



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM ON  
MONDAY, 27<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2020 AT 7.30PM

Present: Andrew Marchant  
Simon Bagnall  
David House  
David Oxley  
Amanda Parker  
Jan Pledger

District/ County Councillor: None present

Member of the Public: Carolina Davey  
Rod Hart

Apologies: PCSO De Bruyn  
CC Jeff Jones  
DC Peter Boylan

Officer present: Caroline Jones (Clerk)

The chairman welcomed councillors to the July Meeting.

**34.1 Apologies** received from CC Jones, DC Boylan and PCSO De Bruyn.  
David House – joined at item 34.13 due to connection problems.

**34.2 Personal / Prejudicial Declarations** : None received.

**34.3 Public Comments**

Carolina Davey wanted to raise awareness of speeding through the village and proposed to organise a volunteer group in the village to train the use of speeding equipment and be part of the Herts Police Drive Safe Initiative. These volunteers will be trained to use equipment and liaise with the police.

*The Chairman advised that under the Parish Council's Standing Orders, he would bring forward item 34.13; this was RESOLVED:*

**34.13 Speeding** : The Chairman requested speed equipment from the County Council, but there is none available. He confirmed that the cost of a handheld speeding device would be in the region of £2,000-£2,500 per camera. He suggested we looked at the Drive Safe system that Carolina recommended – she needs 10 signatures. The PC fully supported this initiative to allow speeding in the village to be monitored. It was agreed that it will raise speeding awareness in the village.

The Chairman has contacted Highways to request 30mph sign reminders to reiterate that it is 30mph through the village – it should be every 100-200m in an area that has no lampposts.

Slow signs were discussed, this is not recommended by Highways.

Karen Noble requested a 30mph after the Chalk Pit turning between the entrance and houses to slow traffic down. Highways advised her that she needed to request an extension of the 30mph limit via the Parish Council. Clerk to investigate.

Carolina will circulate the petition to Anstey Link and to the Councillors.

Cllr Oxley recommended that data is collected and to be aware that it may spark negative reactions from drivers.

*It was resolved to return to item 34.3, Public Comments:*

**34.3 Public Comments** : St George's End was discussed (it was noted that it is actually called Church Gate Cottage).



When/if the development goes ahead, St George's End are concerned about the access road being only 3m wide and expected blocking of the entrance and residential access during work at the cottage.

There is a Deed of Covenant for access to St George's End Road which is owned by a third party.

Utility Services – Power Cable goes under/near the concrete slab onsite and it will need to be moved.

The Water Main also goes around the carports – work on the access road could disturb power and water supply.

There was also a concern over the lack of parking for the new site, only two spaces for each proposed property.

There is no further parking available at St George's End.

Village Hall – the site slope east to west, north to south. The height measurement of 9m means that with the base, it will be 2.5m above the Village Hall – level with the gutters. Boundary fencing will wrap 50% around the hall – this will cut out all the light at the hall.

Village Hall Deeds – The Chairman has checked the boundaries and can confirm they are same as the site.

Residents of St George's End did not get any planning notification – clerk to take this matter up with Planning (29/7/20 complete).

**34.4 County and District Councillor Comments :** none present.

**34.5 Police Report :** For the period of 22nd June to 22nd July we have seen no crimes in Anstey. There is currently nothing else to report as the East Herts SNT Team continue to engage and educate around the Covid-19 pandemic.

Residents are encouraged to continue to use the communication platform ECHO to provide feedback to the police to assist with our Local Priorities Plan which will be released in September.

**34.6 Minutes of the Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2020 :** The minutes were reviewed and it was unanimously agreed that they were a correct and a true record of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2020, and the Chairman was authorised to sign them after the meeting.

**Outstanding Item :** PC and VH Insurance amalgamation – clerk to copy correspondence to Rod Hart and investigate.

**34.7 RESOLUTION :** The Parish Council resolved to exempt all councillors for the past 6 months from meeting in person due to COVID-19 (proposed : Chairman, Seconded : Cllr Bagnall, all in favour).

**RESOLUTION :** The Parish Council resolved to exempt all councillors for the next 6 months from meeting in person due to COVID-19 (proposed : Chairman, Seconded : Cllr Bagnall, all in favour), meetings will continue via Zoom.

**34.8 Planning**

**34.8.1 St George's End** – Ref. 3/20/1208/FUL covered above.

**34.8.2 Broadview** – Ref. 3/20/1059/HH awaiting decision.

**34.8.3 High Trees** – Ref. 3/20/0639/HH application refused planning permission.

**34.8.4 High Trees** – Ref. 3/20/0640/HH application refused planning permission.

**34.8.5 High Trees** – Ref. 3/20/0641/HH application refused planning permission.

**34.8.6 Anstey Hall** – Ref. 3/20/0752/HH Greenhouse : awaiting archaeological study.

**34.8.7 Coltsfoot Barn** – APPEAL Ref. APP/J19915/W/20/3249737 awaiting decision.

**34.8.8 Plot 64** – Ref. 3/19/2256/FUL COU land from Gypsy/Traveller to residential awaiting decision.

**34.8.9 4 Castle Cottages** – Ref. E/19/0199/ENF no activity known.

**34.8.10 Bandons Barn** – to discuss work being carried out at Bandon's Barn. It was agreed that the Parish Council would continue to monitor the works undertaken, particularly in light of change of use issues from Agricultural Land to Residential at High Trees.

**34.9 Finance**

**34.9.1** The finance report was accepted.

The HAPTC subscription was discussed and it was agreed that we should continue with the subscription.

**34.9.2** The Bank Reconciliation of 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020 was accepted.

**34.9.3** The payments for July and August 2020 were agreed, Chairman signed cheques at the end of the meeting. Cllr Oxley to sign the grass cutting cheques.



## 34.9.4 Audit

- 34.9.4.1 Certificate of Exemption AGAR Account Report for 2019/20 was agreed and signed.
- 34.9.4.2 Audit : Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20 was agreed and signed.
- 34.9.4.3 Audit : The Accounting Statements for 2019/20 was agreed and signed.
- 34.9.5 The Playground Grant was withdrawn by East Herts District Council after we requested to have a lesser expensive item following the grant offer in January of only 30% of the cost of the original application.
- 34.10 **Anstey Quarry** : No update.
- 34.11 **Highways / Vegetation** : Potholes at Two Acre Farm have been reported and the 30mph speed limit signs requested. Anstey Bury pothole has been filled today. Verges have been cut.
- 34.12 **School / Parking** : Parking up the hill at St George's Church is still problematic at times. Notices are continuing being left on windscreens to ask people not to park on the corner.
- 34.13 **Speeding** : this has been covered – item brought forward after Public Comments; 34.3.
- 34.14 **Church** : Rear Gate is very rickety and difficult to access through to the footpath. Problem with the gate to the horse field as it has been hung the wrong way around – both gates need reinstating. It was agreed to discuss with the landowners in the first instance.
- Chairman to be reminded to look at the pillars that hold up the chain linking around the war memorial. He will inspect with David House with a view to repair.
- 34.15 **Defibrillator** : All in good working order and hasn't, thankfully needed to be used.
- 34.16 **Phonebox** : The larger panes of Perspex look fine and Cllr Pledger questioned if they had been replaced. The smaller panes need attention. Clerk to inspect and chase BT again.
- 34.17 **Village Hall** : Not being used although being checked regularly, mostly by Rod. Hope to reopen in September but will need clear guidance to open the hall safely. The VHC expect that the school will continue to use the hall for lunches – this will be a factor on reopening.
- As a committee, they have been busy with repairs – the floor was repaired and refurbished including the Fire Door repairs and floor recoating.
- The Broadband has been installed and we can now use WhatsApp Calling and Wi-Fi.
- Norman Marston has built some storage cupboards in the kitchen.
- Flowerbeds have been tidied up and the North and West flowerbeds have been dug, a membrane installed and shingle added.
- 34.18 **Playing Field** : Hedge to be cut internally – Cllr Bagnall will arrange.
- 34.19 **Correspondence Received** – accepted.
- 34.20 **AOB**
- 34.20.1 Planning Applications notifications to be added to the Anstey Link, together with notices for forthcoming meetings and minutes details with a link to the Parish Council Website.
- 34.21 **Next Meeting** : The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020 – to be held via Zoom or at the Village Hall depending on COVID-19 recommendations.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm