



# STAPELEY & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Carol Jones

Tel: 01270 812065 e-mail: [carol.jones@stapeleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:carol.jones@stapeleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

[www.stapeleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.stapeleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Parish Councillors are summoned to a  
**MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

**DATE:** MONDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2019

**NOTE TIME:** 7.00 pm

**VENUE:** STAPELEY COMMUNITY HALL  
PEAR TREE FIELD, STAPELEY, CW5 7GZ

Enquiries to: Clerk: Carol Jones

Phone: 01270 812065  
Issue date: 16 October 2019

Signed *C M Jones*

To: Members of the Parish Council  
Councillors Matthew Theobald (Chairman), Elizabeth Boughey, Mike Docker,  
John Davenport, Stephen Ford, Peter Groves, Georgina Gwinn, Sandy Gwinn-  
Freemantle, Jo Hillman and Keith Nord

Copies: Borough Councillors Peter Groves and Andrew Martin (Nantwich South and Stapeley)

**Note:** Members of the public are asked to print their own copy of the agenda from the website. Members of the public without access to the Internet are asked to contact the Clerk by no later than noon on the day of the meeting to ensure that spare copies of the agenda are available.

# A G E N D A

## 1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence should be notified to the Clerk as soon as reasonably practicable but prior to the meeting.

## 2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, the nature of that interest, and in respect of disclosable interests, to leave the meeting prior to the discussion of that item.

Whilst the Clerk can advise on the Code of Conduct and its interpretation, the decision to declare, or not, is the responsibility of the Parish Councillor, based on the circumstances.

## 3 MINUTES

To approve as a correct record, the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 September 2019. ☆

## 4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

### 4.1 Questions ‘from the floor’

In accordance with the Parish Council’s Standing Order No. 1, members of the public can submit a question, either in writing prior to the meeting, or orally at the meeting, or to make a statement.

Each member of the public is entitled to ask **one question or make a statement**. Questions or statements must be addressed to the Parish Council as a whole and not to individual parish councillors. This is not an opportunity for engaging in debate with Members.

As a courtesy, questions should be notified to the Clerk 24 hours before the meeting. If this is not possible, the Clerk should be informed of the question prior to the start of the meeting.

The Chairman (or Clerk) will respond to questions, but if the Chairman considers that another councillor might have the information, he will defer to him/her. This slot is for members of the public and **councillors should not participate unless invited to do so by the Chairman.**

### 4.2 Presentation by Stapeley Speed Watch Co-ordinator

Matthew Nord, the Speed Watch Co-ordinator for Stapeley, will be in attendance to explore proposals for future speed watch activities. ☆

A copy of his email to the Clerk, and the Clerk’s response, is enclosed.

### 4.3 Proposed move of Crewe & Nantwich Gymnastics Association to a site at The Vagrants, Willaston

The Chairman of the Crewe & Nantwich Gymnastics and Community Activities Association will be in attendance to present proposals for the development of a piece of land on the Vagrants site, Willaston.

The Association has been offered a spare piece of land at the Vagrants and is at the stage of collecting relevant information to enable a planning application to be prepared. As part of this exercise, the Chairman would like to present the organisation’s plans which include sport and community resources. They consider this will be a worthwhile addition to the Vagrants site, providing a centre of excellence for gymnastics, fitness facilities for all ages and a meeting point for everyone.

For ease of reference, a copy of the PowerPoint presentation is enclosed. ☆

Members are reminded of the need to be objective and must be wary of pre-determination. Members can listen to the proposals being suggested, but it must be made clear to the Chairman of the Association that when the application is submitted to the Parish Council for consultation, Members will be taking other matters into consideration.

## 5 CHESHIRE EAST BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Borough Councillors to report in respect of Cheshire East Council matters, and any updates relating to the parish.

## 6 FINANCIAL MATTERS

### 6.1 AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

The Parish Council is asked to approve the following payments.

£243.90	HMRC	Tax on Clerk's salary and employer's NI
£34.50	Shires Payroll	Cost of payroll service
£240.00	C M Jones	Reimbursement for payment of invoice from ASB Electrical to carry out the following work. Supply and fit 4 x 11watt LED circular bulkhead light fittings to ladies' washrooms - £200 Supply and fit new dusk sensor to External Photocell switch - £40
£tba	Crystal Clean South Cheshire	Cleaning Community Hall
£20.00	Target Windows	Cleaning of Community Hall windows.

### 6.2 BUDGET PROPOSALS – 2020-2021

To consider the draft budget proposals for 2020-2021. The following documents are enclosed.

- Clerk's covering report
- Budget Monitoring Statement (as reported to the September meeting), together with draft budget proposals for 2020-2021



The Parish Council is invited to consider the proposals. This is the first report. A further report will be submitted to the November meeting, and the Parish Council will be asked to approve its budget at the December 2019 meeting.

If Members wish to make suggestions for inclusion in the budget, they must be capable of coming to fruition during the financial year, and there should be a reasonable estimate of the cost.

Members might also wish to consider if there should be any community events during the year, all of which will require funding.

### 6.3 INTERNET BANKING

To consider the Clerk's report in respect of Internet Banking.



## 7 PLANNING APPLICATION

The Parish Council is asked to submit observations on the following planning application:

19/4547N      3A Talbot Way, CW5 7RR  
First floor side extension and single-storey rear extension.

Deadline date for observations: 30 October 2019

## 8 GROUND MAINTENANCE

A resident who has complained recently about the overgrown grass on the triangle at the junction of Second Dig Lane with the A51, London Road, has asked if the Parish Council would consider including this as part of its regular grounds maintenance schedule.

The resident contacted Cheshire East Council, but the response he received is that the land is not part of CEC's responsibility.

Subsequent to the complaint, the grass has, in fact, been cut, but the resident does not know by whom.

Members are asked to consider this matter. For information, this is where one of the Parish Council benches is located.

## 9 PONDS, STAPELEY

A resident has asked the Parish Council to consider the following matter:

Behind what is Clarendon Court Nursing Home on Peter de Stapleigh Way there is, what was formerly, a healthy pond which was a habitat for the Great Crested Newt and insects such as damsel and dragonflies. There were also small carp in the pond. The pond has now dried up and is filled with detritus of various sorts.

His understanding is that it was a condition of the planning approval that the pond should be retained as a nature habitat.

He reports that conservationists and University College, London are to restore at least fifty ponds in the hope of attracting back rare wildlife such as the Great Crested Newt and encouraging insects which feed Swallows and other species.

Helen Greaves of UCL Geography Department said "*Ponds are a lifeline for Britain's wildlife providing food and habitat but they are in decline. It's a national crisis. We are calling on farmers and the public to help bring ponds back to life*".

The residents suggest that with the help of the Parish Council and maybe youth volunteers, or a project for Reaseheath Agricultural College, the pond could be restored with a seating area for residents to enjoy.

## 10 COMMUNITY HALL

The Scouts have asked the Parish Council to consider installing a projector in the community hall, together with additional notice-boards inside the hall.

They comment that the lack of notice-boards within the main hall is a problem as they cannot display any materials, posters, badge work etc for the Beavers and Cubs. Other Scouts premises have materials on display which really help. The Leader has comment that other Scouts premises have materials on display and that helps to liven up the activities for the children. It should be noted that this is where the Scouts themselves own the premises.

The Scouts have also asked if a ceiling-mounted projector could be fitted. Although they have used the screen in the hall, it causes a problem if they have to use a table on which to mount the projector.

The use of videos is helpful to the activities and a boy with Downs Syndrome has recently joined and this would better meet his needs.

## 11 PLAQUES FOR BENCHES

A screenshot of stainless-steel plaques, available on E-bay, is enclosed and Members are asked to consider if this is the type of plaque which is required for the benches in the parish.



## 12 CEC WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Cheshire East council is consulting on its Municipal Waste Management Strategy which has been in operation for 5 years ([Municipal Waste Management Strategy](#)).

The Parish Council is invited to submit observations. The link to the survey is [Waste Strategy Review survey](#) for anyone who wishes to submit personal comments, but the Parish Council itself may wish to send a Council observation.

The deadline date for observations is 3 November 2019.

## 13 CLERK'S INFORMATION REPORT

Although it is normal practice for the Clerk to prepare a report which is enclosed with the agenda, this method of reporting information items is probably better for members of the public as it avoids the need to download a separate document.

### 13.1 Conservation Area

Quotations for the maintenance work at Talbot Way have not yet been received, but it is expected that these will be available for the meeting on 18 September 2019.

### 13.2 Christmas Tree

To report that the Clerk has ordered a Christmas tree for outside the Community Hall.

It should be noted that despite several follow-up e-mails from the Clerk to the company, no invoice for the tree supplied in 2018, has yet been received, and the payment remains outstanding.

### 13.3 Connected Communities

The Clerk has reported to Cheshire East CVS the outcome of the last meeting. In the meantime, the Clerk has been contacted direct by the Wishing Well Project which would like to use the Community Hall on Saturday evenings for a youth club.

### 13.4 Community Hall New Activity

An organisation called The Shop will start using the Community Hall car park with effect from Friday, 25 October 2019 between 3.00 pm and 5.00 pm.

The organisation is a start-up which is a shopping experience marketed as completely free from single-use plastic.

The new store, operating from a former Mobile Library, will offer everyday items including fresh produce, toiletries, household products and confectionary as well as eco friendly alternatives.

The founder of the organisation has already made direct contact with the CEC Assets Team to enquire about permission. The Manager she spoke to advised that there was no problem with her using the car park only as she will be hiring the hall for the period. (The Clerk will make her own enquiries and confirm to the Parish Council.)

Following the hire period, she will move over to Pear Tree School for a further two hours.

### 13.5 Damaged Steps adjacent to the MUGA

A resident has reported damaged steps adjacent to the MUGA. The Clerk has reported this to Cheshire East Council.

### **13.6 Police Cluster Meeting – 9 October 2019**

Councillor Mike Docker attended the Police Cluster meeting and reports as follows:

PC Sarah Marson, who has led the Cluster meetings for several years has transferred to a new role joining the county-wide dedicated Rural Policing team, although she will still be working in the general area around Nantwich.

PCSOs Nick Jarvis and Alexis Barrington were also at the meeting.

Other than some domestic incidents, the only crime ‘hot-spot’ in Stapeley is the Co-op, which continues to be regularly targeted for theft, owing to the new store layout which allows shoplifters to exit the store unseen by the staff at the tills. The Manager is fully aware of the problem but is unable to make changes as his own Area Managers prefer the new layout which is also identical to that in other Co-op stores; the value of the thefts is considered to be an acceptable risk.

The issue of overgrown verges, particularly on Peter de Stapleigh Way was raised, but it was acknowledged that this was a matter for Cheshire East Highways.

There was some debate as to whether the 30-mph zone is currently enforceable, given that there is no nearside 30-mph sign and the post where it should be fitted is obscured by vegetation. It is uncertain whether the clearly visible offside 30 sign on its own, makes the speed limit enforceable. The encroachment of the overgrown verge onto the actual carriageway, just to the west of the London Road junction, was also highlighted.

PCSO Alexis Barrington continues to hold regular surgeries at the Community Hall but these are not well-attended.

The next meeting is Wednesday, 20 January 2019 at 7.30 pm in St Chad’s church hall, Wybunbury.

### **14 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The Council is invited to RESOLVE that in accordance with Paragraph 1 (2) of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items owing to the confidential nature of the business to transacted and the public interest would not be served in disclosing that information.

### **15 COMMUNITY HALL – UNPAID FEES**

To consider the Clerk’s report in respect of (a) write-off action in respect of an unpaid fee by a client of the Community Hall; and (b) potential legal action to recover fees from a client who no longer uses the Community Hall.



### **16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**18 November 2019**