

**Minutes of a meeting of STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL held remotely on
Wednesday 3rd February 2021**

Present: Cllr.Lewis(Chair), Cllr.Warren, Cllr.Isaacs, Cllr. Williams, Cllr.Middleton, Cllr.Bailey, Cllr.Williams-Cuss, County Cllr.A.Fitzgerald-O'Connor, District Cllr. N.Boyd. D.M.Dew (Clerk, from 05/02/21), One parishioner

01/02/21 To receive apologies and reason (If offered)

Cllr. Howes(Business), Cllr. Jenkins, Cllr.Jackson

02/02/21 To receive Declarations of Interest from Cllrs On any agenda item

Cllr.Middleton – Item 12 Accounts for Payment

Cllrs.Isaacs and Cllr.Williams Item 11 – Planning: 52 High St

03/02/21 To receive, approve & sign as a true record minutes of previous meeting 6th January 2021

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.Isaacs

SECONDED BY Cllr.Middleton

IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes be signed as a true record

04/02/21 To receive report of County Councillor

Future budget meeting coming up.

Winter Grants Support Scheme is available through VWHDC. Anybody who needs help can apply. Home Library Service is looking for volunteers to help with the running of it. More information on the OCC web site.

Cllrs. raised the following points: OCC road crews have been busy around the area, but works to improve drainage problems in the High Street appear to have stalled.

Bus Stop signs at Shellingford cross road now installed.

Possible reduction in local bus services to be investigated.

The 4 year cycle for gully emptying was questioned as very short sighted. Can this be changed?

05/02/21 To receive report of District Councillor

The Vale Communications Team continued to provide Town & Parish Councils with regular updates regarding Covid. These will continue for the foreseeable future. As previously reported Vale staff continue to work from home. Although this is not ideal, they would appreciate it if any communications are by e-mail rather than telephone

LOCAL COVID UPDATES – Throughout the Pandemic I have provided local Resilience Groups with updates, and these will continue as long as is necessary

CLIMATE EMERGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE – the meeting scheduled for 8 March has been cancelled. The next meeting is likely to take place in May

GARDEN WASTE – The garden waste service has been suspended until further notice. The service is reviewed by Vale and Biffa on a weekly basis. The suspension of this service has caused a great deal of concern for the users of this paid service.

CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT – Following the agreement of all Councils involved the County Council has requested delegation powers from Central Government which will enable the new arrangements to commence later this year

PLANNING – There have been a number of applications. I am currently keeping an eye on and liaising with individuals and parish councils. As ever please do get in touch if there is an application you wish to discuss

CIL CONSULTATIONS – There are currently two CIL consultations. These relate to the Charging schedule and Developer Contributions. Parish Councils are asked to consider responding to both of

the consultations as they relate to how the Council raises funding for infrastructure and for planned growth throughout the Vale. The deadline for comments is 8 February

COMPLIANCE MARSHALS – The Compliance Marshals continue to carry out regular inspections in all Vale towns and villages. Their role is to ensure that all public health advice is followed by residents and businesses

FULL COUNCIL MEETING – the next full Council virtual meeting will be held on Wednesday 10 February at 1900 hours. This is the annual meeting that will set the budget and Council Tax for 2021/22. The agenda will be published on Wednesday 3 February

ON GOING ISSUES – I am continuing to work on various casework raised by residents and parish councils and will update individuals and councils as soon as progress is made

COVID

COVID RATES ACROSS OXFORDSHIRE

Oxfordshire cases of Covid-19 are continuing to decrease, but at a much slower rate than they increased. These numbers are still significantly higher than they were in December. The latest weekly Covid -19 rate for South Oxfordshire is 140 cases per 100,000 population and 151.5 in the Vale. With our hospitals remaining under tremendous pressure the message continues to be – cases may be dropping but we must still stay vigilant.

VACCINATIONS IN OXFORDSHIRE LATEST

Invited members of the public over the age of 75 have begun receiving their jabs at the community vaccination centre at the Kassam Stadium as of Monday this week.

Oxfordshire Health NHS Foundation Trust which runs the centre , began the roll out of public appointments having initially used the location to vaccinate priority frontline patient facing NHS staff first.

Whilst the message from our health colleagues is that the rollout has been running smoothly, they have asked for our help in reiterating to our audiences that appointments are by invitation only and not to turn up to the stadium without a booking. The vaccinations that are being delivered via GP surgeries and other healthcare locations in Oxfordshire are also progressing well and on track to meet their milestones. So far Oxfordshire is not experiencing any issues with non-attendance.

COMMUNITY HUB SUPPRORT AND GRANT SCHEMES

The Vale Community Hub is still dealing with enquiries regarding wellbeing and needs during the COVID pandemic and encourage anyone who needs help to reach out. Contact details are COMMUNITYSUPPORT@SOUTHANDVALE.GOV.UK OR CALL 01235 422600

Vale are currently processing a large array of business grants following both tier 4 and the National Lockdown. As always we're encouraging businesses to sign up for our business newsletter at www.svbs.co.uk to receive the latest information.

06/02/21 Questions/comments from parishioners

Parishioner's comments regarding new sign advertising "The Grange" residential home

07/02/21 To receive report of Clerk

Reported that he had contacted VWHDC Planning regarding the sign at the Grange and had circulated their response regarding rules and regulations. This item is on-going

Had spoken to Darren regarding outstanding maint work inc pathway from Joyces Road to VH carpark covered in slippery leaves.

Concerns regarding increase in dog mess especially on football field. Dog signs have been removed as fast as they are put up. New permanent signs had been costed and were expensive. It was suggested that notices could be stencilled on the ground. Item to next agenda. There are an increased number of children walking dogs and they should be educated to pickup mess

08/02/21 To receive report of Chairman inc items for next agenda

Have been contacted by one house in Cottage Road complaining of overnight noises – no other reports and not been able to hear them personally – following up with resident concerned. We have finally received the refund from the previous electricity supplier, and similarly have just about resolved the billing issue with the new – who have been attempting to bill the Parochial Church Council. Unfortunately, the defibrillator was recently used and following this, the First Responders have requested that we obtain 2x replacement batteries.

Salt Bins – Cllr.Warren has highlighted that we have another bin near the football club – I raise this just to highlight the need for us to look at a GIS mapping solution for all PC assets as we grow.

I've been contact by a parishioner highlighting the recurring issues with dog fouling – this is a separate item. I've also been contacted by someone raising concerns in relation to power issues triggered by the installation of heat pumps at a new development in Challow. Whilst they felt we should be aware, having read through the procedures, it would seem that it falls to the energy distributor to review & scope the necessary requirements for local services.

I have received reports of some malicious damage to a property on Upper Green who have had a sign stolen – we've seen a spate of minor issues since the various national lock downs and I have encouraged them to report the matter to the police and suggested that they may wish to consider the use of security cameras to deter future issues.

I received reports of a group of males possibly ferreting on the QEII site last weekend – it has since been suggested that we gave permission to someone several years ago, but it is unclear whether this was the same individuals.

I have discussed the S106 monies and progress of the QEII project with officers at Vale, as well as some of the ongoing matters in relation to the Nursery End handover, in light of the way that the rules are structured, Vale will seek a formal extension, and if there should be any challenge will liaise further with us.

I was contacted by a neighbouring landowner regarding the proposed footpath from Bow Farm to Horsecroft – they thought we had put down gravel, and there is a potential issue with boundaries – the gravel was laid by the developer and we're still awaiting formal creation of the route, so at this point there is little we can do.

I was also contacted to advise that the step had snapped on the "rickety" stile previously reported to OCC on the land to the south of the Ock, whilst they were using it. OCC had previously reported this would be done before the end of 2020, Cllr.Middleton is chasing this up.

Reported that Cllr.Jackson had resigned as a Councillor

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.WILLIAMS CUSS

SECONDED BY Cllr.ISAACS

IT WAS RESOLVED that a vote of thanks to Cllr.Jackson for his previous efforts

Clerk to Inform District Council in order to start casual vacancy procedure

09/02/21 To receive correspondence

As circulated to Council.

Observation/comments from parishioner re The Grange sign – As reported at 07/02

Hedgecutting Late quote received £1500 + VAT – further discussion to be held with contractor

10/02/21 To discuss Planning Applications

P20/V2965/HH – 52 High St Amended

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.LEWIS

SECONDED BY Cllr.MIDDLETON

IT WAS RESOLVED that there were NO OBJECTIONS to the application

Cllr.ISAACS & Cllr.WILLIAMS abstained

12/02/19 To approve accounts for payment

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.ISAACS

SECONDED BY Cllr.WARREN

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Accounts for Payment be approved

13/02/19 To approve Monthly Statement of Accounts

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.WILLIAMS CUSS

SECONDED BY Cllr.MIDDLETON

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Monthly Statement of accounts be approved

14/02/21 To approve additional funds from reserves for the QEII field

Cllr.Middleton presented to Council the estimated additional spend required in excess of that already approved

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.MIDDLETON

SECONDED BY Cllr.ISAACS

IT WAS RESOLVED that an additional £6,200 be approved

15/02/21 To discuss/agree CPRE membership fee (£36 – invited to increase)

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.LEWIS

SECONDED BY Cllr.ISAACS

IT WAS RESOLVED that £36 annual membership fee be paid

16/02/21 To discuss/approve weed control measures

Environment Committee had discussed various measures, some of which ran to thousands of pounds and were impractical for our purposes. It was agreed to trial a mobile weed burner, with a lance and trolley mounted gas cylinder for portability.

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.LEWIS

SECONDED BY Cllr.ISAACS

IT WAS RESOLVED that up to £150 be allocated to purchase a weed burner

17/02/21 To consider any extra measures to encourage owners to clean up after their dogs

Suggestions included providing dog bags in suitable places -Another item in the Newsletter – reporting incidents (Names & Photos) to District Council – Clerk reported Increased number of children walking dogs and they should be educated to pick up – Further use of chalk spray to highlight mess

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.ISAACS

SECONDED BY Cllr.BAILEY

IT WAS RESOLVED that up to £100 be allocated to purchase chalk spray cans

18/02/21 To receive report of Environmental Committee

As circulated to Council

19/02/21 To receive report of Recreation & Leisure Committee

Cllr.Williams-Cuss had compiled a list of work to be carried out about which she will inform the committee

20/02/21 To receive report of Neighbourhood Plan

Meeting in June

21/02/21 To receive report of Millennium Green Trust

Correspondence had been received from residents of Hunters Field re Hedging.

22/02/21 To receive report of Public Work of Art Liaison Working Party

Nil

23/02/21 Provisional date of next meeting

3rd March 2021

- 24/02/21** **Questions/comments from parishioners**
A tree protection survey to be passed to the Environmental Committee
- 25/02/21** **Confidential item – to discuss payroll procedures**