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**STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET PARISH COUNCIL FULL COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the FULL COUNCIL meeting held on Wednesday 1st November at 7.30pm in The Mountfitchet Exchange, Crafton Green, 72 Chapel Hill, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex

**PRESENT** Cllr M Caton (Chair), Cllrs A Barnes, J Hogg, P Jones, J Kavanagh, A Khan,

A Love, J O’Brien, G Sell and T van de Bilt

**ATTENDING** Mrs Ruth Clifford – Parish Clerk

Mrs Emma Philbrick – Deputy Clerk

District Councillor Nick Church

Cllrs G Braeckman and A Guney (via Zoom)

1 member of the press (via Zoom)

2 members of the public (1 via Zoom)

**235 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Braeckman – University, Cllr Ghosh – Family Emergency, Cllr Guney – Work Commitments and Cllr Prior – Work Commitments. It was unanimously

**RESOLVED** To accept the apologies for absence from Cllrs Braeckman, Ghosh, Guney and Prior.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

One parishioner informed members that he was attending to observe the meeting as he may be interested in the councillor vacancy.

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**236 DECLARATION OF INTEREST -** None

**237 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4TH OCTOBER 2023**

**RESOLVED** To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 4th October 2023 as a true and accurate account.

**238 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON ACTION POINTS FROM THE LAST MEETING**

197 – Ask Planning for a meeting to discuss May Walk – Done and meeting has already taken place.

**239 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE CHAIR, CLLR MAUREEN CATON**

Attached

**240 TO RECEIVE WRITTEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

A report submitted by District Councillor Sell is attached.

He explained his reasons for voting in favour of the plan even though he was the only Stansted District Councillor to do so. Cllr Khan commented that he understood the reasons and it’s important to get the plan out for consultation so that the public can give their views in order to improve it. Cllr Hogg thanked Cllr Sell for voting for the plan and asked for the other three District Councillors to explain why they would not vote for a plan which is broadly in line with what the Parish Council have put in their draft Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Church explained his reasons for voting against it and explained that in their opinion, the plan is unviable and they believe the Inspector will fail it. They had hoped it would be revisited in January and housing numbers reduced. They also did not support the changes to the Countryside Protection Zone.

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He also said that they were given a very short period of time to read such a large document and digest the information it contained.

Cllr Braeckman joined the meeting via Zoom during this agenda item.

**241 TO RECEIVE A WRITTEN COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

Nothing received.

**242 FINANCE – TO APPROVE THE LIST OF PAYMENTS**

Cllr O’Brien confirmed he had checked the invoices against the schedule before the start of the meeting. With no questions asked, the payment schedule was approved.

**243 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**1 UTT/23/2346/HHF – 61 BLYTHWOOD GARDENS**

**First floor rear extension**

No Comment

**2 UTT/23/2529/HFF – WHITEFRIARS, HIGH LANE**

**Proposed single storey rear extension, new single garage to the side, roof replacement to enable first floor accommodation within new roof and internal alterations.**

No Comment

**3 S62A/2023/0023 – EASTFIELD STABLES, MAY WALK, ELSENHAM ROAD**

**Erection of 5 residential dwellings and associated infrastructure**

The Parish Council objects to this application on the following grounds:

* Outside development limits
* Unsustainable
* UDC and SMPC have never supported development on this site and continue this stance through the emerging plans. The piecemeal development has provided no benefit to the community of Stansted and there has been no community engagement by the applicant.
* Since 2016, there have been 7 appeals lodged (3 dismissed, 2 allowed, 1 in progress and 1 lodge but not yet progressing)
* The site qualifies for affordable housing – which is not being supplied on the development, but as a contribution, thus not benefiting the community.
* If further development is allowed, then the access should be off Elsenham Road only so traffic does not use an unsuitable access (the bridleway) as stated by Essex Highways.

**4 UTT/23/2595/FUL – THE LARCHES, GROVE HILL**

**S73 Application to vary condition 20 (visibility splays) of UTT/22/2400/DFO (details following outline application UTT/20/0882/OP, details of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the erection of 1 no. detached dwelling and garage)**

No Comment

Cllr Guney joined the meeting via Zoom during this agenda item.

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**244 TO CONSIDER RE-ADOPTING THE FOLLOWING POLICIES WITH THE CHANGES HIGHLIGHTED IN RED**

**a) FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

This was circulated to members with the agenda. Having been proposed by Cllr O’Brien and seconded by Cllr Sell, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** to re-adopt Financial Regulations with the highlighted change.

**b) STANDING ORDERS**

This was circulated to members with the agenda. Having been proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr O’Brien, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** To re-adopt Standing Orders with the highlighted change.

**245 TO CONSIDER DRAFT COMMENTS FOR UTTLESFORD’S CONSULTATION ON THEIR SPENDING PRIORITIES**

This is being drafted by the Chair and Vice Chair of F&GP and is still being worked on. The deadline for comments is 5th November so it was unanimously agreed to defer the decision on the final comments to the Chair of the Council, Chair and Vice-Chair of F&GP and the Clerk. Cllr Sell asked that the final comments also be circulated to the 4 district members.

**246 OPEN SPACES – TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11TH OCTOBER 2023**

The minutes of the meeting were received.

**247 HIGHWAYS SUB-COMMITTEE – TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18TH OCTOBER 2023**

The minutes of the meeting were received.

**248 F&GP COMMITTEE – TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25TH OCTOBER 2023**

The minutes of the meeting were received.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

**ACTION POINT**

245 Office to send final comments on UDC draft budget to the 4 district members.