

**Minutes of a Meeting of Stanford Dingley Parish Council held on
Monday 1st November 2021 at 7.30pm in the Club Room, Stanford Dingley.**

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

1 Apologies.

Apologies of absence were received and accepted from Cllr. C. Plank.

2 Declaration of Interests.

2.1 Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items.

There were no declarations of interest in any agenda items.

2.2 Updates to the Register of Interests.

There were no updates to the Register of Interests.

3 Minutes of last meeting:

3.1 Parish Council meeting on Monday 6th September 2021.

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of Stanford Dingley Parish Council (SDPC) held on Monday 6th September 2021 were an accurate account of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Fullerton.

4 Management of Parish Council Assets.

4.1 The Club Room.

Cllr. Dent believed that the roof tiles on the rear roof had been replaced.

Cllr. Bucknell's cleaner has agreed to clean the Club Room on an "as needed" basis.

Concern was raised about security of the hall and it was agreed that Cllr. Dent would purchase and fit addition locks on both external doors.

4.2 The Village Field.

The field is being used for dog training sessions and by the Church for parking when conditions allow.

The WBC Blossom into Spring project is expected to be supplying three Prunus Tai Haku trees (flowering cherry trees) to the parish, which it is intended will be planted in the Village Field. It was agreed that the trees would be planted as "feature trees" rather than in the hedge row. The Clerk will ask WBC for more details of planned timescales and the size of the expected trees.

Cllr. Dent asked whether he should continue to cut the far end of the Village Field or whether it should be fenced off and grazed. It was agreed that paths be cut around and through the area and the remainder will be left to grow.

No progress has been made with quotes for stock proof fencing with two strands of wire along the south and east boundaries.

4.3 The Village Green.

Cllr. Hanrahan has been trying to obtain quotes for a hard wood bench around the "Judas" tree, however there is a 70% variance in prices for hard wood. The bench in softwood is expected to cost in the region of £1,800. Cllr. Fullerton agreed to ask the McCurdy's for a quote.

Enquiries are also being made about who supplied the bench around the tree in the play area behind the Clubroom in Frilsham, which might be suitable.

5 Planning.

5.1 Planning decisions made by WBC:

5.1.1 21/02046/HOUSE – Church View Barn, Back Lane.

Construction of a greenhouse.

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

5.1.2 21/01648/HOUSE – Roman Way.

Conversion of barn/outbuilding to annexe and construction of carport, all to serve Roman Way.

SDPC **objected** to this application which has been **withdrawn**.

5.1.3 21/01693/HOUSE – Ingle Spring.

Demolition of existing store, conservatory and utility room. Conversion of existing garage to kitchen. Erection of single-storey and two storey extensions to existing dwelling. Formation of bay window, and removal of existing chimney. Removal of 2 no. trees.

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

5.1.4 21/00728/FULD – Saffron House.

Demolition of existing barn and replace with new 4-bed dwelling with 2 card sheds, alterations to existing access detail on land adjacent to Saffron House. Section 73 application to vary Condition 2 (Approved Plans) of previously approved application 18.03400/FULD.

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

5.1.5 21/00108/HOUSE – Saffron House.

The proposal is the erection of a three-bay oak framed garage to be used as a home office and undercover car storage.

SDPC **objected** to this application which has been **withdrawn**.

6 Parish Survey.

The top two points raised by the parish survey are speeding vehicles and facilities for young people. There are a number of requests for a village shop, but there is unlikely to be sufficient trade for a shop to be viable. There was a discussion about whether the pubs might be willing to hold a small stock of consumable goods for locals and walkers.

The results of the parish survey will be presented to parishioners at a meeting in the Club Room on the afternoon of Saturday 22nd January 2022. How the results are presented will be agreed at a meeting on Monday 10th January.

7 Sewer Flooding.

There was no update from Thames Water.

8 Traffic

8.1 WBC SID Portal.

The Clerk has registered on the WBC SID portal. WBC needs to approve any locations where SID can be used and a risk assessment must be developed for each location.

The Thames Valley Community Speedwatch trial starts in West Berkshire on 3rd November.

8.2 Speed in the Parish.

Cllr. Bucknell has had the children's posters printed on Foamex boards. In addition, a number of warning signs have been purchased to put up around the parish about the various dangers on the local roads.

Some tractors are clearly going too fast through the middle of the village; there was a discussion about whether speed tracking could be used. A number of the drivers are also using their mobile phones whilst driving. Cllr. Hanrahan will have a conversation with Jeremy Plank.

9 Reports.

9.1 District Councillor's Report.

9.1.1 Padworth Recycling Centre

The recycling centre will be continuing with the booking system. However, due to abuse from Hampshire residents, residents of West Berkshire will be invited to register their vehicles to make the system easier to use.

9.1.2 Consultation on adult social care.

WBC has started a consultation on adult social care which will be open until 3rd January 2022.

9.1.3 COVID rates.

The increased COVID rates locally have caused the “Gold” meetings to be resumed on managing the situation. Rates have reached approximately 700 per 100,000.

9.1.4 WBC Chief Exec.

The new chief executive of WBC, Nigel Lynn, started on Monday 18th October.

9.1.5 Traveller Issues.

The potential traveller site on Lawrences Lane in Thatcham is subject to a retrospective planning application.

The traveller site on the A4 at Woolhampton was legitimately purchased, but has been extended; this too is subject to a retrospective planning application.

WBC needs to have a defined number of traveller sites within the area.

9.2 District Parish Conference.

The main topic covered at the District Parish Conference was road safety and in particular speeding.

9.3 Stanford Dingley Events Committee.

There Events Committee, is currently working reasonably well without a Chair, and want to organise events for the community. They do not want to manage and maintain the Club Room. It was agreed the existing Events Committee should be encouraged to reach out to the new residents for more members.

Volunteers will be invited to promote a greater use of the Club Room.

9.4 Dredge Gang.

Due to the weather the Dredge Gang outing was postponed until 4th December.

The weeds on one side of the path adjacent to the Village Green have been sprayed. WBC produce a riparian ownership leaflet which details the duties of landowners adjoining water courses. A copy of the leaflet will be circulated to residents who are riparian owners.

9.5 Public Rights of Way.

Footpath STAN 27/1 past the end of the blue pools is still very boggy. Cllr. Fullerton will find contact details for Cllr. Bucknell to contact Mr. Wolf, the land owner.

The opportunity to replace the stile with a kissing gate on BUCK 125/1, through Kings Copse, has been turned down by the owner on the grounds that it is more likely to enable cyclists to illegally use the route. It was agreed to revisit this next year.

10 Clerk's Report.

10.1 Correspondence.

10.1.1 BALC AGM.

The AGM of BALC takes place on Wednesday 17th November at 7.30pm in Woodley and will be followed by a presentation on climate change.

10.2 Finances

10.2.1 To receive the financial statement dated 1st November 2021.

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

Post Office Ltd	£36.82	SSE Electricity for the Club Room (1/6/2021 – 31/8/2021).
McCurdy Co. Ltd Expenses (including Club Room cleaning, toilet roll and gravel)	£324.00 £629.82	Wooden posts around the Village Green

Once all transactions have cleared the balance in the account will be £8,964.00. This reconciles to the bank statement dated the 30th September 2021 which showed a balance of £9,713.82. The Events Committee has made a payment to SDPC of £240 which is the rental

for the Village Field for dog training. The Business Instant account contained a balance of £6,483.70 on the last statement dated the 30th September 2021.

10.2.2 Six monthly spending against budget.

Expenditure and income for the first half of the financial year were reviewed.

It was agreed to make the following payments: CCB/CBAS membership, a donation of £100 to the Pang Valley Flood Forum, a donation of £200 to WBC for libraries and £50 towards the production of New Link.

10.3 Dates of Meetings until May 2023.

The following dates were proposed for future meetings:

Wednesday 5th January 2022

Monday 7th March 2022

Wednesday 27th April 2022 – Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday 4th May 2022

Monday 4th July 2022

Monday 5th September 2022

Monday 7th November 2022

Wednesday 4th January 2023

Monday 6th March 2023

Monday 17th April 2023 – Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday 3rd May 2023

The Annual Parish Council meeting and an ordinary parish council meeting will take place in May on the listed dates.

11 Date of next meeting:

SDPC: Wednesday 5th January 2022 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed:

Date:

DRAFT