

# *Stanford Rivers PARISH COUNCIL*

## MINUTES

**Meeting:** PARISH COUNCIL

**Date:** 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**Time:** 5.30pm

Toot Hill Village Hall, Toot Hill Road, Toot Hill, Essex

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### **PRESENT:**

**Councillors (4)** Cllr Glover (Chairman), Cllr Adams, Cllr Mrs Jackman MBE, Cllr Tallon

**Also in Attendance (1)** - Adriana Jones – Clerk

**Members of the Public (3)** ECC Cllr Jaymey Mclvor, EFDC Cllr Brady, 1 member of public  
**Members of the Press (1)**

### **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

The Chairman welcomed members of the public present. Also present was Cllr Mike Parish, Chairman of Navestock Parish Council who addressed the Council regarding Navestock's concerns and response to the Shonks Mill Flood Storage area consultation, and asking that this Parish Council support their concerns. He accepted that they were different in nature, however felt a joint approach would be beneficial. Some of matters he raised included:

- Any road closures that would affect residents (Clerk advised this Council had not been advised Shonks Mill Road would be closed)
- No recent flooding survey completed
- Modelling out of date
- Two houses the other side of the proposed storage area will be more at risk of flooding after its built
- Proposed location of the EA Compound causing issues to local houses
- Don't want lorries going through the narrow rural roads of Navestock
- Concern at an increase in house insurance for all properties along the Roding, right the way up to Fyfield.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Parish for his attendance, and noted all the points that had been raised.

### **P14.990 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received from Cllr Jackson and Cllr Saridja.

### **P14.991 OTHER ABSENCES**

None.

### **P14.992 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

### **P14.993 MINUTES**

Councillors **APPROVED** the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 as attached to the agenda.

### **P14.994 MEMBERS REPORTS**

- Chairman's Report – No report.
- Vice Chairman's Report – No report
- District and County Councillor Reports – Cllr Mclvor provided a verbal report on a number of matters, including the following:
  - Pothole subject: 2803132 – large and deep pothole adjacent to Blake Hall Station has now been repaired as part of the Members pothole repair scheme, and as a direct result of inclusion in News and Views. Cllr Mclvor encouraged potholes to be reported under this scheme, stating that there were a further 12 he could ask to be filled. Councillors stated that most of School Road and Hopp Gardens were littered with potholes, however some of these were at the edge of the roadway which was classed as road erosion and not a pothole.
  - Attended important meeting at ECC regarding finances, which included the fact that there is a lot of pressure on front line services, with more funding needed for social care. Highways taking 11% of Council spend, with around 44-46% of funding going to social care. A lot of funds were spent during the COVID pandemic, which was an unknown at the time, and this has been compounded by the issues with A&E this winter. There has been a massive push to

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get people out of care homes and into home based care, but this is a short term answer as although this frees up space it is actually a more costly approach. The ideal situation is to get people into independent care. The EFDC emerging local plan is bringing more development to the area which means additional pressure on front line services. The Clerk asked if Cllr Mclvor could provide her with a press release for inclusion in the News and Views publication, which he confirmed he would.

- Cllr Mclvor confirmed he was looking at Highway devolution. The Clerk stated that she felt the LHP system did not work as rural areas didn't really benefit, stating that one of this Councils requests had been 7 years in the making.
- Confirmed that gritters could now be tracked, and that the people that gritted the roads were the same workers who filled the potholes, and as such during the colder weather there are less workers to complete pothole repairs.
- Cllr Brady provided an update on the following matters:
  - ID is now required when voting
  - Tree was cut down last week by the Electricity Board along the Epping Road
  - Update received from ECC regarding the byway between Berwick Lane and Epping Road which now has scalplings on and received lots of complaints. The work was completed at the request of ECC following mud and debris left of the byway, and ECC instructed the land owner to complete the work to make it passable. This will obviously be a benefit to the landowner now.
  - EFDC Enforcement looking at Nickerlands following activity in this area, and tree officer looking at whether planting can be done in this area.
  - EFDC Local Plan entering its final stages and as such you can expect planning applications to start coming forward.
  - Large Tennis Court erected at house on A113 with considerable night time lighting causing a distraction to road users. Clerk agreed she would look into this.

## **P14.995 CLERKS COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE REPORT**

Members **RECEIVED** a verbal report from the Clerk as follows:

- Email from Lynne Ridley, new Monitoring Officer from EFDC who plans to attend one meeting this year.
- Most Parish and Town Councils have elections this year, however SR elections were May in 2021.
- The Christmas Tree Lighting event at Stanford Rivers was again a very successful event, with a large attendance by local residents.
- Email from Navestock Parish Council received regarding Shonks Mill Flood Storage application – sent to Councillors.
- Notification from ACRE that grant fund to support modernisation and improvement of England's village halls of £3m was available, however disappointing to see that Parish Council's cannot apply for this.
- Clerk responded to the District Councillor boundary review as agreed at the last meeting.
- There is no further update on the 375 bus service, however the Clerk has chased Community Transport to ensure this is followed up with TFL.
- Formal notification that PKF LittleJohn has been appointed as this councils external auditor for the 2022-23 financial year and for the 5 year period until 2026-27
- Clerk asked for an update on the Prosperity Fund, for which £15,000 was suggested as a grant for Toot Hill Village Hall for an Air Source Heat pump. A decision was expected in October but this was delayed by Government. UPDATE: EFDCs UK Shared Prosperity Fund investment plan has been approved by central government which includes plans for the support for Stanford Rivers Village Hall. However, the support for Stanford Rivers is linked to their 2023-2024 UKSPF financial plans. The UK Government pays in advance per each financial year, and expects EFDC to pass thresholds on outcomes and outputs linked to 2022-2023 projects. Thus it cannot be guaranteed EFDC will have the funding in place next year until they meet UK Government reporting requirements for this year. EFDC will keep the Clerk updated should they hear about funding for year 2 of the UKSPF in April 2023.
- No further updates from the Parish Councils solicitors regarding the confidential matters discussed at previous meetings.
- In April 2022, the Elections Act 2022 was passed by the UK Parliament. The Act will require voters in Great Britain to show photo ID before being issued a ballot paper in polling stations at UK Parliamentary elections, local council elections and referendums in England and police and crime commissioner elections in England and Wales.

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## P14.996 BUDGET / PRECEPT 2023/2024

Cllr Mrs Jackman **PROPOSED**, and Cllr Hollington **SECONDED** a NIL increase in the precept in light of the current financial challenges faced by residents. A vote was taken, the result of which was unanimous that there would be a NIL increase in the precept for 2023/2024 meaning the precept amount would be £21,684 (£21,684 (precept) / 374.70 (tax base) = £57.87 (Band D equivalent)). The following Budget was **AGREED**:

### STANFORD RIVERS PC - BUDGET 2023/2024

#### Income

Precept	21,684
Bank Interest	400
Other Income	0
Toot Hill Village Hall	3,200
News and Views	0
Total	<b>25,284</b>

#### EXPENDITURE

Clerks Salary	8320
Subscriptions	450
Insurance	850
Audit Fee	400
Postage/Stationery/photocopying	50
Car Mileage	50
Miscellaneous / Contingency	0
Toot Hill Village Hall	8000
Christmas Tree Event SR	300
Grants	0
Grounds Maintenance	3500
Training	100
News & Views Post and Distribution	750
PWLB Payments	2808
Toot Hill Village Fete	100
Bank Fee	72
Elections	0
Additional items / Misc	3000
VAT	0
TOTAL	<b>28750</b>

The Council considered two quotes obtained for the Grounds Maintenance for 2023/2024, however it was **AGREED** to stick with the current contractor for the current year. It was **AGREED** not to hold any event to mark the Kings Coronation. It was **AGREED** that any shortfall in funds would come from either the Earmarked or General Reserves of the Council.

## P14.997 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Cllr Adams had provided a brief update stating that in terms of police reports there had been nothing at all for quite a while, with the exception of the high-profile theft in Little End which was reported in the national press. However there is some evidence of crime in the surrounding parishes. The NHW Facebook site has 336 members and continues to be a good source of information.

## P14.998 INTERIM INTERNAL AUDIT 2022/2023

The Interim Internal Audit was completed on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022 and **NOTED** the report as attached to the agenda. The Clerk advised there was one matter that required action, which she had completed.

## P14.999 VEHICULAR SPEEDING AND SAFETY MATTERS IN THE PARISH

### a) Community Speedwatch

Cllr Tallon advised there was a group of residents who were completing the Toot Hill Speed Watch, however it was not expected they would do this for Stanford Rivers. Cllr Adams advised there were very few volunteers for the Stanford Rivers Speedwatch with the activity being completed mostly by Councillors. There had been one session at which PC Cook was in attendance which wasn't particularly successful, but more volunteers were need. Cllr Adams continued stating the Rural Police, the Community Police and the Traffic Police had all advised they would help support the CSW at this location, but this needs to be driven by the Council.

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## **b) Speederbot**

Cllr Adams confirmed the Parish Council speederbot is active and running, and it had been agreed to run this for a year as a trial, but that the Police and CSW needs to follow this up when the data is available. What is interesting is that rush hour is not the worst time, as people tend to slow down when there is more traffic on the roads. Cllr Adams confirmed he had been threatened by one individual who was caught speeding via the CSW initiative. Going back to Speederbot, it does occasionally stop working but that the developer had been helping to resolve any issue, however unfortunately this support is no longer there, so the Council were on their own. Cllr Mclvor raised concerns stating that he regularly receives messages from the other Speederbot individual, some of which are quite offensive, so expressed caution about dealing with this individual. Cllr Brady confirmed she too had received an odd email from somebody who wanted to remain anonymous, and the content of the email had caused her concern. Cllr Adams advised that the Parish Council obtain their own data which allows the two CSW groups to target when the speeding takes place.

## **c) Parking at Mill Lane, Triangle**

No further update at this time. Item to be carried forward.

## **d) Parking in the layby at Barnmead**

The Clerk advised that EFDC had contacted her to state they had been unable to confirm ownership of the layby at Barnmead, and instead directed the Parish Council to contact the land registry, however the Clerk has raised a query directly with Essex County Council 'Highway Status' team asking them to confirm if ECC own this layby. A response had been received with an attached plan stating that the area coloured yellow was the extent considered to form part of the publicly maintainable highway within the area of concern. Although the Footpath was classified as publicly maintainable highway, the layby comes under the remit of Epping Forest District Council, as referenced in the Land Reg Document. The Clerk has subsequently gone back to EFDC to confirm this is their land. Cllr Mrs Jackman stated that EFDC use to pay for parking schemes, to which Cllr Brady advised that EFDC simply don't have the funds any more.

## **e) Speed Camera Requirements**

The Clerk advised that confirmation had been received from Essex County Council that a request for a speed camera needs to go via the Local Highway Panel. Cllr Mclvor advised he was fully aware of the speeding issues along this stretch of road, and stated he would fully support an LHP request.

Councillors noted that the time taken to get a matter through the LHP means that they did not need to precept funds for a speed camera this year, but that the estimated cost was expected to be around £10,000.

## **f) Vehicle Activated Signs**

**Toot Hill and Little End** – It was noted there was an EMR for Highways in the Parish Councils account, and the Clerk reminded Councillors that there was an option for this Council to change the types of VAS through Little End or possibly look at installing new ones in Toot Hill. There were also mobile VAS signs that could be considered. There would be a cost to both. It was **AGREED** to look at this at a future meeting.

## **g) Overgrowth through Little End**

Councillors recalled Cllr Adams suggestion of clearing much of the overgrowth along the A113 through Little End to provide the perception of being a more open, maintained area thus reinforcing with drivers that this is a village area with local residents in the hope of getting drivers to slow down. Much of the land in question is down to Highways to maintain, and in some cases possibly local adjacent landowners too. The only current way to manage and maintain the Highway areas is via the Highway Devolution Scheme, however confirmation has now been received that this scheme is no longer active. The Clerk has looked at the various legislation which may allow works to be completed along this stretch. The Parish Council has the General Power of Competence, meaning this is the power of first resort, however Parish Councils have the power to:

### Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984 – 72

*Powers exercisable by parish or community councils.*

(1)A parish or community council may, with the permission of the highway authority and subject to any conditions imposed by that authority, provide on or near any road, other than a footpath or bridleway, or may contribute, either wholly or in part, towards the cost of providing on or near any such road, traffic signs indicating—

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- (b)a warning of the existence of any danger; or
- (3)No traffic sign, object or device provided by a parish or community council in pursuance of this section shall be placed on any land (not being a road or part of a road) without the consent of the owner and occupier of the land.

Highways Act 1680 S274

Contributions by parish or community councils.

A parish council or community council may contribute towards any expenses incurred or to be incurred by a highway authority in constructing, removing or maintaining—

- (a)traffic calming works, or
- (b)other works (including signs or lighting) required in connection with traffic calming works, if, in the opinion of the council, the expenditure is or will be of benefit to their area.

The Clerk explained that it was likely this process would need to go through the LHP, however there may be a difference in terms of action if the PC was prepared to pay for the works. In addition, it may be that the Parish Council could bypass the LHP and deal directly with ECC, but what we need is costing, a plan and also an understanding of land ownership. It was **AGREED** the Clerk and Cllr Adams would meet in March to discuss further.

## P14.1000 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1. The following Planning Application comments were <b>AGREED</b> .		
EPF/2702/22	Land North of Shonks Mill Bridge, Shonks Mill Road, Stapleford Tawney	A Hybrid planning application. Full planning application for a Flood Storage Area upstream of the M25 on land to the north of Shonks Mill Bridge, Shonks Mill Road, near Stapleford Tawney, Essex. It will provide protection for flood events up to the 1 in 200 year occurrence for properties downstream of the FSA, predominantly in the London Borough of Redbridge. Outline application for 2 replacement dwellings that need to be built to replace 2 that will be lost as part of the FSA.
<b>This application is hybrid and as such the Parish Council addresses both matters separately below:</b>		
<p><b>1. Outline application for 2 replacement dwellings:</b>          The Parish Council is generally not in favour of building new dwellings in the Green Belt, however when taking into account the very special circumstances of this case it feels there is no alternative but to relocate the properties located at 157 and 159 London Road given that both are identified as being susceptible to flooding as a direct result of the proposals. Whilst in principle the Parish Council has no objection to the proposed location of these new properties, it does have concern that they are extremely close to the new flood area, and would like to see clear evidence that they will not be at risk of flooding. Consideration should also be given to moving them further away from the flood storage area towards Passingford Bridge. In principle the Parish Council has no objection to this part of the application, however will expect to see full detail in terms of safe access – ingress and egress – for the site, as well as evidence that this is a suitable location in terms of flood risk. In addition, the Parish Council will expect a condition imposed on any permission given that the new properties should be built to a liveable standard prior to the current properties being demolished – this is to ensure limited disruption to the residents of 157 and 159 London Road – and that once the new properties are built, the old properties must be demolished.</p> <p><b>2. Full Application for Flood Storage Area</b>          The Parish Council has a number of concerns regarding this application which it feels should be addressed and clarified before the Local Planning Authority issues its decision. There is no doubt that the creation of this flood storage area will increase flooding risk to the properties in both Stanford Rivers and Navestock, and every possible measure should be taken to ensure residents of both parishes do not suffer a detriment or disadvantage as a result of these works. It is also clear that the benefit to residents down stream in the London Borough of Redbridge seems to outweigh the additional risks to those residents in both Stanford Rivers and Navestock, especially the additional financial burden that they will undoubtedly face due to the increased risk of flooding (insurance costs). This is evident by the phrase within the submitted documentation which states that ‘Overall the development was found to reduce flood risk downstream and any increases in flood risk are insignificant compared to the benefits provided by the scheme’. The Parish Council would</p>		

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like the following matters given full consideration before a decision is made:

- It is clear from the submitted documentation that the modelling needs further updating, the last set of modelling being completed in 2018. On 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 members of the EA team managing this project gave a presentation to the Parish Council at which they confirmed that further modelling was needed and would be undertaken, however this does not form part of this application and as such one cannot be confident in the data submitted. In addition, the EA team seemed unaware of the problems experienced over the last 2-3 years with flooding across the A113 near to Traceys Farm, rendering the A113 impassable. This has also been a historical problem on the A113 near Bridge Farm. The Parish Council would expect that the Local Planning Authority will want to see evidence from the EA that the proposal will not exacerbate the prevalence of flooding at both these locations. In essence, what modelling has been completed to ensure that the new flood storage area will not increase the prevalence of this flooding along the A113.
- There is expected to be a relatively long period of construction works during which a considerable amount of soil and mud will be moved. This will increase traffic on the A113 and the possibility of congestion. Should permission be granted, there should be clear conditions imposed to ensure the main road network is not unduly impacted, and neither are residents. Suggested conditions include:
  - Wheel Washing – to ensure no debris is deposited onto the A113 / Shonks Mill Road
  - Strict hours of operation during construction phase – to ensure limited impact on residents, with works limited to Monday to Friday 9am to 6pm, with no Saturday or Sunday operation.
  - Making good of any damage to road surfaces – should there be any damage to Shonks Mill Road or the A113, the contractor must repair and make good any damage that has occurred.
- After liaison with our Neighbouring Parish, Navestock, the Parish Council would not support formal access to or from the site either during construction or when the site is operational from the Parish of Navestock, for reasons that the rural roads are unsuitable for such traffic. This should be controlled by way of a condition attached to any permission given.
- The Parish Council would expect that any compound used for the parking or storage of vehicles should be sited in a suitable location away from residential properties.
- The Parish Council expects to see some form of financial benefit provided to the Parish Council by way of a S106 agreement that would be put towards local projects for the benefit of local residents as a direct result of the disruption they will experience.

## 2. To **NOTE** any planning applications that have been responded to via the Clerks delegated powers

NIL

## 3. To **NOTE** any planning applications upon which EFDC do not normally accept comments

EPF/2838/22	Land At The Rear Of The White Bear P.h. 149, London Road, Stanford Rivers, Ongar, CM5 9QF	Application for Approval of Details reserved by conditions 4 "Drainage" & 7 "Boundary Treatment" for EPF/1826/20. (Proposed Bungalow).
EPF/2743/22	The Cottage, Toot Hill Road, Stanford Rivers, Ongar, CM5 9LJ	Application for Approval of Details reserved by condition 3"samples of types & details of colours of all external finishes" for EPF/0183/20. (Grade II Listed Building application for proposed additions and alterations).
EPF/2746/22	Land at Steers Farm, School Road, Toot Hill, CM5 9SD	Application for Approval of Details reserved by conditions 7"details & location of parking spaces" & 8"super fast broadband" for EPF/3119/21. (Proposed new infill detached 5 bedroom house with detached carport).
EPF/2660/22	Nags Stable, London Road, Stapleford Tawney, Romford, RM4 1SP	Certificate of lawful development for existing use of building for independent residential purposes the application also shows the surrounding garden and small barn which provide the amenity space for the property.

## 4. To **NOTE** any other planning matters

Due to Planning Committee meeting scheduled for 8<sup>th</sup> December not being quorate, there were four applications for which no comments were made by this Council:

EPF/2538/22, EPF/2618/22, EPF/2501/22 and EPF/2649/22. Councillors **NOTED** the following update on these matters:

- EPF/2538/22 - The application was recommend for approval and reviewed by Management. It has now progressed to the Legal stage, so once this is complete a final decision will be issued. Very

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similar application was before this Council in May 2022, and the Council commented as follows:  
**The Parish Council is generally against the principle of converting stables into dwellings / living accommodation due to the erosion of these types of buildings which form part of the countryside's rural character. However taking into account all the factors of this particular application, including the fact that the stables have not been actively used as stabling for over 10 years and the amount of amenity space provided by the donor property, the Parish Council has NO OBJECTION to this application.**

- EPF/2618/22 decided – Officers reported that internally, the layout will be reconfigured to relocate a first-floor bedroom to the loft space, resulting in 3 bedrooms at the first-floor level and 2 bedrooms in the loft space. The approved scheme had 4 bedrooms at first floor level with 1 bedroom in the loft space. Under recent previous applications concerns were raised regarding overlooking to the properties to the front, however, there is a significant separation distance of some 34.5m from the front elevation of the host dwelling to the properties located to the front. Plus, the properties in the front would be publicly viewable from the street, although, the elevated position of the bedrooms in the loft were noted. In short, there would be insufficient grounds to refuse the scheme on harmful overlooking to neighbouring properties to the front, particularly one that can be defended on appeal. Too add, there is no harm to neighbours on either side as the first-floor flank windows are to be obscure glazed. This will also be secured via a condition.
- EPF/2501/22 – Entrance gates and piers at 1 London Road – keeping fence but just going for New gate and walls. Trees and landscapes have holding objection.
- EPF/2649/22 – Widows farm variation of condition - 1. Bi-fold door to southeast elevation centralised with window to right hand side reduced in size. 2. Additional entrance door and canopy shown to northeast elevation. 3. 2 No doors removed from southwest elevation and 2 additional windows shown. 4. Low pitched standing seam roof structure provided over garage in lieu of flat roof construction.

### 5. To **NOTE** the following planning decision by EFDC

EPF/2276/22	Millbank, School Road, Stanford Rivers, Ongar, CM5 9PU	TPO/EPF/21/89 (Ref: A1) T2-T4, T6-T7: 5 x Oak - Crown reduce by up to 25%, as specified.	Refused 6/12/22 PC Had No objection
EPF/2746/22 DRC	Land at Steers Farm, School Road, Toot Hill, CM5 9SD	Application for Approval of Details reserved by conditions 7"details & location of parking spaces" & 8"super fast broadband" for EPF/3119/21. (Proposed new infill detached 5 bedroom house with detached carport).	Approved 15/12/22 PC noted
EPF/2743/22 DRC	The Cottage, Toot Hill Road, Stanford Rivers, Ongar, CM5 9LJ	Application for Approval of Details reserved by condition 3"samples of types & details of colours of all external finishes" for EPF/0183/20. (Grade II Listed Building application for proposed additions and alterations).	Approved 20/12/22 PC noted
EPF/1156/22	58 Epping Road Stanford Rivers Ongar Essex CM5 9SQ	Proposed new vehicular access, fencing and gate.	Refused 22/12/22 PC Objected
EPF/2618/22	Land at Steers Farm, School Road, Essex, CM5 9SD	Application for Variation of Condition 2 for EPF/3119/21 (Amendments to internal layout & minor alteration to external façade). (Proposed new infill detached 5 bedroom house with detached carport).	Approved with Conditions 22/12/22 No Comment

### P14.1001 RIDE LONDON

Councillors noted that on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2023 this years Ride London Event will be taking place. This event is a partnership between ECC and London Marathon Events, with an estimated 25,000 cyclists expected to take part. These two bodies have now agreed the route, which will remain the same as that for 2022 with the addition of a

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range of enhancements and improvements developed from the feedback and engagement process, including:

- No area being impacted by road closures for more than one day
- Improved local access plans for communities on the route
- Increased provision of managed vehicle crossing points on the route
- Additional local drop-in sessions in February for further engagement with residents and businesses
- Improved communications with social care providers
- Enhanced engagement programme with businesses on the route to plan ahead
- Working with schools and community groups on the route to develop cycling and active travel initiatives around RideLondon-Essex

Attached to the agenda was a copy of the route map. Councillors were generally supportive of this event, especially as the potholes along the route were fixed.

## **P14.1002 ALTERATION TO FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

Councillors considered a change for item 1.14 in the Financial Regulations which currently reads: The council must:

- approve any grant or a single commitment in excess of £500, unless the Clerk/RFO, in conjunction with the Chairman of the Council (or Acting Chairman in his/her absence) deem any item as being an urgent Health and Safety Risk and requiring immediate attention, in which case can authorise up to the amount of £1,000 in these circumstances only.

A suggestion had been made the £500 is altered to be £1,000 for approved suppliers. Cllr Hollington **PROPOSED**, and Cllr Tallon **SECONDED** that this change be made, and that this is reviewed every year.

## **P14.1003 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS**

### **a) Local Highway Panel Requests:**

Councillors **NOTED** that the Clerk had requested an update from Cllr McIvor on the following schemes:

- LEPP192054 – A113 London Road, Stanford Rivers Signage scheme – Moved into 2022/2023 financial year. Cost £16,500.
- LEPP202047 – A113 London Road, Stapleford Tawney, request for traffic calming measures and signage JW Epping Lane / A113, at Validation Stage. NOTE: This was submitted by the Parish Council, but is not within the Parish.
- LEPP212019: Request for the reinstatement of signage outside Piggotts for directional signage towards Toot Hill.

### **b) Overgrown Footpath Stanford Rivers to Ongar**

No further update.

### **c) Finger Posts / Quiet Lanes**

Councillors **NOTED** that the Clerk had had a phone conversation with Cllr Purkiss of Theydon Bois Parish Council regarding concerns and changes around Quiet Lanes and the maintenance of Finger Posts in the District. Councillors stated they were not aware of any Quiet Lanes in the Parish, and noted that if they were aware of any finger posts in the Parish that were damaged or of concern in terms of maintenance they should advise the Clerk. The Chairman confirmed he would take a look and advise the Clerk.

## **P14.1004 DEFIBRILLATOR LITTLE END**

Following what had been a long process in terms of trying to secure a suitable location for said Defibrillator, it was **AGREED** to approach the Woodman to see if they would be willing to place a Defibrillator externally in their grounds, and that the Clerk should contact Cllr Jackson regarding this matter.

## **P14.1005 TOOT HILL VILLAGE HALL**

- a) Barriers / Gates – considered under Precept, but **AGREED** to purchase new gates, and that the Chairman and Clerk would conduct a site visit.
- b) Gigaclear – Part of the works to install the broadband line at the hall have now taken place by Gigaclear, however they were unable to fully complete the works to break through the external wall of the hall. This has now been completed, and the final connection works are due to be completed by Gigaclear on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023.



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- c) Lighting – The Electrician visited site and completed works to the first flood light on the left and the one above the fire exit on that same left side, as well building a small surround for each flood light. Works were also completed to the bollard lighting, however notification was received that these were still not working and as such the electrician was scheduled to visit and relook at these. A further visited was conducted and it was established that the timer was faulty, so this was replaced, but then stopped working sooner after so the contractor went back and replaced the dusk to dawn sensor that was faulty. All working fine now.
- d) Works to clear the overgrowth area at the rear of the hall has begun, the cost to clear this area was £600 plus VAT. The Oak tree has been preserved, however at the right time there will need to be a skip and a further machine to pick up the earth and debris.
- e) Ceiling tiles and picnic benches – to be carried forward. Cllr Tallon advised that he had already changed some of the ceiling tiles, and that the ones in the garage were just slightly too small. It was **AGREED** the Clerk would liaise with Mr Wickham regarding this.
- f) Noted hall boiler to be booked for service - £95 plus VAT per hour then £90 per hour after.

### P14.1006 NEWS AND VIEWS

Unfortunately the planned Edition of News and Views for November did not go out. The Clerk is aiming to create an edition the following week which would including details about the Ride London, Precept, Boundary Review, Shonks Mill, bringing ID to voting, speed watch and volunteers.

### P14.1007 FINANCIAL REPORTS

The following payments were **AGREED**.

Reference	To	For	Amount
BACS	Adriana Jones	Clerks Salary Dec and Jan 2022	<b>£1,109.26</b>
BACS	HMRC	PAYE Dec and Jan 2022	<b>£277.40</b>
BACS	David Wickham	Clean Toot Hill VH Nov & Dec, Phone box tidy Nov & Dec, works to enable wifi in the hall, water main housing, insulate pipe works at enters loft.	<b>£487.95</b> (£0 VAT)
BACS	Thornwood Grounds Maintenance	New battery packs for xmas lights, and decorate and remove tree lights	<b>£120.00</b> (£20.00 VAT)
BACS	Auditing Solutions Ltd	Interim Internal Audit 22/23	<b>£132.00</b> (£22.00 VAT)
BACS	We Are Creative Web Design Ltd	Annual hoisting for website	<b>£120.00</b> (£20.00 VAT)
BACS	Eon	Electricity Supply Toot Hill Village Hall (Nov and Dec supply)	<b>£120.38</b> (£5.73)
BACS	Viking Direct	Stationery and new Urn for Village Hall	<b>£111.42</b> (£18.57 VAT)
BACS	John Adams	3 months speederbot costs	<b>£32.74</b> (£0 VAT)
BACS	Unity Bank	Service Charge 3 months	<b>£18.00</b> (£0 VAT)
BACS	Ongar Round Table	Father Christmas, SR Xmas tree lighting event	<b>£75.00</b> (£0 VAT)
BACS	Daniel Matthews	Electric works Toot Hill Village Hall	<b>£445.00</b> (£0 VAT)
BACS	Whiskers Solicitors	Works associated with request to remove covenant of land in Toot Hill Road, and legal work associated with the Toot Hill Village Hall	<b>£1,000.00</b> (£166.67 VAT)

### Bank Balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

Unity Current Account 4775	£ 8,695.28
Unity Deposit Account 4788	£ 56,688.94

# *Stanford Rivers PARISH COUNCIL*

**INCOME:** £179.91 – Interest received 31/12 a/c 4788  
£ 57.75 – Hire THVH 30/10 – Mr Gray (#045)  
£ 78.00 – Hire THVH Nov/Dec - Pilates  
£ 88.00 – Hire THVH Including Sport  
£ 79.20 – Hire THVH Including Sport  
£ 33.00 – Hire THVH Dec – Young Farmers

## **P14.1008 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS/EVENTS**

Councillors **NOTED** the date of the next meeting:

- 9<sup>th</sup> February (Planning)
- 16<sup>th</sup> March
- 11<sup>th</sup> May (including Annual Parish Assembly)
- 13<sup>th</sup> July
- 14<sup>th</sup> September
- 9<sup>th</sup> November

Councillors were reminded that COVID restrictions are no longer in place and as such meetings must be held in person.

Signed ..... Date .....