

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Stanford Dingley Parish Council held on
Tuesday 20th May 2025 at 7.30pm in the Club Room, Stanford Dingley.**

Present: Cllr. A. Bucknell; Cllr. H. Fullerton; Cllr. E. Hanrahan; Cllr. S. Logan; Cllr. T. Rudd; Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk).

Five members of the public.

1 Election of a Chairman.

Cllr. Rudd proposed that Cllr. Hanrahan be Chairman of SDPC for the coming year, this was seconded by Cllr. Logan and unanimously agreed.

Cllr. Hanrahan signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chairman of SDPC.

2 Election of a Vice Chairman.

Cllr. Hanrahan proposed that Cllr. Logan be Vice Chairman of SDPC. This was seconded by Cllr. Rudd and unanimously agreed.

3 Apologies.

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from District Cllr. Read.

4 Declaration of Interests.

4.1 Updates to the Register of Interests.

There were no updates to the register of interests.

4.2 Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items.

There were no declarations of interest in any agenda items.

5 Approval of minutes of the SDPC held on Tuesday 25th March 2025.

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 25th March 2025 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

6 Insurance Provision.

The insurance year runs from 7th June to the 6th June. Last year, the premium with Zurich was £561.34. It was agreed to renew this policy.

7 Dates for meetings during the coming year.

It was agreed that meetings for the coming year will be on the last Tuesday of alternate months:

- 29th July 2025
- 30th September 2025
- 25th November 2025
- 27th January 2026
- 31st March 2026
- 27th May 2026 (Annual meeting)

Meetings will be held in the Club Room, starting at 7.30pm.

8 Planning.

8.1 Planning Applications on which WBC has consulted SDPC:

8.1.1 25/00956/HOUSE – Bramble Cottage.

Proposed single storey bay window extension to dwelling and single storey extension to double garage to create a workshop.

It was agreed that SDPC has **no objection** to this application.

8.2 Planning Decisions made by WBC:

8.2.1 25/00225/HOUSE – 5 Meadowlands.

Single storey rear extension and new vehicle access.

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

9 District Councillor's Report.

There was no District Councillor's report.

10 Deliveries over the last year and priorities for the coming year.

There has been less community engagement to help organise events over the last year. Generally, the simpler events have been successful.
 There is a pub quiz night every two weeks.
 It was suggested that in the Summer, there might be a tug of war over the river, a village picnic with traditional spots like “wellie wanging” and throwing eggs.
 The defibrillator continues to be looked after by the community.
 The Village Design Statement which was updated several years ago is still awaiting full endorsement by WBC. This is currently with WBC officer Paula Armorelli.

11 Highways.

11.1 Safety on Jennets Hill.

Cllr. Hanrahan reported that he has met with Gareth Dowding (WBC) to inspect Jennets Hill. It was hoped that a safety barrier might be an option, but this would be major works and the trees and hedge form a natural barrier. A possibility might be markings to clarify the edge of the road and, if the road is wide enough, markings in the middle.
 The road will need to be formally assessed for any work to take place.

11.2 Ways to make Stanford Dingley’s roads safer.

WBC have said that “Quiet Lanes” (like those in Bucklebury) are not an option because habitual speeders ignore them.
 A possibility is to request a 20mph zone, but the periphery of the zone needs to be determined; there was a discussion about possible location options for the edge of the zone.

12 The Club Room.

Cllr. Bucknell has created a calendar for the Club Room and will explore getting someone in to clean.

13 The Village Green.

Mole hills have started forming on the Village Green.

14 Reports.

15 Dredge Gang.

Litter around the parish isn’t considered to be too bad. Site lines and overhanging branches need to be cut back.

16 Clerk’s Report.

16.1 Finances.

16.1.1 Financial Statement dated 31st March 2025.

The Clerk reported a balance of £3,626.78 in the Community Account (Treasurer’s account) once all cheques and lodgements have cleared. This was reconciled to the bank statements on the 31st March 2025 when the Community account had a balance of £4,269.85 and the Community Instant Access account a balance of £6,638.61.

16.1.2 Financial Statement dated 20th May 2025.

The Clerk reported a balance of £6,241.34 in the Community Account once all cheques and lodgements have cleared. This was reconciled to the bank statements on the 30th April 2025 when the Community account had a balance of £6,901 and the Community Instant Access account a balance of £6,642.22.

16.1.3 Authorisation of Payments.

The following payments have been made since the last SDPC meeting:

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| Post Office (SSE 1/3/25 to 10/3/25) | £46.24 |
| Bibby Commercial Finance Ltd (April bin emptying) | £14.90 |
| Playsafety Ltd (RoSPA inspection) | £96.00 |
| CPRE (Membership) | £60.00 |
| HALC (BALC/NALC membership) | £54.82 |
| Corona energy (11/3/25 to 30/4/25) | £116.99 |
| Bank charges (10/2/25 to 9/4/25) | £11.50 |

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Since the beginning of the financial year, the first half of the precept (£3,000) has been received and there is an £15.00 owing for use of the Village Field.

16.1.4 To receive an update on Internal Audit and to set a date for an extra ordinary meeting to approve the AGAR.

It was agreed that an extra ordinary meeting will be held at 3pm on the 24th June to consider the AGAR.

17 Round Table Comments.

17.1 Don't abandon the Chalk Stream Recovery Pack petition.

Parishioners will be encouraged to sign this petition.

17.2 Past Year.

Cllr. Logan commented that Cllr. Hanrahan has managed SDPC well over the last year.

Meeting Closure.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9pm.

Date of next SDPC meeting:

Extra Ordinary Meeting of SDPC: Tuesday 2th June 2025 at 3pm in the Club Room.

Next Ordinary Meeting: Tuesday 29th June 2025 at 7.30pm in the Club Room.

Signed:

Date: