

Minutes of a meeting of the STANFORD IN THEVALE PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 7th September 2011 in the Millennium Hall Stanford in the Vale

The County Councillor spoke prior to the meeting. The county budget was being processed again and is rather fraught. Had taken up the case of the street light in the churchyard. As regards the damage caused by the fallen tree in Upper Crale, this was VOWHDC land and therefore their problem. There was a discussion regarding the delivery of winter salt to parish councils and lack of storage space. It appears that OCC expect parish councils to grit/salt pavements etc.

Questions/comments from Parishioners:

Regarding the possibility of legal action against parishioners using salt and clearing snow and ice from their own area pavements . It has been established that no legal action will be taken against residents if accidents/injury result from their salting/clearing

**Present: Cllr.Monahan Smith(Chair) Cllr.Hughes Cllr.Isaacs Cllr.P.Lewis
Cllr.N.Lewis Cllr.Jackson Cllr. Warren Cllr. Williams-Cuss
D.M.Dew (Clerk) 6 Parishioners**

01/09/11 Apologies

Cllr.Gill (Vacation) Cllr.Bambury (Bereavement)

02/09/11 Declarations of Interest by Councillors on any agenda item

Nil

03/09/11 Minutes of previous meeting 13 July 2011 to be received and signed as a true record

Cllr. Hughes wished to state that he had still not received a copy of the letter that he had requested from the Chairman

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.WARREN
SECONDED BY Cllr P.LEWIS
IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes be signed as a true record

04/09/11 Minutes of Planning Committee meeting 24 August 2011 to be received and signed as a true record

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.P.LEWIS
SECONDED BY Cllr.N.LEWIS
IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes be signed as a true record

05/09/11 Report of Clerk

A drainage manhole cover had been removed adjacent to the village hall leaving a potentially dangerous hole next to a footpath. It has been reported that children are responsible. The manhole has been replaced. It seems that there is a spate of vandalism and it needs to be stopped now before it starts to become expensive. At this time the new floodlights have not been installed, we are waiting for SEB to complete. VAT has been claimed and received to end of July and the 2nd half year precept has also been received. This will enable the final account for the floodlights to be paid while we wait for grants to be received.

06/09/11 Report of Chairman

Cllr.Gill's report was read by the Deputy Chairman

My apologies for not presenting this report in person but hopefully when this is read I shall be on the way to New Zealand. I am visiting my daughter and watching the Rugby World Cup. This has been a personal dream for many many years so I am very excited and privileged to have this opportunity.

I know that during my absence (returning approx. 19th October) there will be decisions and jobs to be done but I am sure that by the way the sub-committees are formulated all items will be under control. I will be picking up e mails so I should be able to reply as necessary.

Ocado the food delivery company may well be coming to the Business Park and Mark initially alerted possible concerns. Robert Sharpe has had more involvement and can give further background. The prospect of 170 jobs could be very good for our community.

Road Sweeping- Since the last meeting roads have been swept on two occasions. What we don't know is if every road was actually cleaned. Could we ask in the Newsletter if people could contact the Clerk if their road was cleaned or not cleaned?

Eventually a **Highways Officer** inspected the 3 footpaths I had asked to be tidied- 2 between Joyces Road and Cottage Road and they were considered to be in a reasonable condition and County Council would not clear or tidy. The 3rd- Green Lane some foliage was cut back. He also checked the junction of Cottage road and the A417 where the hedge is

obstructing vision from the Faringdon direction. The vision was considered to be satisfactory. You will note from Correspondence that a parishioner had complained re above but has had no reply as yet. I have also contacted Highways re parking on High Street from the Old Post Office and Anchor Pub- plus salt/gritting. Please see my comments in Correspondence re these items.

It is clear **the County Council** is cutting back in many areas that they have covered before and it will be up to Parish Councils to deal with and organise. We need to decide if we can do this and are prepared to raise finance to cover the costs.(Nov/Dec finance meeting) The Village could be given the choice to raise the Precept in order for particular services/ maintenance to be continued. We are already looking for volunteers to support the weed control- weekend in September. May be using volunteerrs could be an alternative?

Play Area gates have been fixed at minimum cost but still may need to have final adjustment done by a contractor (agreed to pay up to £250 at our last meeting). MUGA fencing also has been attended to. Darren Rolls has reported the Play Area **5 bar entrance gate** is in poor condition. I suggest we get a costing before deciding to replace. (**Action**)

Extra **strimming** on footpaths and pavements has been done and could continue if volunteer weeding is not enough. **Bow Road** verges have been cut and will need final trim before winter. I am hoping to persuade Mrs Champion, one of the owners of the land adjacent to the brook, to trim the hedging and clear debris around the brook. If this is not possible do we ask the environment agency or County Council to assist?

Bus Shelter in Cottage Road –some felt tiling needs replacing- Darren can do and can cost the felt roll. Council needs to decide to go ahead.

(Action)

Darren will cut down **dead tree on Upper Green** and trim others (Stuart B can advise Darren on others as he has been checking).

I have received letters from **the School Eco Club** and have given copies to Committee chairs to decide any next steps. We have also had a reply from **the Queen Elizabeth 11 Fields Trust** and have asked Mark to see if this will be a helpful route in the development of the field adjacent to Cottage Road.

Regarding the Play area 5 bar gate it was thought that the Pre- School play group contractors should be approached regarding replacement

and costings should be obtained. The bus shelter felt roof to be replaced by our maintenance staff.

Salting/gritting – Clerk to cost purchase of further lockable salt/grit bins.

It was stated that any person clearing ice/snow would not be held responsible or face legal action if accidents occurred to pedestrians in the cleared area. Item to newsletter.

Road sweeper - reporting of roads not swept – Item to newsletter

Cllr.Hughes reported on parking in Upper Crale – Item to newsletter

Items for next agenda – salt/gritting – Frequency of parish council meetings – parking on grass verges – Emergency plan

07/09/11

Correspondence

Local Govt.Boundary Commission – Draft recommendations Oxfordshire.Report available on www.lgbce.org.uk – Noted

Royal Horticultural Society – Britain in Bloom campaign – To R & L committee
O.C.C. – Armed Forces Community Covenant – Encouraging communities to offer support to service personnel and families – Item to newsletter to identify service families within parish

VWHDC – Town & Parish Council Forum 2011 – Cllr.Williams-Cuss expressed an interest in attending

O.R.C.C. – Community networking event – Noted

O.C.C. – Review of Octabus Dial-a-Ride Service – Noted

Parishioner – Street parking Old Post Office and Anchor Pub High St – Highways and landlord spoken to although there seem to be dispute where road boundaries end.

Parishioner – Copy of letter to Highways re danger at A417. See chairman's report

Parishioner – Roof of bus shelter – See chairman's report

O.C.C.- Re request for additional street lighting Van Diemans – See chairman's report

Parishioner – request for upgarding of footpath 361/9 (Coffin Path) to Bridleway – Advised to contact OCC Highways

O.C.C. – Emergency Response & Winter Preparedness – Meeting 4th Oct 2011 -

HR Wallingford – Self-help flood action groups – Information exchange meeting 24th Sept. 2011 – Environmental sub-committee

VWHDC – Chairman's Community Awards Lunch –

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.ISAACS

SECONDED BY Cllr.HUGHES

IT WAS RESOLVED that Mr. P.G.McMorrow and Ms. C.White be nominated to attend

O.C.C. – Snow Guide for Oxfordshire Communities – As previously reported

Clerk to cost further storage bins and salt.

Masons Funfair – Request to rent ground for funfair. Clerk to contact Masons re site visit

08/09/11 Planning applications

11/01783/LBC 2 Cox’s Court High St. – Insertion of new window in rear elevation

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.N.LEWIS

SECONDED BY Cllr.P.LEWIS

IT WAS RESOLVED that the application be supported

Cllr.Isaacs commented on the reported OCADO move to the Business Park and why no application had been submitted for change of use. The District Councillor stated that the planning officers had not considered it necessary but would enquire again. Cllr.Isaacs said that the present agreement was for far less vehicle movements than the new company had stated would happen and VOSPA agreements permitted only the lesser movements. The council should be wary of proposed and future vehicle movements especially as it was envisaged that articulated lorry deliveries would be made during the nighttime

09/09/11 Monthly statement of accounts

Clerk explained the outgoings to council. It was requested that comparative accounts over the past 5 years be made available each meeting.

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.ISAACS

SECONDED BY Cllr.N.LEWIS

IT WAS RESOLVED that the accounts be approved

10/09/11 Accounts for payment

As per separate sheet and additions of

D.M.Dew (kaspersky) – Internet security	29.99
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Mellors of Challow - Fuel	40.00
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ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.ISAACS

SECONDED BY Cllr.WARREN

IT WAS RESOLVED that the accounts be paid

11/09/11 Newsletter

Item to next agenda

12/09/11 Cllr.Williams-Cuss

Parish Youth Council - Proposals included Membership of 8 age group 8 – 16 reporting quarterly to PC. Item to newsletter. Clerk to investigate legality of any costs

Jubilee celebrations – Ideas welcomed, also via newsletter

Volunteer pool – Item to newsletter regarding skills or services on offer

13/09/11 Recreation & Leisure

Weeding weekend due to take place 10 Sept at 10am

Floodlight installation due 8 Sept

Cllr.Isaacs had talks and various emails with the new officer at OCC regarding the lease and handover of QE II field which now appears that the whole field will be handed over rather than in parts

Environmental sub-committee to discuss a new emergency plan

14/09/11 Date of next meeting

2 November 2011 . Budget/Environmental meeting 30 November 2011