

## STOCKING PELHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016 at the Village Hall at 7pm

Present: D Nicholls (Chairman) R Banks R Whitefield G Mackrell  
P Lucas M Hutchins J Lucas (Clerk)

Action

43:16	<p><b>1. Apologies:</b> none</p> <p><b>2. Minutes of the last meeting:</b> The minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016 were signed as correct. The meeting scheduled to take place in 10<sup>th</sup> November was postponed until 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016.</p>	
44.16	<p><b>Matters arising</b></p> <p><b>3.1 Content of News section of SPPC website:</b> The Clerk has written a SPPC newsletter for November, giving details of public consultations and public information leaflets. It was agreed that it would be helpful if the email circular could provide notifications when new content is added to the website. The Chairman asked if the outcome of planning decisions should also appear in the News section. Such outcomes will appear in the Minutes section but the minutes would not normally be publically available until they had been approved, which might be some time after SPPC have received notification of the decision. For this reason, it might be appropriate to inform residents of key planning decisions via the News section of the website.</p> <p>It was suggested that the News section should also include a 'calendar' of village events and some reports of what happened at these events.</p> <p><b>3.2 Promoting active use of the SPPC website:</b> It was emphasised that the website needs to be updated on a regular basis, as detailed above, in order to sustain interest. The email circular has a key role in promoting the use of the SPPC website.</p> <p><b>3.3 Source of red paint for Telephone kiosk to be re-painted:</b> Mike Hutchins to contact the team that carried out the previous painting of the kiosk.</p> <p><b>3.4 Letter to East Herts Planning re Cock public house (See 4.1 below)</b></p> <p><b>3.5 Update re Silla Farm:</b> On behalf of SPPC, David Nicholls has registered concern at the increase in the height of the waste pile and the resulting fire risk. Both the Environment Agency and the Council are aware of the situation and are consulting their legal advisors.</p>	<p>JL/MH</p> <p>MH</p>
45.16	<p><b>4. Planning</b></p> <p><b>4.1 Development of the pub site:</b></p> <p><b>3/16/1659/FUL application for change of use from vacant pub (A4) to residential (C3) at the Cock Public House.</b></p> <p>A letter has been sent to East Herts Planning, requesting that they include the SPPC submissions and the Bampton comments in their review the future viability of a pub in the village. This has been copied to Geoff Williamson, Simon Dobson and Bill Bampton.</p> <p>On behalf of SPPC, the Chairman has contacted Senior Planning Officer, Martin Plummer, pointing out that as the Black Horse has recently been purchased, renovated and re-opened after a three-year period of closure, this is a clear indication that a public house is considered to be a viable business opportunity in this area. It was noted that the Golden Fleece in Braughing is another example of a pub that has reopened after a long period of closure.</p> <p>There is determination that the Planning Officers' decision regarding the application for change of use to residential should <b>not</b> be focused on the future viability of the pub but should be based solely on <b>planning considerations</b>. It was <b>agreed</b> that a letter will be sent to the Planning Officers (Martin Plummer and Kevin Steptoe), expressing these SPPC concerns. Specifically, SPPC members would like to know why the application has not been <b>refused outright</b>. Reference will be made to policies in the pre-submission edition of the East Herts District Plan. Reference will particularly be made to policy HA9 which refers to <b>securing the long-term future of a significant place by permitting enabling development</b>. The letter will also point out that SPPC and local people were required to submit their comments on the application before a specific deadline and that SPPC would expect Planning Officers to commit to a specific time-frame in making their decision. Copies of the SPPC letter will be sent to Geoff Williamson, Simon Dobson and to Bill Bampton.</p>	<p>DN/PL/JL</p>

	<p><b>4.2 Other planning:</b>  <b>UTT/16/2316/FUL Development of a 49.99MW Battery Storage Facility connected to Pelham Substation. The development will support Enhanced Frequency Response which is a new service required by National Grid to help it balance the frequency fluctuations on the grid system.</b>  SPPC has been notified that this application has been granted, in spite of our objections. The number of individual responses from local residents was disappointing.</p>	
46:16	<p><b>5. Highways</b>  A man-hole cover on the approach to The Wash continues to leak water, which then collects in a neighbouring man-hole cover. Cars are seen taking avoiding action which can be hazardous to other road users. This issue has been reported. David Nicholls will ask FPPC about the part of The Wash that lies within Furneux Pelham, which is in desperate need of re-surfacing.</p>	DN
47:16	<p><b>6. Finance:</b>  A financial statement for 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 up to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 was circulated. The closing balance stands at £3,267.82. The precept is unlikely to change from the current £1,600. The village has continued to receive a New Homes Bonus this year. Graham Mackrell explained that SPPC is currently in a position where it can direct up to £2,000 of funds to new projects that will benefit the village. Paul Lucas suggested that SPPC re-consider installing an automated speed-warning sign, as exists in Berden. <b>It was agreed</b> that this would be worthwhile expenditure. Ruth Banks was actioned to investigate the purchase of speed-warning signs for Stocking Pelham. Graham Mackrell pointed out that the Defibrillator needs to be listed as a village asset. He recommended that a repeat training session be offered to local residents. David Nicholls will enquire about this and about maintenance of the Defibrillator.</p>	RB DN
48:16	<p><b>7. General Parish Business</b>  <b>7.1 Transparency funding:</b> The Clerk has applied for further funding in order to meet the requirements of the Transparency Code. A sum of £336 will go towards the annual cost of the maintaining the domain name and hosting. It will also cover payments made to Bob Moeser of 5 Below Zero for uploading material prepared by the Clerk, to the website. This application was <b>approved</b> by all councillors.  <b>7.2 Pre-submission edition of the East Herts District Plan:</b> Information about this document and the consultation period appears on the website and copies of related paperwork is available in the Telephone Kiosk Library. <b>It was agreed</b> that SPPC would make no comment on the pre-submission edition of the East Herts District Plan.</p>	
49:16	<p><b>8. Date and Time of next meeting</b>  The Development Committee for East Herts Council are expected to discuss the proposal for change of use with respect to The Cock early in 2017. <b>It was agreed</b> that the next SPPC meeting will need to take place prior to this, in order to agree the SPPC submission to the Committee. Consequently, the date and time of the next SPPC meeting is to be announced.</p>	