

**Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of Stanford Dingley Parish Council held on
Monday 2nd November 2020 at 7.30pm.**

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

Parishioners: Mr. T. Elder; Mrs. A. McCurdy.

1 Public Session.

No items were raised during the public session.

2 Apologies.

Apologies of absence were received and accepted from Mr. B. Pottier and Mr. O. Brooke.

3 Declaration of Interests.

3.1 Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items.

There were no declarations of interest in any agenda items.

4 Minutes of last meeting:

4.1 Parish Council meeting on Monday 21st September 2020.

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of Stanford Dingley Parish Council (SDPC) held on Monday 21st September 2020 were an accurate account of the meeting and they will be signed by Cllr. Fullerton.

5 Management of Parish Council Assets.

5.1 The Club Room.

Mr. Pottier submitted a report that there had been a confirmed booking for the Club Room from AMG Group from the 12th to the 15th October which raised £375. The hall was cleaned before and after thanks to Mrs. Pottier.

Work needs to be organised to remove green waste from behind the hall, and carry out maintenance on some roof tiles and the fascia board. Cllr. Hanrahan (with help from Cllr. Fullerton and Mr. Elder) agreed to move the green waste from behind the hall to his compost heap opposite. Cllr. Hanrahan will talk to Mr. Pottier about the roof tiles and the fascia board.

5.2 The Village Field.

Mr. Pottier submitted a report that a dog waste bin has now been installed at the entrance to the Village Field and there are signs at either end of the footpath through the field. The dog training will continue through the winter period, but mainly at weekends, due to the shortened daylight hours.

The green waste, the old compost bin, fencing and leaves from last year need to be removed; Cllr. Plank agreed to organise their removal.

It was agreed that the Clerk would organise for Triangle Management to empty the litter bin on The Green and the dog waste bin at the entrance to the field every two weeks.

5.3 The Green.

Cllr. Bucknell reported that she will forward the quote to “weed and feed” the grass on The Green after the company next come out.

It was noted that some of the oak posts along the edge of The Green are missing. Cllr.

Hanrahan will talk to the McCurdys about two quotes; one to replace the missing ones and a second to replace all of the posts.

Concern was raised about the state of the bench around the tree on The Green. Cllr.

Fullerton will talk to Mr. Pottier about possible repairs.

6 Planning.

6.1 Planning applications sent to SDPC for consultation:

6.1.1 20/02305/HOUSE - Brambles.

Planning approval for two storey extension to Eastern elevation as per lapsed permission 16/02913/HOUSE.

It was agreed that SDPC **supports** this application on the grounds that it will be more aesthetically pleasing.

6.2 Planning decisions made by WBC:

6.2.1 **20/01629/FUL – Ivinghoe.**

Replacement dwelling and landscape enhancements.

SDPC **objected** to this application which has been **refused** by WBC.

6.2.2 **20/01742/HOUSE – Little Orchard.**

Proposed replacement outbuilding.

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

6.2.3 **20/02144/AGRIC – Severalls Farm.**

Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: New Straw Store (SS) extending to 487.7sqm.

WBC has determined that this proposal **does not require prior planning approval.**

6.2.4 **20/02145/AGRIC – Severalls Farm.**

Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed New Grain Store (GS) extending to 446sqm.

WBC has determined that this proposal **does not require prior planning approval.**

7 **Road Safety.**

Cllr. Fullerton reported that he had received a letter from Mr. Alderton about the damage which has been caused to the road by the increase in farm traffic during the last ten years. Rather than resurfacing the road, WBC fill pot holes.

District Cllr. Pask reported that the matter had been brought to the attention of WBC and that Andrew Reynolds had inspected the road the previous week and drawn up a list of the work that needs to be carried out. This will then be prioritised and put on a list to be completed.

7.1 **Speeding.**

Cllr. Hanrahan commented that over the last month he hasn't received any complaints about speeding; but that may be due to the seasonal weather.

Cllr. Fullerton suggested that parishioners and other local people be asked to drive at a maximum of 25mph through the 30mph zone. It was agreed that this message be passed to residents via the "parishioners" email distribution list, the two Whatsapp groups and the parish website.

8 **Parish Census.**

Councillors were asked to send the subjects they feel should be included in the census to Cllr. Hanrahan within the next 48 hours.

9 **Sewer Flooding.**

Mr. Pottier submitted a report on sewer flooding prior to the meeting: *There was a small amount of surface water and sewage flooding over the weekend of 3rd and 4th October but no reports of sewage entering any of the houses as the flow out of the sewage manholes went into the storm drains. Mr. Brooke raised an incident with Thames Water who attended and removed what we believe to be a blockage (although TW have not confirmed this). Given the more recent weather events the water meadows and storm drains look to be coping and with forecasts of more and more of these types of event we will need to be vigilant.*

Cllr. Dent reported that he has collated most of the material for the complaint to Thames Water. Cllr. Fullerton will review the material in terms of quality and correctness. The complaint will be copied to Sean Murphy in the Environmental Health department at WBC.

10 **Digitisation of records.**

Cllr. Bucknell reported that she has got pictures from Anne Chessum of the archives and will obtain a quote. It was also noted that Stuart Logan has material which should be considered for scanning.

11 Reports.

11.1 District Councillor's Report.

District Cllr. Pask reported that sites for the next Local Plan are being considered. WBC has responded to the planning white paper.

WBC's response to COVID remains positive. If someone is in need, they are encouraged to contact the WBC HUB through which they can obtain food, advice etc. WBC has generally been very fortunate in that the community has generally responded well to guidance and restrictions.

Cllr. Bucknell asked whether there was any news on surfacing of the southern end of footpath STAN 27/1 (near Kimberhead Farm). District Cllr. Pask will pursue this again with Sallie Jennings.

11.2 Stanford Dingley Events Committee.

Mr. Pottier submitted a report that with the lock down period ahead there is little hope of any events for the remainder of the year or the early part of next year. During the storm of the 21st August, some of the poles of the marquee became twisted and broken; these have now been repaired and the marquee is stored at Cllr. Dents.

11.3 Dredge Gang.

Mr. Pottier submitted a report that with Mr. Brooke he had looked at the river after the last instance of roadside flooding. During the inspection a number of small blockages and branches across the river were cleared. A willow tree has become uprooted and is still in the river; Mr. Brooke has reported this to the EA in order to get it removed. Generally, the river appears to be very healthy with a narrow, fast channel with a good flow. Whilst there are lot of small trout in the river there are a hung number of Signal Crayfish which undermine the bank and affect the ecology of the river; ideally, a license should be obtained to enable their capture and removal.

A leaf sweep session was discussed, possibly for the first or second weekend in December; to be determined by the lifting of the COVID lockdown.

11.4 Tree planting in the parish.

Planting of the trees is planned to take place in the spring.

11.5 Public Rights of Way.

A number of trees on the path from Little Orchard to Bradfield were reported. Cllr. Bucknell will report these (again) to WBC.

12 Clerks Report.

12.1 Finances.

12.1.1 To receive the financial statement dated 2nd November 2020.

The Clerk reported that the following payment has been made since the last meeting:

West Berkshire District Council £200.00 Donation for West Berkshire libraries.

Once all transactions have cleared the balance in the account will be £10,026.18 which reconciles to the bank statement dated the 30th September 2020 showing a balance of £8,312.86. The second precept payment of £2,500 was received from WBC at the end of September. It was agreed to transfer £6,000 from the Treasurers Account to the Business Instant Account.

12.1.2 Six monthly spend against budget.

The Clerk reported on the expenditure to the end of September against the budget. The fencing and the entrance to the Village Field have cost £3,313.05 (exc. VAT). It was originally agreed that the Events Committee would contribute half of this cost. The Clerk will send Hilary Dent the invoices for the work.

The Clerk also raised concern that no income has been received in terms of rent for the hall (or the Village Field). It was agreed that Hilary Dent will circulate a report from the Events Team to each meeting.

13 Round Table Comments.

Cllr. Dent thanked everyone for their contribution throughout the year to SDPC.

13.1 Grit Bin at junction of Back Lane and Cock Lane.

The Clerk reported that permission was obtained last year for a grit bin at the junction. This will be ordered in the coming weeks.

13.2 Commercial Waste being brought into the parish and burnt.

Cllr. Dent reported that he has received a complaint from a parishioner about trade waste being brought into the parish and burnt. District Cllr. Pask reported that it is illegal to import commercial waste. Whilst there is no law against bonfires, it is illegal to cause a nuisance with smoke. This will be reported to the WBC Environmental Health department.

13.3 Recycling of 5L agricultural drench bottles.

Cllr. Plank asked if there was anywhere local to recycle the 5L sheep drench bottles. The recycling plant at Padworth is not thought to take such containers.

14 Date of next meetings: Monday 18th January 2021 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed:

Date: