

**Minutes of a Meeting of Stanford Dingley Parish Council held on  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 7.30pm in the Club Room, Stanford Dingley.**

**Present:** Cllr. H. Fullerton; Cllr. C. Dent; Cllr. A. Bucknell; Cllr. E. Hanrahan; Cllr. C. Plank;  
District Cllr. Graham Pask; Mrs. Helen Pratt (Clerk).

Barry Pottier and 3 other parishioners.

**1. Public Session.**

Concern was raised about possible noise and traffic/parking issues from events to be held at The Bull. It is understood that ten late evening events can be held without an extra license. The homes in the immediate vicinity of The Bull would like to be informed in advance of such events. The Landlord is understood to have turned away at least some events requesting a late finish (after 11pm). The Landlord is meeting with residents local to The Bull at Cllr. Bucknell's house to resolve any potential issues.

The Boot will be hosting live bands in the garden on Sunday afternoons, during the summer. These are expected to finish around 10.00/10.15pm.

**2. Apologies.**

Apologies had been received in advance from District Cllr. Pask who was late due to another meeting.

**3. Election of a Chairman and Vice Chairman.**

**3.1. Chairman.**

Cllr. Dent proposed that Cllr. Fullerton be Chairman of Stanford Dingley Parish Council (SDPC) for the coming year. This was seconded by Cllr. Bucknell and unanimously agreed.

Cllr. Fullerton signed the Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**3.2. Vice Chairman.**

Cllr. Fullerton proposed that Cllr. Dent be Vice Chairman of SDPC for the coming year. This was seconded by Cllr. Hanrahan and unanimously agreed.

**4. Declaration of Interests and Acceptance of Office.**

**4.1. Acceptance of Office.**

All councillors signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office as councillors for SDPC.

**4.2. Declarations of Interest forms.**

Declaration of Interest forms were distributed to all councillors for return to the Clerk as soon as possible.

**4.3. Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items.**

There were no declarations of interest in any agenda items.

**5. Minutes of the last meeting.**

**5.1. Meeting on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019.**

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the Chairman.

**6. Review of Corporate Documents.**

Councillors were made aware of the corporate documents (Code of Conduct and Standing Orders) for SDPC. These will be circulated and reviewed at the next meeting.

**7. To allocate Responsibilities:**

The post of Flood Warden is currently vacant. It was agreed that Oli Brooke be asked if he is willing to do it and attend the Pang Valley Flood Forum; Mr. Brooke has expertise in this area. Cllr. Hanrahan agreed to approach Mr. Brooke and co-ordinate with SDPC.

EH

Cllr. Bucknell agreed to take on the responsibility of reporting on Public Rights of Way.

AB

The Dredge Gang needs to be re-invigorated; Cllr. Hanrahan will contact Oli Brooke and ask whether he might be willing to take on the co-ordination/leadership of the Dredge Gang.

EH

## 8. Planning.

### 8.1. 18/03400/FULD – Saffron House.

*Demolition of existing barn and replace with new 4-bed dwelling with 2 cart sheds, alterations to existing access detail on land adjacent to Saffron House.*

SDPC **objected** to this application. An amendment was submitted to WBC which reduced the size of one of the cart sheds, but no changes were made to the proposed dwelling. In addition to SDPC objecting, there are 17 letters of objection to the proposal. As a result of this, it is understood that the application is likely to be considered by the Eastern Area Planning Committee on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

### 8.2. Planning Decisions made by WBC:

#### 8.2.1. 19/00749/LBC2 – The Garden House.

*Alteration to rear fenestration and insertion of external door, creation of new internal opening and insertion of stud walls.*

SDPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.

#### 8.2.2. 19/00200/LBC2 – Brook House.

*Insertion of new conservation rooflight into the north facing (rear) slope of the main building.*

SDPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.

#### 8.2.3. 19/00340/FUL – Fairholme Farm.

*Section 73: Variation of Condition 2 – Approved Plans of previously approved application 18/01727/FUL: Erection of detached dwelling, tennis court, outdoor swimming pool and pergola. Amendments to include addition of dormer windows and minor elevational changes.*

SDPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.

#### 8.2.4. 19/00279/HOUSE – 1 Coxlands Cottage.

*Two storey extension.*

SDPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.

### 8.3. Planning in Stanford Dingley

It was suggested that the Village Design Statement should be reviewed. It was agreed that the Clerk would check the status of the current Village Design Statement. It was agreed that Cllr. Hanrahan would lead on the review with the following principals in mind: the benefit and potential harm to the village and whether there is any immediate, individual profit.

Discussion points included whether or not to identify possible sites for smaller dwellings and how the village has evolved over the last 40 years.

A Neighbourhood Development Plan was touched upon, but it was noted that these are in favour of development. It was therefore agreed to look at the possibilities of refreshing the Parish Plan (2009).

## 9. The Club Room.

The Club Room is mainly being utilised for events organised by the Events team.

Broadband still isn't connected; this is a problem for a number of homes in the parish. Once connected, there is a need for purchase of a printer and white board etc for the Club Room to be used as a business hub for those working from home.

Externally, there are some tiles which have slipped on the roof, the fascia board needs replacing and a branch (which is close to the roof) needs to be cut back; all of this work could be completed by a weekend workparty.

## 10. The Village Field.

Mr. Pottier reported that a thorough survey of the Village field has been carried out. This was included in a document discussing the state of the field, possible maintenance and usage sent to the covenant holders and neighbours. Comments have been received back on some aspects, including that the grass cuttings should be taken away and that the grass should be cut with a mulching gang mower. Cllr. Plank commented that her husband would be willing to take the grass cuttings away if necessary.

## **11. Reports**

### **11.1. District Council.**

District Cllr. Pask commented that he was delighted to be back (after the elections) representing the Bucklebury Ward. He congratulated the councillors of SDPC who had all put in nomination papers and filled all of the seats in an uncontested election. Work in Newbury at the Sainsbury's round-a-bout on the A339 has just begun and should significantly improve the travel times between the Robin Hood round-a-bout and the Burger King round-a-bout in both directions, at peak times.

### **11.2. Stanford Dingley Events.**

The Plant Sale made over £200 and surplus plants were given to the Bradfield sale. The draw for the tickets to the rehearsal of the Trooping of the Colour Ceremony will be held during Preliminary Drinks at the Boot. This will be followed by Cllr.

Fullerton giving a talk on the Household Cavalry on the 6<sup>th</sup> June.

On July 13<sup>th</sup> there will be a "Fun and Flowers" session with Hilly of the Valley.

Other events being organised include Gin tasting (1/8/2019) and a party in the paddock (14/9/2019). A number of ideas are being discussed to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day (8/5/2020), including, a Dig for Victory campaign followed by a mini village show and a party.

Mr. Pottier was thanked for his role in organising these events and the work on the Village Field and Club Room.

### **11.3. Dredge Gang.**

Paul Lemm is no longer organising the Dredge Gang. Recently, the group has only carried out odd bits of maintenance.

It was noted that Andy McKensie is cutting the grass in the churchyard.

### **11.4. Footpaths.**

It was reported that hedges on either side of footpath 18/2 (between Dumbledore and Kings Mead) need cutting. Cllr. Hanrahan will enquire about who owns the hedge on the south side.

EH

## **12. Clerks Report**

### **12.1. Finances**

#### **12.1.1. To receive the Financial Statement.**

The Clerk reported that when all the cheques have cleared the balance in the current account will be £8,482.40. The last statement, dated the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019 showed a balance of £8,970.93.

### **12.2. Audit**

#### **12.2.1. Exemption from External Audit.**

SDPC meets the criteria to claim exemption from external audit. It was resolved that SDPC wish to claim exemption and therefore the Chairman signed the Certificate for Exemption.

#### **12.2.2. Approval of the Governance Statement for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.**

Councillors, having read Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2018/19, resolved to approve it for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

#### **12.2.3. Approval of the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.**

Councillors, having considered section 2 – Accounting Statements 2018/19 resolved to approve it for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

**12.3.** Correspondence.

**12.3.1.** **West Berkshire Directory.**

The West Berkshire Directory is a list of useful services provided by various groups within West Berkshire, available on the WBC website. It was agreed that a link to the would be included on the Stanford Dingley website.

**12.3.2.** **SID Training – 7<sup>th</sup> August.**

It was noted that the equipment needs a safe place where it can be located. Concern was raised about the speed of traffic on the road from Chapel Row to Stanford Dingley, particularly on the blind bend to the north of Bushnells Green Farm.

**13.** **Round Table Comments.**

**13.1.** Unauthorised Encampment Meeting.

Cllr. Bucknell attended the meeting organised, by WBC, on unauthorised encampments and what landowners can do to minimise the risk and do should they find themselves in the unfortunate position of hosting an unauthorised encampment. Cllr. Bucknell commented that the meeting took the form of a presentation, rather than instructions on what to do, should you be confronted with the situation. Essentially there are two methods of dealing with the situation, but ideally proactive defensive work in the first place is preferable. WBC will, on request carry out an assessment of areas at risk. Certain types of locks were recommended for entrance points.

**14.** **Date of next meeting:**

Parish Council:

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed:

Date: