

SCENIC Minutes – Thursday 21st August 2025

1. Present:

Cllrs. Sharp (AHS), Alesi (MA), Melville (JM) and Martin (AM)

2. Apologies:

Cllr Castro

Cllr Pett absent

3. Minutes of last meeting:

Agreed as a true reflection of the meeting – proposed by JM, seconded by MA.

4. Display Boards Update

JM has constructed the prototype frame. A report to council will request funding for materials to complete the project. Plan is to have a map of Staplehurst in the centre of the display top + historical photos of the village. Advice will be sought from the Staplehurst Society. Possible printers: Iden Signs, Curious Newt and Simply Print. AM will check minutes re budget for this project. JM was thanked for his work to date.

5. Youth Club Building

- Clerk has had no recent contact with YMCA re Youth Leader provision.
- AHS is meeting KCC Councillor Black on Tuesday re various items including PR's request for youth services.
- **ACTION: AHS emailed Beth at YMCA during the meeting re stage we're at. Beth has replied that they did attend the Blue Light event to canvass interest. Once she returns from leave, she will be in touch, although a September start is unlikely.**
- Re roof – Pride Roofing quote has been agreed by Council. No start date yet.

6. Surrenden Pavilion

- Discussed checklist required for submission of plans. **ACTION: AHS will ask Office to complete this. JM's drawings to be included + Hanson's plans and updated quote.**
- Discussion re a larger building. It would be possible to increase the size by circa 2m width and length and remain within permitted development square meterage. **ACTION: AHS and JM will measure again to assess viability. Report to go to September council meeting + new Hanson quote.**

7. Parade Toilets

- Clerk has confirmed that new KCC contact is Lisa Johnson. She is trying to locate key/code. **ACTION: Ask Clerk to check if Bill Best has code.**
- Still need to have surveyor check possible subsidence issue.

8. Xmas Lights

- AM and AHS have had 2nd planning meeting with JT. Still awaiting quote from Streetlights re installation and dismantling for this year + re-stringing motifs.

- Report has gone to council for next week to ask for permission to spend up to £1500 for this, as this is the amount in the budget.
- Wording for email to Wisperole forwarded to Clerk to send out re permission for permanent siting of Xmas tress stand.
- There is a stand in Jubilee Pavilion – need to check it.
- Tree to be purchased from Kingswood subject to report and agreement at full council. Cost circa £120 plus delivery cost.

9. AOB

- Boot fair request for 13th September going to full council
- Tree surveyor will check tree at Surrenden Field re Ash die-back
- MA now in possession of key for Manning Gate.
- ROSPA report received today noted. Caretaker will check (play area, outside gym equipment and Skatepark) which repairs he is able to undertake and which will need professional work. AHS emailed RFO at the meeting – if play area equipment needs replacing, it is hoped that adaptive/disabled play equipment could be incorporated as per previous plan.

10. Next meeting – 25th September at 7.30pm