

StanwayParish Council

Deputy Parish Clerk: Catherine Clouston Victory Hall, Villa Road, Stanway, Essex CO3 ORH

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21/07

Minutes of the Community Services Committee - Tuesday 8th June 2021 at 7.00pm.

- 1. Attendance Clirs Jordan (Chair), Spademan, Norton and the Deputy Clerk. Nick Day attended as guest speaker.
- 2. Apologies for Absence Apologies RECEIVED and ACCEPTED from Cllrs. Botha, Bloomfield and Williams.
- 3. Declaration of Interest NONE DECLARED.
- 4. Public Participation NONE.
- 5. Short presentation by Nick Day, Woodland and Open Spaces Project Officer, Colchester Borough Council on Woodland and Biodiversity Project: CBC is now following a climate change agenda in everything it does, with the aim of reducing its carbon footprint. The global campaign of planting trees has now been widely accepted as the best way of dealing with climate change, but after challenge from some groups it has now expanded the project to include biodiversity, to include planting shrubs and creating grassland areas. Last year 32 town and parish councils were approached and 8 responded. Stanway embraced the project, planting more trees than any other parish. Silver Witch Green is in the process of recovering the old hedge line, creating a green oasis, escaping pollution from surrounding roads, encouraging pollinators through blossom plants. This year CBC would like to continue working with Stanway, infill planting. General public involvement with project will be encouraged with tree and shrub give-away and working with schools (both projects abandoned last year due to Covid). Helpful to identify local tree champions to stop vandalism of plants. Early resistance to project now overcome and many reasons to feel positive moving on. Vision for the future of managing green spaces for benefit of wildlife, bringing birds, animals and insects to these areas. There is a greater ambition for planting more trees in the future.
- **6. Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting of Tuesday 11**th May 2021 (previously circulated) APPROVED.
- 7. To elect a Chair for the next municipal year Cllr. Jordan duly elected as Chair, unopposed.
- 8. To elect a Deputy Chair for the next municipal year Cllr. Norton duly elected as Deputy Chair, unopposed.
- 9. Clerk's Report with Update and Financial Report (previously circulated) NOTED.
- **10. Local Community Events:**
- **a. Annual Parish Forum:** Agreed that the hybrid formula worked well but regret expressed about lack of public participation. Costs of technical support £250.00, purchase of Web cam £95.00, award certificates £16.00.
- **11. Community Safety:** Dept. Clerk gave details of meeting with Les Hawkins, Specials Supported Policing Coordinator, Essex Police about recruitment of Special Constables, explaining the revised process. Agreed to proceed with design of recruitment posters in the hope of finding local volunteers for this role.
- 12. Future Events and Services:
- **a. Defibrillators:** UKPN application form to proceed with defibrillator fitting on streetlight column on Halstead Road completed and returned **NOTED.** Councillors expressed a desire to set up First Aid training courses for public which are provided by Colchester First Responders.

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- **b. SPC Welcome Booklet: APPROVED** copies to be available in Post Office, Library and SPC office. Reprinting costs: full colour both sides on white uncoated 120gsm, folded once down and once across to finished size A5, 50 = £60.00, 100 = £70.00, 200 = £95.00.
- **c. Sponsorship of fitness programme:** Dept. Clerk confirmed that SPC was successful in application for funding and now able to proceed with activity programme in conjunction with OurParks, as already agreed. Dept. Clerk to contact all potential interest groups, including medical, to set up exercise programme. Discussion on wording of signage at outdoor adult gym equipment and should be sent to SPC's insurer for confirmation. **APPROVED** for Deputy Clerk to get a quotation for a sign with a height measurement using wording as circulated at meeting.
- **d. Launch event of outdoor adult gym equipment: CONFIRMED** to proceed with this event on Friday 16th July at 3.30pm. Dept. Clerk to arrange event with invitation to local dignitaries, local groups, inform the press and other details.
- **e. Woodland and Biodiversity Project: CONFIRMED** to proceed with free tree and shrub give-away event on Saturday 21st November at 10.00am. Dept. Clerk to arrange widespread publicity and advertising for the event. Councillors keen to continue planting programme in Stanway and investigate biodiversity options at Swan Green.
- f. NHS Health Van: APPROVED to proceed with project once information received about frequency of visits.
- g. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme: AGREED item to be sent to Full Council so all councillors have option to volunteer.
- 13. Communications:
- **a. Web-site redesign/upgrade: AGREED** to postpone decision about spending £750.00 for redesign/upgrade of website until more detailed information received about nature/necessity of the project.
- 14. Items for future meetings, other committees or Full Council:
- i/ FC to discuss representation of SPC at Stanway Neighbourhood Watch.
- ii/ CS to discuss arranging a Quiz.
- iii/ CS to consider options for future committee budget planning.
- **14.** To **CONFIRM** date of next Community Services meeting will be held on **Tuesday 8**th **July 2021 at 7.00pm** in Victory Hall.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm

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