

**Minutes of the Meeting of Stanford Dingley Parish Council held on
Tuesday 28th June 2022 at 7.30pm in the Club Room, Stanford Dingley.**

Present: Cllr. H. Fullerton; Cllr. E. Hanrahan; Cllr. A. Bucknell; Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk).
Two parishioners.

1 **Public Session.**

No issues were raised by parishioners.

2 **Apologies.**

There were apologies of absence from Cllr. Plank and District Cllr. Pask.

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 meetings:**

4.1 **Annual Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 10th May 2022.**

It was resolved that the minutes of the annual meeting of Stanford Dingley Parish Council (SDPC) held on Wednesday 10th May 2022 were an accurate account of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Fullerton.

5 **Planning.**

5.1 **To consider the following planning applications:**

No new planning applications have been received from WBC.

5.2 **The following planning decisions have been made:**

5.2.1 **21/03037/HOUSE – The Garden House.**

Construction of swimming pool, with associated landscaping including brick boundary wall.

Whilst SDPC objected to the original application, there was **no objection** to the amended application which was **approved** by WBC.

5.2.2 **22/00772/HOUSE – The Mill.**

Erection of an oak framed garden room and replacement window.

SDPC **objected** to this application which WBC **could not determine**.

5.2.3 **22/00918/FULD – Ivinghoe.**

Replacement dwelling and landscape enhancements.

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

5.3 **22/00939/HOUSE & 22/00940/LBC2 – Brook House.**

Proposed first floor rear extension.

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

6 **To receive an update on appointing a new councillor.**

The Clerk informed SDPC that WBC have advised that no requests were received for a bi-election and therefore SDPC can co-opt a new member.

The first candidate commented that she has moved into the parish over the last year and is keen to support the village and become more involved.

The second candidate has lived in the village for fifty years and would like to work with SDPC at least until the elections next May. He feels it is very important to have a contested election and candidates should have a manifesto. He is very committed to the village which he loves and sees as a very special place.

It was unanimously agreed that the second candidate, Mr. Stuart Logan be co-opted on to SDPC.

There was a general discussion about how to cultivate interest in SDPC and all councillors were asked to consider two other parishioners who they considered might make good councillors.

7 Management of Parish Council Assets.

7.1 The Club Room.

Cllr. Fullerton agreed to take on temporary management of the Club Room. It was agreed that rent from the Club Room should be paid directly to SDPC. It was noted that no rent has been received from the Events Committee for the past 18 months; the Clerk will contact the Events Committee.

It was agreed that the three nearest households, where there tends to be someone at home most of the time, be asked to take it in turns to be the key holder for potential hirers.

7.2 The Village Field.

It was agreed that there be a plaque for the “Blossom into Spring” cherry trees in the Village Field. Dave Eggleton has agreed to make a plaque. Cllr. Hanrahan will clarify the words for the plaque. Cllr. Bucknell will have a conversation with Dave Eggleton about the costs of fuel for cutting the Village Field.

There was a discussion about a strip of wild flowers in the Village Field.

SDPC was approached about parking on the Village Field for a parishioner’s party; it was suggested that the parishioner make a donation to SDPC for the use (the Clerk will forward bank details for online payment). It was agreed that if parking is required for a wedding, the family should contact SDPC direct to make arrangements for parking on the Village Field, a charge of £30 for non-parishioners was agreed.

7.3 The Village Green.

It was noted that there are moles on part of the Village Green; it was agreed to leave them. Concern was raised about the ash tree having ash dieback; however, it was questioned whether it was on the green or an adjacent property, Cllr. Bucknell will verify where the trunk is.

Judas tree bench.

SDPC is keen to have a bench around the tree made of oak. It was suggested that the feet of a bench be wrapped in lead to prevent moisture penetration from the ground. The Clerk commented that, whilst SDPC has sufficient funds for the bench, it was not in the budget for the current year. It was suggested that parishioners could be asked to contribute to the bench.

7.4 Purchase of an emergency generator and pump.

An application has been submitted for an SSE resilience grant for the equipment. Cllr. Hanrahan worked on a resilience plan for Stanford Dingley to accompany the application which was supported by WBC and Laura Farris MP.

7.5 Noticeboards.

It was agreed that the double noticeboard, which is currently behind the Club Room, be installed on the front of the Club Room in place of the existing single noticeboard. The single noticeboard should then be installed by the pump opposite Casey Court.

8 District Councillor’s Report.

District Cllr. Pask was not present.

9 Parish Survey.

9.1 Anti-speeding initiatives.

Cllr. Hanrahan reported that he has written to District Cllr. Pask, the WBC portfolio holders for Health and Wellbeing, the Environment and Highways saying that SDPC will be passing a motion for a 20mph zone in Stanford Dingley. He has left a number of messages with WBC customer services and not had any response.

On the grounds that the roads in Stanford Dingley are a shared space between all users a 20mph enforceable limit is requested.

It was noted that the 30mph signs outside Meadowside and at Severalls Farm are completely obscured by vegetation.

9.2 Updating the Village Design Statement.

It was agreed that Cllr. Bucknell would circulate an editable version of the Village Design Statement with a view to councillors submitting proposed updates to words and photographs by the 7th September. These will be reviewed at a meeting at the end of September.

10 Sewer Flooding.

Whilst there was no update on the Stanford Dingley issues, questions were asked about how often Thames Water sewage treatment plants discharge into the river Pang.

Cllr. Fullerton will request a progress report from Thames Water.

It was also noted that Stanford Dingley needs a representative on the PVFF (Pang Valley Flood Forum).

11 Reports.

11.1 Stanford Dingley Events Team.

The Events Team organised a number of events for the Platinum Jubilee weekend (2nd – 5th June), including

- a Village photo outside The Bull,
- a beacon on Butcher's Piece in conjunction with The Bull who organised an outside bar and street food,
- a service of Thanksgiving in the churchyard,
- live showing of the Derby in the tepee at the Boot with a tote followed by live coverage of the "Party at the Palace",
- a Big Jubilee Lunch outside the Boot, with 25 tables and 154 chairs, accompanied by the Pangbourne Silver Band. Fancy dress was the order of the day,
- a best dressed gate competition
- a children's Royal Treasure Hunt

Thanks were extended to all members of the Events Team and others who had helped organise events.

11.2 Dredge Gang.

There was no update from the dredge gang.

11.3 Public Rights of Way.

Restricted byway 1/3 (from Meadowside to Pangfield Farm), immediately north of the river is completely overgrown and generally very deep mud, making it almost impassable. It was agreed that the Clerk would raise the situation with Donnington Trust (the land owner) and Cllr. Bucknell would raise it with WBC.

12 Clerk's Report.

12.1 Annual Governance and Accounting Return (AGAR) for FY21/22.

12.1.1 Internal Auditors Report.

The internal auditor has carried out an audit of the council and noted that plans for revaluing the Club Room need to be progressed.

New Financial Regulations were adopted in May 2022 which include new controls which need to be implemented including:

- Bank reconciliations should be reviewed and signed by a member other than the Chairman at least once a quarter,
- Salary budgets should be reviewed at least annually in November,
- Risk Policy Statements should be reviewed at least annually.
- The last correspondence from the Pension Regulator is dated August 2017, re-enrolment or re-confirmation of this would have been expected within 3 years. Any further action needs to be confirmed.

12.1.2 Annual Governance Statement.

The Annual Governance Statement had been circulated to members prior to the meeting and was unanimously approved.

12.1.3 Annual Statement of Accounts for year ending 31st March 2022.

The Annual Statement of Accounts had been circulated to members prior to the meeting and was unanimously approved.

12.2 Finances

12.2.1 To receive the financial statement dated 28th June 2022.

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

Triangle Management Company Ltd	£96.00	Bin emptying April, May & June '22.
Caroline Hyde	£50.00	Internal audit.
Expenses	£333.32	Repairs to glazing and repainting the phone box.
Expenses	£657.40	Dehumidifier and remote wi-fi controllers (Club Room).
C. B. Heslop & Company Ltd.	£18.00	Payroll (January - June 2022).
Salaries and HMRC (January to June 2022).	£728.00	

Once all transactions have cleared the balance in the account will be £6,916.77. This reconciles to the bank statement dated the 31st May 2022 which showed a balance of £8,809.08. The Business Instant account contained a balance of £6,484.13 on the last statement dated the 31st May 2022.

13 Round Table Comments.

13.1 Village Archive.

Questions were raised about where the Village Archive should be housed once it is digitised. There was a general discussion about the archive and the type of materials contained in it. It was suggested that a Working Group be formed to consider what materials might be kept where.

14 Date of next meetings:

SDPC: Wednesday 7th September 2022 at 7.30pm

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

Signed:

Date: