

**Minutes of a Meeting of Stanford Dingley Parish Council held on
Monday 5th July 2021 at 7.30pm in the Club Room, Stanford Dingley.**

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:

1 Public Session.

No matters were raised during the public session.

2 Apologies.

There were no apologies for absence.

3 Declaration of Interests.

3.1 Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items.

There were no declarations of interest in any agenda items.

3.2 Updates to the Register of Interests.

There were no updates to the Register of Interests.

4 Minutes of last meeting:

4.1 Annual Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 5th May 2021.

It was resolved that the minutes of the annual meeting of Stanford Dingley Parish Council (SDPC) held on Wednesday 5th May 2021 were an accurate account of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Fullerton.

4.2 Extra-ordinary Parish Council meeting on Monday 7th June 2021.

It was resolved that the minutes of the Extra-ordinary meeting of SDPC held on Monday 7th June 2021 were an accurate record of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Fullerton.

5 Management of Parish Council Assets.

5.1 The Club Room.

It was agreed that management of repairs and maintenance to the Club Room needs to be carried out by SDPC, rather than the Event Committee. Cllr. Dent will contact Basil Hurst about getting the roof tiles replaced. If Mr. Hurst is not able to get the work done, the Clerk will contact an alternative roofer.

Cllr. Fullerton reported that Barry Pottier no longer wishes to carry on with managing the bookings for the Club Room. There was a discussion about how this role may be fulfilled in the future.

5.2 The Village Field.

Jeremy Plank has patched up the fence at the east end of the field. The fence on the south side of the field is believed to belong to Manor Farm and the McCurdys. Cllr. Fullerton will contact the McCurdys and inquire about their position on the fence. Cllr. Fullerton will then obtain two quotes for fencing the south boundary of the field with stock proof fencing. David Eggleton cuts the grass at the west end of the field and on the Village Green. Cllr. Dent cuts the rough grass at the east end of the field.

5.3 The Village Green.

Pea shingle was spread on the footpath on the southwest side of the Village Green about six years ago. It was agreed that Cllr. Hanrahan would order between 2 and 5 tonnes of pea shingle, to be spread on the path by the Dredge Gang on 17th July.

Cllr. Fullerton is awaiting a quote from McCurdys for oak posts to replace those on the edge of the Village Green. Cllr. Dent offered to do the machining of the oak to make the posts, assuming the oak could be purchased.

The bench around the 'Judas' tree needs to be tidied up and inspected. The suckers growing from the base of the tree need to be removed.

5.4 Defibrillator.

Cllr. Bucknell will check who the guardians are for the defibrillator in the telephone box and ensure that it is being checked on a regular basis.

6 Planning.

6.1 Planning decisions made by WBC:

6.1.1 **21/01212/HOUSE – Saffron House.**

Section 73 – Application for variation of a condition (2) following grant of planning permission 19/02392/HOUSE – Removal of side conservatory, part single, part double single storey gable end extensions with single storey flat roof side extension.

This application has been **withdrawn**.

It was agreed that as a result of this application being withdrawn and the proposals being clarified, SDPC now has no objection to application 21/01283/HOUSE.

6.1.2 **21/00742/FUL – The Courtyard, Bradfield Farm.**

Conversion of existing carport to 1 no. 2 bedroom flat.

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

7 Parish Census.

A report has been generated from the 29 or 30 parish census which were returned, which will be circulated by Cllr. Hanrahan. Some strong comments were made which could easily be attributed to individuals and it was questioned how comments should be published. Many people commented that they are willing to help do things, but few were willing to lead.

A winner needs to be selected for the prize draw of a meal at The Bull or The Boot.

The number of responses was considered a little disappointing, but it was considered to be reflective of the times. There is a view that some people have moved to the village because it is an attractive place to live, but are not interested in being part of the village and maintaining the attractiveness into the future.

8 Sewer Flooding.

Since the meeting with Thames Water, Cllr. Fullerton has contacted Thames Water on three separate occasions, but has received no updates. Laura Farris MP has been copied into all of the correspondence. Cllr. Fullerton will continue to communicate with Thames Water.

9 Traffic

9.1 To consider Traffic Mitigation Measures.

Traffic speed was raised as the number one issue on the census, particularly that of tractors. Some tractor drivers are also seen using mobile phones through the village.

Cllr. Hanrahan commented that East Ilsley has a 20mph zone and doesn't have streetlights, there was discussion on whether further consideration should be given to requesting a 20mph zone in Stanford Dingley, although this would need horizontal or vertical deflection.

Cllr. Bucknell will put the correx children's signs up, which encourage drivers to slow down.

10 Clerk's Report.

10.1 WBC Flood Risk Management Strategy

Cllr. Hanrahan and Cllr. Fullerton will submit comments on the WBC Flood Risk Management Strategy to Stuart Clark at WBC before the 30th July.

10.2 WBC Engagement with Local Town and Parish Council survey.

The Clerk will respond to the Local Town and Parish Council survey on behalf of SDPC.

10.3 To receive the financial statement dated 5th July 2021.

The Clerk reported that the following payments have been made since the last meeting:

C.H. Hyde	£50.00	Internal audit
Zurich Municipal	£493.86	Insurance
Post Office Ltd	£51.73	SSE 1/3/2021 – 31/5/2021
C. B. Heslop & Co. Ltd	£18.00	Payroll for six months
Staff Costs (1/1/2021 – 30/6/2021)	£728.00	Salaries and PAYE for staff

Once all transactions have cleared the balance in the account will be £7,045.14. This reconciles to the bank statement dated the 28th May 2021 showing a balance of £8,788.72. The Business Instant account contained a balance of £6,483.48 on the last statement dated the 28th May 2021.

11 Reports.

11.1 District Councillor's Report.

District Cllr. Pask reported that applications can now be submitted for CIL grants for larger projects from £10,000 to £100,000. WBC must receive applications by 31st August 2021. Additional play equipment was the number three priority from the parish census, however, it may be difficult to have carried out sufficient consultation and have plans in place for new equipment for the timescales needed.

The Boundary Commission has recently published proposals for changes to parliamentary constituencies for Berkshire. These changes would put the Bucklebury Ward into the existing Reading West constituency which, it is suggested, might be renamed to Mid Berkshire.

WBC is planning to amalgamate the West Street and Market Street offices onto the Market Street site. This will be achieved with more homeworking and hot desking. Work is taking place to relinquish the lease of the West Street building.

11.2 Stanford Dingley Events Committee.

Cllr. Dent gave a report of the Events Committee from Hilary Dent. The Events Committee has funds of approximately £1,300. Planned events include a Village Picnic on the 24th July and a Christmas dinner for residents of Stanford Dingley and Tutts Clump.

Ideas are being discussed to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee, including a street party, beacon and church service.

The Events Committee is currently operating without a chairman. The last meeting went well.

11.3 Dredge Gang.

A meeting of the Dredge Gang is planned for the 17th July. Activities which need attention during this session include:

- Tidying up around the Club Room,
- Trimming the shoots from the 'Judas' tree on the Village Green,
- Tidying up the bench around the 'Judas' tree and inspecting it,
- Spreading the pea shingle on the footpath to the southwest of the Green,
- Trimming vegetation from around signs.

Cllr. Hanrahan will talk to Olli Brooke and find out if he is still willing to lead the group.

Cllr. Bucknell will talk to Ritchie (at The Bull) about providing sustenance to those helping.

11.4 Tree planting in the parish.

Cllr. Hanrahan reported that grants have just opened for trees for this Autumn. He will personally be applying for some, and will add some for SDPC.

11.5 Public Rights of Way.

It was noted that the very wet and muddy section of the southern end STAN 27/1 is worse than ever. Both STAN 21/3 and BRAD22A/1 which run along the south side of the blue pools are very overgrown. All of these paths are on land owned by Mr. Wolfe of Kimberhead Farm. Cllr. Plank agreed to try and obtain contact details for Mr. Wolfe, so that he could be contacted by Cllr. Bucknell.

Cllr. Hanrahan reported that the owners of the stile in Kings Copse on footpath BUCK 125/1 would have no objection to a wooden kissing gate being installed. The Clerk will contact Sallie Jennings at WBC about the possible provision of a wooden kissing gate.

Concern has been raised by residents about vegetation on STAN4/1 and STAN 5/1 from the Village Green, past the Mill and the Garden House. It was agreed that Cllr. Hanrahan would speak to the gardener who works at the concerned properties.

12 Round Table Comments

12.1 Memorial to PC Harper.

A parishioner has asked that SDPC considers a memorial to the late PC Harper, who died in August 2019, as a result of attending and pursuing criminals after they committed a burglary in Stanford Dingley.

It was suggested that a brass plaque in the church might be the most appropriate. If a memorial is placed in the village, it must be acceptable to the victim of the burglary as well as the Harper family.

13 **Date of next future meetings:**

SDPC: Monday 6th September at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed:

Date: