiller, mentioned the car park is registered Village Green VG94. P Fenwick asked why the point was being made. The K. Spiller advised it was for Councillors to find out. Another parishioner, E. Miller, interjected its afforded some legal protections under the enclosure act 1857 and commons act 1876 in particular section 12 and section 29.

M Rolph asked the parishioners what does that mean. The K. Spiller advised they are afforded legal protection in respect of the work that you can do to them because they are registered village greens. So SPC back in 1968 started the process and they then then got registered in 1971. The E. Miller then stated that 2 meetings ago that there was VG92 and that no one has looked at it. M Rolph asked is there a purpose for the comment is there some infringement been made. The K. Spiller said given that it has been registered and its in the possession of SPC because it was a process that you went through in 1971 and not in your corporate memory as to the possession of these registration documents. Given the work that has gone on the common which is a different issue we have had to go out and find this information. S Porter asked the 2 parishioners what should we do then, how do we move forward. The K. Spiller said that council should look into what protection the village green has. That the protection is better than green belt. R Pritchard advised that All Saints church asked the council to amend the bollards for a safety issue and make entrance and exit safer. The motivation for council is to improve it for the Church. K. Spiller advised it's a public car park and that due diligence that needs to be conducted by SPC. The K. Spiller said he doesn't know when it was made a car park but it shouldn't have been and S Porter asked should we turn it back to grass, K. Spiller said no. There was a discussion about extending the car park and this was then referenced only to the Common car park. K. Spiller brought up about the common and VG92 was raised by a parishioner 2 months ago and hasn't been picked up and nobody has looked into it even though it's on minutes and today's agenda. R Pritchard said he wanted on record he joined SPC to get to know people and not interested in month after month and listening to arguments and that we need to work together. K. Spiller said you have signed up to do a job and you need to be professional and do your due diligence. The PCC said they are here to listen to the 2 alternatives and go back to the PCC. One of the option is the bollard that could be lockable and PCC member said there could be one that the fire brigade have a key to if on their approved list. The other alternative was to have one that was further back that could be lifted out. P Fenwick said the conservation officer would like oak posts and not metal. There was a sketch that G Fullam will share with PCC. P Mcallister asked if the PCC had a preference and said you could have a meeting with conservation officer, fire inspector and go through options. One of members on the PCC said they would like the best possible solution. P Fenwick said to have another meeting in the near future. The PCC said the diocese owns the glebe and they are conscious of security issues and keeping the gate shut. P Fenwick said parking on the pavement would have to be looked at if the bus stop gets moved.

ACTION: SPC to arrange meeting with PCC

E. Miller said she was in attendance of the last meeting and has an audio recording of it and wants it noted that the minutes that you have signed off that she doesn't believe they are true and accurate in every material respect and that she would like that recorded.

Someone on behalf of the cricket club on what formal basis was it approved to instruct a Tee's law solicitor to act on behalf of SPC. P Fenwick advised that Stock Cricket Club sent a legal letter and it was in response to that. K. Spiller asked if the engagement of a solicitor had been formally approved by the Council. G Fullam said she would have to look back through minutes. K. Spiller queried the state of liability and do SPC intend to fight it with public money or not. M. Rolph stated that the question of liability is in the hands of solicitors and that SPC could not comment on the matter at this stage. K. Spiller brought up about the common and how was the application formally approved. Another parishioner, J. Collins interjected and asked the K. Spiller and E. Miller if they had a personal vendetta against someone in the Parish Council.

G Fullam (clerk) was visibly upset by the comments made by K. Spiller and E. Miller and had to step away from the meeting alongside councillor S Porter.

P Fenwick then closed the meeting temporarily due to the clerk being upset at 7.52pm

P Fenwick confirmed we will now resume the meeting 7.58pm

Further to the various comments and queries associated with legal matters during Public Participation, Councillors agreed to instruct the SPC Solicitor accordingly.

P Fenwick said the time for public participation has finished

**8. Appointment of Delegated Duties to Council Members**

To be put on Agenda for June meeting

**9. Insurance**

Follows on from last year £670.72 with Aviva insurance. Council Approved

**10. Policy Review**

To review the following documents

- a. Standing Orders – Adopted July 2021. Changed 3y to be audio held on clerk lap-top, 5c annual general meeting commend changed from 6pm to 7pm
- b. Financial Regulations – Nothing changed

**11. Internal Audit**

G Fullam presented Internal Audit AGAR form for signature had been sent on email to Councillors. Chairman P Fenwick and Clerk G Fullam signed the forms.

**12. External Audit**

Audit will be sent 15/5/24. Exercise of public right 3<sup>rd</sup> June to 12<sup>th</sup> July

**13. Planning Matters**

P Mcallister not going through planning but happy to assist in policy terms for any parish-ioner or councillor

**Ref. No: 24/00430/FUL Hippodrome Barn Goatsmoor Lane Stock CM4 9RS**

Installation of 40 No. solar panels on roof of dwelling

No comment

**Ref. No: 24/00526/FUL 3 The Lindens Stock CM4 9NH**

Proposed two storey side extensions, with a single storey rear extension replacing part of exist-ing conservatory

No comment

**Ref. No: 24/00562/FUL Mill Cottage 150 Mill Road Stock CM4 9RU**

Proposed new entrance gates to existing vehicular access

Refused that 1<sup>st</sup> time round. According to planning

No comment

**Ref. No: 24/00552/FUL 43 Mill Road Stock**

Wait for further information on application drawings as advised by Conservation Officer.

**Ref. No: 24/00629/FUL Stock House Ingatestone Road Stock CM4 9PD**

Proposed demolition of existing dwelling and outbuilding. Construction of replacement dwelling and car port

No comment

**Ref. No: 24/00513/FUL The Willows Stock Road Stock CM4 9PQ**

Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of a new dwelling, including solar panels, air source heat pump, new access and landscaping.

No comment

**Ref. No: 24/00611/FUL Spruce Lodge 17 Common Lane Stock CM4 9LP**

Two-storey extensions to both sides of the property together with a single-storey rear extension and associated internal reconfiguration.

No comment

**Ref. No: 24/00429/FUL Plantation Cottage East Mill Road Stock CM4 9RG**

New annexe outbuilding to replace existing garage and new pitched roof to porch

## 14. Matters Arising

### Highways and Maintenance

#### Parking

- Read out a report from J Pye. Would like confirmation from the council to submit the application. Council all agreed.  
ACTION: R Pritchard to summarise for website  
ACTION: J Pye to submit application

#### Speeding & Road Safety

- 2 invoices paid by G Fullam 2 x 368.20 to be paid by cheque.
- May 23<sup>rd</sup> Well Lane and Smallgains Lane ATC's to be installed. Parishioner said 2 Rumble strips put in on Monday.

R Pritchard read through survey results which will be published on the website as well. Received results PV2 pedestrian vehicle conflict survey commissioned for the high street to replace with pelican crossing. Results shared from Essex Highways would justify the installation with signalised pedestrian crossing. Essex Highways said next stage is LHP scheme through Essex County Councillor. Track speed through High Street with strips either end of High Street. 88K vehicles came through the village at an average speed of 24.8mph and 10.9% vehicles exceeded speed limit. M Gray said speed watch was out on Friday morning and the road goes very slow at school time. Speed Watch proving successful Saturday morning caught 10 people up to 44mph. Caught quite a few on Mill Road speeds up to 47mph. Should continue to progress and ask for average speed camera.

I Grundy asked how the speed watch data is kept. M Rolph advised we send an activity log off to Essex Police.

The Results of Stock Road was within the threshold (of 30 mph) as was Crondon Park the average was around 40mph. G Fullam said part of the LHP form was about how many houses have been put on that road. P Mcallister said we should continue to pursue this as well.

ACTION: G Fullam to send LHP's over to I Grundy. G Fullam to reply back to J Simmons on the results of the 3 LHP's and confirm we want to proceed

#### Bus Shelter

Ship bus stop Harry's son Handy Man £2040 inclusive of VAT

Repainting and cleaning the Bus Stop Village Green Tylers Elite Finishing's £720

P Mcallister has asked for them to be really careful of bricks when jet washing

Council approved both quotes

ACTION: J Pye to advise suppliers

#### All Saints Church

Brought forward and discussed at section 7

### Environment

#### Hankins Wood

P Fenwick - Waiting for solicitor to come back regarding questions we raised

#### The Common Tree Survey, Drainage and Car Park Project

G Fullam advised application for the Tree reduction for a parishioner that lives next to the common.

The Common drainage application is in with Chelmsford awaiting for them to advise.

#### Tree Planting

S Porter has Trees from Janet. Plant them in the Autumn/Winter. Remove from the agenda

#### Flooding

M Rolph stated that local volunteers had survey training by Essex Flood Assets. The volunteers then surveyed village ditches according Flood Assets plans. A meeting with the Floods officer has been arranged to present our findings and review next steps.

M Rolph summarised the project for R Pritchard.

#### Norwich to Tilbury Pylons Consultation

P Fenwick asked G Fullam to add the map to the website for parishioners to be able to see it. The pylons go in front of Buttsbury Church and behind the wash and onto Ingatestone. It is on the outskirts of the village. G Fullam discussed the email she had sent to Councillors from campaign group of what we can respond. I Grundy said we should respond as it's a hot topic with residents especially in Margaretting. Haven't had site of any costings and lack of information. MP is aware of it. Something that affects environment, scenery and jobs it has to be off shore. The more people that can respond to the consultation. P McAlister said there is a group of consultee and that there are other options to have it off shore which is not being clear for residents. G Fullam advised it has been sent on neighborhood watch.

ACTION: G Fullam to respond to the consultation from SPC.

ACTION: G Fullam to add pylon Map onto SPC website

#### Community Initiatives and Events

6<sup>th</sup> June 2024 80<sup>th</sup> D Day – Lighting Beacon – National Fish and Chip Day. P Williams confirmed they would be happy to open the bar. Beacon turned on 9.15pm. G Fullam message fish and chip van to come.

Open Cinema & Dog show – S Porter to advise further in next meeting and looking for volunteers.

#### Finance

Review Monthly Schedule of Accounts Payable

Tee's law £420, S Hosegood £780, HMRC April £38.92, Clerk Wages April & May, TCV pond clearance £420, CR Swift emergency tree removal Footpath back school £1,219, CR Swift drainage project £21,440, CR Swift drainage increase 12.5% for historical quote and ditch roadside £8,184, Insurance yearly £670.72, S Type Security Feb & April £546 & £432, G Fullam ATC x £368.20 Survey Monkey £300 Stamps £24.80, C R Swift Grass Cutting 2<sup>nd</sup> payment £5843.87, Essex Pension fund deficit £14.88, EALC affiliation fees £555.98, Stock Village Hall £45.

G Fullam also mentioned that there is a payment needing to be made on card for planning application £293 cheque to be done in the next meeting.

R Pritchard asked can we have online account, HSBC is the only one left to move to as still stuck with paying cheques.

Review CIL Payments £9170 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> March and was paid in May 24

To note Bank Balances

30<sup>th</sup> April Community £139,186 and Business £89,193

#### 15. Essex County Council / Chelmsford City Council Report

Ian-

Grundy

Chelmsford issues potential development in Hammonds farm proposals it will affect Sandon, Great Baddow. Little Baddow. It will be 4500 homes and country parks and could be a contentious development that will drag on for several years. Pylons dealt with already. Chelmsford redevelopment of Waterside & Meadows retail centre all owned by the city council. It is designated for housing. All shops are relatively small and small frontages compared with High Chelmer and suffered with the development of people going to the John Lewis side. Essex Council meeting this morning and reelected the chairman. Spend more on addressing the issues with special needs children. 18months had twice amount of rainfall. Pot holes repaired locally have got more crews so should see progress as more money being spend in this area. Essex has got good reserves and have some good officers that work there.

#### 16. Chairman's Report

No report

#### 17. Clerk's Report

Pond cleared on Mill Road and they said the regular task of removing invasive species is having an effect.

My last day as clerk will be 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024 and will put an out of office on the clerk email to advise no clerk..

**18. Village Information Exchange**

R Pritchard referred to email from a parishioner about grass not being cut Daykin Drive. P Macalister said Grass open spaces team and registered providers. Marked difference in the environmental management going on here. CHP (Chelmer housing partnership) are registered provider for that area in Daykin Drive. Looking for basic estate management. District council sold it off to CHP and one of the best providers. The resident that wrote in I can understand the issue. Not just the grass the pavement and paving slabs and tree roots is a real marked difference to everywhere else in the village. P Fenwick asked what can we do. P McAllister said we should have a chat between Chelmer housing and open space team. See whose responsibility is what. Talking to residents as there is a gardening club that have been told by CHP that they can't touch it. Can you contact Chelmer Housing, send it from the clerk email. R Pritchard said we need to create a glossary of issues to help people understand what the parish council does. Vernon corner cut by CHP and rakings on the grass left. A resident said that they don't take it away. The council have just cut it last week and that has been left and now looks even worse. P Mcalister said we need to talk about green spaces.

R Pritchard will clean more signs and cut the Ramsden heath hedge back.

S Porter hedge by old rectory need to send a letter for overgrown vegetation on the pavement.

M. Gray stated that when we had the walk for Freddie the crossing by Bakers Arms is not a safe crossing and can we get a Safety audit. Hedge needs cutting back and have a Halo that is brighter and highlight the crossing to people. M Gray to get some quotes and come back

Hoop Christmas Tree can we put a box in the ground for the electrical as doesn't look good. Need to pick it up with Hoop.

Carriageway & Footpath needs sweeping as full of debris from those trees.

M Rolph we were approached by Chelmsford and Maldon CPSO, 'Lets talk' meeting. Discussed it before the meeting and suggested NHW might want to consider. S Champion confirmed they wouldn't want let's talk people to come and talk as not much crime in Stock and don't see it would be much use. G Fullam advised we had S type security and no one turned up. Rural police came out at Stock Flower show and not many people spoke to them. No help with special constables had nothing for 3 or 4 months. Would be great to get a special constable to patrol. Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July nation thank you day. Did we want to get together to thank someone in the local area.

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July thank you day gets out and thanks people in their local community to see if anyone wants to get.

I Grundy still getting antisocial behaviour down by reservoir.

S Porter advised Junction Whites Hill, Furze Lane, Broomwood there is a CCTV been put up. Ask environmental if it has anything to do with them.

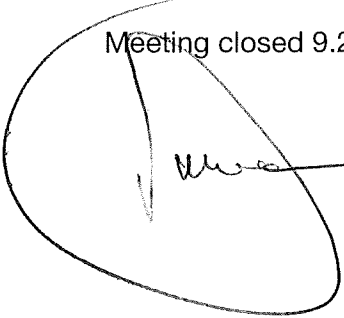
I Grundy Village sign that has been knocked down. G Fullam advised its Downham Road sign that points into Mill Road and have requested Essex Highways to fix.

**19. Date of Next meeting**

11<sup>th</sup> June 7pm next meeting

Meeting closed 9.22pm

09 / 07 / 2024

A handwritten signature, possibly 'Mrs', is written over a large, circular scribble that partially obscures the text 'Meeting closed 9.22pm'.