

Minutes of a meeting of STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL held remotely on Wednesday 2nd December 2020

Present: Cllr Lewis (Chair), Cllr Bailey, Cllr Isaacs, Cllr Jenkins, Cllr Middleton, Cllr Warren, Cllr Williams, Cllr Williams-Cuss, County Cllr FitzGerald-O'Connor (OCC), 3x members of the public

01/12/20 To receive apologies and reason (If offered)

D.M. Dew (Clerk) (medical) Cllr Jackson (Work), Cllr Howes (Work), District Cllr Boyd (VWHDC)

02/12/20 To receive Declarations of Interest from Cllrs on any agenda item

Cllr Isaacs and Cllr Williams – item 10; Cllr Middleton – item 11

03/12/20 To receive, approve & sign as a true record minutes of previous meeting held on 4th November 2020.

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. ISAACS

SECONDED BY Cllr WILLIAMS

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

It was requested that committee reports be added to the minutes in future.

04/12/20 Report of County Councillor

Highlighted new tier 2 restrictions

£1.37million has been received to support local schemes. OCC looking for ways to offer this support. Inform them about anyone needing help.

Questions had been asked about future housing in the village. Concern expressed that village had increased by 50% over the last 10 years, would not like the same thing to happen in the next 10 years. Council asked to be kept informed of any future development.

County has established a funding pot for tree growing, verges and footpath initiatives but not for any upkeep. Cllr was asked to provide some further information e.g. Committee Reports since the PC is interested in accessing this funding.

05/12/20 Report of District Councillor

Apologies from Cll Boyd. Report to follow.

06/12/20 Questions/comments from Parishioners-

Three representatives of the Public Purposes Charity (PPC) presented their concerns and considerations around the allocation of additional allotments within the parish, including potential alternative sites. The council's response highlighted the following:

Existing recreation field: At present this open to the public for recreational use. There are a number of restrictions around removing recreational space without first providing alternatives, and whilst allotments may be recreational use, it would still "privatise" sections. We understand from Cllr Jackson that the soil depth is very shallow, before hitting bedrock beneath. With the skatepark, MUGA and Cable Runway in this area, siting allotments here could be a challenge.

Proposed QEII Field: At present there is a time restriction on submitting the plans for QEII field and accessing funding, and we are running out of time.

Moving forward: Cllr Isaacs queried whether it was possible to create disabled access allotments within the existing site(s), then relocating "standard" plots to another site. It was a possibility but would require more investigation and effort. Council requested that the PPC provide them with a "specification" detailing the requirements for such disabled access plots, including overall dimensions and access requirements. Council agreed that whilst initial plans would be submitted to meet deadlines, once the requirements were confirmed the option would be reviewed again through the Environment Sub-Committee

07/12/20 To receive report of Clerk

No report received

08/12/20

To receive Report of Chairman inc items for next agenda

- Pre-school have asked again about the fence around their garden. Council stand by their previous decision – Dec 2018 – replacement fencing to match existing front fencing
- Thames Water e-mailed AGAIN re the unending roadworks in Bow Road.
- Vale have a refurbished web site, but the public search feature is not working well – have raised with Cllr Boyd.
- Demolition of the Oil Tank in Glebe Road has been referred to VWHDC Environment Health.
- The S106 application for the bridalway bridge to QE2 field now withdrawn as OCC have determined that they will replace this now.
- S106 application for the notice boards has been submitted
- The external Audit had been passed
- The bridge over the River Ock to have step reinstated at a better angle

09/12/20

To receive Correspondence

As circulated by e-mail, nothing to discuss

10/12/20

To discuss Planning Applications

P20/V2763/HH – Eastfield Farm Gainfield SN7 8QJ

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. ISAACS

SECONDED BY Cllr MIDDLETON

IT WAS RESOLVED that there were no objections but wanted the following comments to be considered: Highlight that the annex is at risk of becoming a new dwelling in the countryside.

P20/V2965/HH – 52 High Street

Following discussion about the amended design, and parking arrangements.

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. BAILEY

SECONDED BY Cllr ISAACS

IT WAS RESOLVED that that the meeting be closed. All in favour

A member of the public commented that although he lived opposite this building, he had not received any notice about this planning application. Cll Isaacs, an immediate neighbour, had also received no notice.

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. JENKINS

SECONDED BY Cllr LEWIS

IT WAS RESOLVED that the meeting be reopened.

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. BAILEY

SECONDED BY Cllr JENKINS

IT WAS RESOLVED that Council fully support the application for adopting design elements that accord to the Design Guide and local vernacular. We note that some further work may be needed with regards the arrangements to use the existing private road.

Agreed with 2 abstentions.

P20/V2526/HH – 15 Horsecroft – Amendment

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. LEWIS, AMENDED BY Cllr. JENKINS

SECONDED BY Cllr ISAACS

IT WAS RESOLVED that there are no objections. Whilst the materials on the NE elevation remain unchanged, as these are not visible from the highway/public views, they afford less concern.

However, we are keen to ensure that this does not set a precedent for the future.

- 11/12/20 To approve Accounts for Payment**
Chairman explained two small payments were corrections to previous under payments, and that the and that the new electricity supplier had started charging – although we are still chasing for the bill which is yet to be received.
ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. ISAACS
SECONDED BY Cllr BAILEY
IT WAS RESOLVED that the accounts for payment be approved
- Following discussion relating to the remaining S106 funds (allocated towards the Village Hall and noticeboards), given that the cost of replacement noticeboards is now known
ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. MIDDLETON
SECONDED BY Cllr WILLIAMS CUSS
IT WAS RESOLVED that a S106 application for touch-less hand drier replacements in the Village Hall should be submitted.
- 12/12/20 To approve Monthly Statement of Accounts**
ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. JENKINS
SECONDED BY Cllr BAILEY
IT WAS RESOLVED to accept these accounts. All in favour
An additional signature for the Savings Account to be put onto next month's Agenda.
- It was noted that the External Audit had been successful despite an administrative error resulting in the notice of public rights being advertised for 30 calendar days, not 30 working days as required.
- 13/12/20 To discuss and approve payment for Remembrance Day Poppy Wreath –**
ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. ISAACS
SECONDED BY Cllr JENKINS
IT WAS RESOLVED that a donation of £60 be sent to the British Legion. All in favour
- 14/12/20 To discuss Council's lease management (Pre-school/Football Club)**
Both Pre-school and Football Club leases contain a clause to index link the rental sum due, one of which should be increased annually, the other every three years. Despite this, officers had not brought the matter to Council for review and consequently the leases remain unchanged since inception. Chairman highlighted that this was through no fault of the tenants and he was acutely aware of the financial pressures that many organisations are under in light of the pandemic.
ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. LEWIS, AMENDED BY Cllr. ISAACS
SECONDED BY Cllr JENKINS
IT WAS RESOLVED that rents should be increased to align with historic indexation, and subsequently increase in line with the terms of the lease. Council to offset past increases with an annual grant to both Pre-School & Football Club respectively. These grants to be reviewed in December 2023, with any reductions being the subject of a year's notice being given to tenants.
- 15/12/20 To Consider budget/precept requirements for 2021-2022**
Council reviewed budget vs actual income and expenditure for the year to date. VWHDC tax base indicates an increase in the number of dwellings by 15.2. Council examined various options for precept and the impact they would have on households within the parish. Due to the financial situation of many households resulting from the COVID pandemic, it was felt that there should be no increase to individual households.
ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. JENKINS
SECONDED BY Cllr ISAACS
IT WAS RESOLVED that the precept be increased pro rata to £24,095

- 16/12/20 To receive report of Environmental Committee**
Taken as read
- 17/12/20 To receive report of Recreation & Leisure Committee –**
Quotes still being received from play providers to replace some of the present equipment.
The number of replaced swing seats to be confirmed.
Skatepark firms contacted about replacement equipment. Visits to be arranged for the new year.
- 18/12/20 To receive report of Neighbourhood Plan**
Following SEA feedback from Historic England, working with local planning consultancy to address points raised.
- 19/12/20 To receive report of Millennium Green Trust**
A letter had been received from some Hunters Field residents about the hedge needing to be cut.
Quotes for hedge cutting on request.
Hedge cutting of QE2 field, recreation field and jubilee gardens to be added to quotes.
- 20/12/20 To receive report of Public Work of Art Liaison Working Party**
No update
- 21/12/20 Questions and comments from Parishioners**
None
- 21/12/20 Provisional date of next meeting – 6th January 2021**