

**Minutes of a meeting of STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL
held remotely on Wednesday 7th April**

Present: Cllr.Lewis Cllr.Jenkins Cllr.Isaacs Cllr.Middleton Cllr.Howes M.Dew (Clerk)
County Cllr.Fitzgerald-O'Connor District Cllr.Boyd 3 parishioners

01/04/21 To receive apologies and reason (If offered)

Cllr.Williams-Cuss (Personal) Cllr.Bailey (Personal) Cllr.Warren (Illness) Cllr.Williams (Business)

02/04/21 To receive Declarations of Interest from Cllrs On any agenda item

Cllr.Middleton – Item 12 Accts for Payment

Cllr.Lewis – Item 10 Planning Priors Close

Cllr.Isaacs – Item 11 High Street highways

03/04/21 To receive, approve & sign as a true record minutes of previous meeting

Cllr Middleton stated that he had abstained item 10 and declared an interest item 12

Following this amendment

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.ISAACS

SECONDED BY Cllr.HOWES

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

04/04/21 To receive report of County Councillor

The deadlines for registering to vote are 19th April and 20th for postal votes. The Councillor stated that her last day in office will be 6th may

05/04/21 To receive report of District Councillor

The Vale is now in Purdah until after the Elections on 6 May. This means that there are restrictions on what may be communicated by both the Council and Councillors. However, the Vale will continue with its regular Covid updates and we would encourage you all to keep a watching brief on the Vale's website – www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

We are sad to report that the former Leader of the Vale Roger Cox passed away on Saturday 27 March. Roger represented the Faringdon Ward for many years and he will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

Planning – At the full Council meeting on 24 March it was agreed that the Vale would join with South Oxfordshire DC to develop a Joint Local Plan up to 2041. Work has already commenced and further details will be communicated.

06/04/21 Questions/comments from parishioners

Further questions regarding the sign at the Grange. There had been discussion regarding using a darker blue but the Parishioner thought that this still does not meet planning regulations. Chairman said that he would meet with Grange management to discuss counter proposals

There was further comment regarding dog mess and more signs in playarea and Millennium Green
It was noted that some of the litter bins were corroded and holed – Item to next agenda

07/04/21 To receive report of Clerk

Casual vacancy – Clerk questioned date of April 18th as closing date for applications but it was allowed to stand as the qualifying date – Item to next agenda

08/04/21 To receive report of Chairman inc items for next agenda

Ocado – lorry capping that had been ejected through the hedgerow into the QEII field – I managed to track down their Fleet Manager who responded within the space of 30mins on a Friday afternoon, and who subsequently arranged to have the capping removed on the following Tuesday and was also instigating an inspection of the entire fleet to try to ensure that it couldn't happen again.

Floodlights – MUGA/Football training pitch – had a request that they're reinstated and so hopefully they are now working. My thanks to Cllr.Isaacs for his assistance dealing with the signage at the Grange and OCC officers ref. footpath issues – greatly appreciate your assistance with those.

Noticeboards – you'll recall we submitted an S106 application to fund 2x replacements – pleased to confirm that has all been approved. I will instruct the carpenters to proceed.

Cllr. Boyd kindly arranged a meeting with the Electoral Services officer at Vale around the election charges. Meeting was short, sweet but constructive. Key takeaway is a commitment from Vale to go back and review how they cross-charge elections back to towns and parishes – the current calculation is very unfair, particularly if you're a small parish who happen to end up with an election. There was some acceptance that this wasn't ideal in the workings of our democratic process – so I'm hopeful that this will result in some significant changes moving forward, but who knows until they have discussed it.

As mentioned earlier, I saw on Easter Saturday and had reports on Easter Sunday of bonfires at the community woodland which I reported to Thames Valley Police, although I've not heard anything back. Before that, we've had issues at the skatepark with broken glass – I know Nicky has been clearing it regularly, but Darren has also spent an hour up there tidying it up one weekend, and I've also met Darren there trying to work out what we can do in terms of securing the skatepark. The Heras fencing, as you've seen has been severely damaged during the last 4 weeks (that's on loan, so another issue we need to sort with the contractors and we probably need to pay to replace). Essentially, it doesn't matter what we're doing – we've taken down the fencing, we've strapped it to the ramps, but people are going up there with boltcutters and with powertools and removing them. We need to fix the skatepark is the reality – I've spoken to Janet who's been trying to progress numerous quotes, but has only had 1 response. So, yesterday evening I've sent out a message to around half a dozen skatepark suppliers to ask whether they can replace the surfacing, can they replace the existing ramps with concrete ramps and/or can they provide us with a cost to remove all the items and provide a quote to replace everything with a "sprayed concrete" skatepark on the existing footprint. No updates on that yet, but we're looking at what we can do on the quarter pipe to effect a temporary repair if nothing else.

I've been contacted by someone looking to do some private football training with a couple of local youths. As it's not a commercial venture and the site is publicly available, this is to be encouraged which I've done. Separately, you were all copied on an e-mail from Sovereign (Housing Association) seeking a meeting – I would like to canvass opinion around dates and times to meet (it will be commercially sensitive), hopefully we can do that after the meeting this evening.

Bow Road/Hatford footpath – I've had a number of messages relating to this, we're all aware of the ongoing issues there with temporary electric fencing, whilst contentious we do need to try and progress this with both the landowner and OCC. Cllr.Isaacs has been in touch with OCC.

09/04/21

To receive correspondence

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.JENKINS

SECONDED BY CLLR.ISAACS

IT WAS RESOLVED that the meeting be closed for a parishioner to speak

Parishioner reiterated his comments from recent e-mail regarding vandalism at the community woodland and his desire to reinstate the area. Council commended & encouraged his desire to improve the area in principle, however, shared concerns from recent sub-committee meeting where it was felt that until the police took an active interest and/or all pandemic related restrictions were eased, there were some people who simply had too much time on their hands and it was likely that any repairs would suffer a similar fate. Cllr.Isaacs spoke of the potential need to remove the firepit until such time as the woodland was fully established.

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.LEWIS
 SECONDED BY Cllr.ISAACS
 IT WAS RESOLVED that the meeting be opened

Parishioner volunteered to paint skatepark after repairs to ramps – item to next agenda

10/04/21 To discuss Planning Applications

P21/V0520 Priors Close, 2 Chapel Road

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.JENKINS
 SECONDED BY Cllr.MIDDLETON
 IT WAS RESOLVED that there were NO OBJECTIONS to this application

P21/V0456 13 Chapel Road –

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.LEWIS
 SECONDED BY Cllr.MIDDLETON
 IT WAS RESOLVED that there were NO OBJECTIONS to this application

P21/V0656/DIS – Land North of ware Road

No Comments required

11/04/21 To discuss High Street highways concerns, including parking, bollards

Chairman highlighted need for any official street furniture to comply with “Manual for Streets”.
 Cllr.Jenkins detailed the complexities of complying with this, which had been explored when looking into roadside planters previously. Essentially this is a Highways (County) matter rather than Parish – Chairman to contact parishioner, also noted the outstanding repair to the boundary wall in the vicinity.

12/04/21 To approve accounts for payment

6:09 PM
 31/03/21

**Stanford in the Vale Parish Council
 Reconciliation Detail
 Current Account - TSB, Period Ending 31/03/21**

Type	Date	Num	Name	Clr	Amount	Balance
Beginning Balance						3,939.93
Cleared Transactions						
Cheques and Payments - 9 items						
Bill Pmt -Cheque	02/03/21	BACS	EE Broadband	X	-94.52	-94.52
Cheque	25/03/21	BACS	D.M.Dew	X	-759.80	-854.32
Bill Pmt -Cheque	26/03/21	BACS	C & R Rowland	X	-816.00	-1,670.32
Bill Pmt -Cheque	26/03/21	BACS	D Rolls	X	-325.43	-1,995.75
Bill Pmt -Cheque	26/03/21	BACS	Wantage Independ...	X	-250.00	-2,245.75
Bill Pmt -Cheque	26/03/21	BACS	N.Middleton	X	-72.00	-2,317.75
Transfer	26/03/21			X	-6.90	-2,324.65
Bill Pmt -Cheque	30/03/21	BACS	EE Broadband	X	-42.29	-2,366.94
Cheque	31/03/21	BACS	HMRC - PAYE & NI	X	-227.78	-2,594.72
Total Cheques and Payments					-2,594.72	-2,594.72
Deposits and Credits - 3 items						
Payment	02/03/21		HM Customs & Excl...	X	2,865.67	2,865.67
General Journal	08/03/21	Corre...	SSE (Swalec)	X	179.76	3,045.43
Transfer	26/03/21			X	6.90	3,052.33
Total Deposits and Credits					3,052.33	3,052.33
Total Cleared Transactions					457.61	457.61
Cleared Balance					457.61	4,397.54
Register Balance as of 31/03/21					457.61	4,397.54
Ending Balance					457.61	4,397.54

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.ISAACS
 SECONDED BY Cllr.HOWES
 IT WAS RESOLVED that the accounts for payment be approved

13/04/21 To approve Monthly Statement of Accounts

6:10 PM
 31/03/21
 Accrual Basis

**Stanford in the Vale Parish Council
 Statement of Accounts - Summary
 As of 31 March 2021**

	31 Mar 21	28 Feb 21
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash at bank and in hand		
Current Account - TSB		
Reserves - NP	145.10	152.00
Current Account - TSB - Other	4,252.44	3,787.93
Total Current Account - TSB	4,397.54	3,939.93
Redwood 35 Day Savings Account		
Reserves - Play Equipment Savin	750.00	750.00
Reserves - CIL Savings	2,285.12	2,285.12
Reserves - NP Savings	3,589.05	3,589.05
Redwood 35 Day Savings Account - ...	18,102.92	18,102.92
Total Redwood 35 Day Savings Account	24,727.09	24,727.09
Petty Cash	0.10	0.10
Total Cash at bank and in hand	29,124.73	28,667.12
Total Current Assets	29,124.73	28,667.12
NET CURRENT ASSETS	29,124.73	28,667.12
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	29,124.73	28,667.12
NET ASSETS	29,124.73	28,667.12
Capital and Reserves	0.00	0.00

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.HOWES
 SECONDED BY Cllr.MIDDLETON
 IT WAS RESOLVED that the Monthly Statement of Accounts be approved

14/04/21 To discuss/approve purchase of "No Dogs" Stencil
 Cllr.Isaacs proposed that up to £50 be allocated for purchase
 ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.HOWES
 SECONDED BY Cllr.MIDDLETON
 IT WAS RESOLVED that up to £50 be allocated for purchase

15/04/21 To discuss/approve purchase of equipment for watering community orchard
 Middleton spoke of the need to water newly planted trees at the community orchard
 ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.MIDDLETON
 SECONDED BY Cllr.ISAACS
 IT WAS RESOLVED that £150 be allocated to purchase "Aqaroll" water equipment

16/04/21 To discuss creation of Chairman's Fund
 Cllr.Isaacs outlined his proposal that there should be a mechanism to approve time-sensitive purchases upto an agreed amount (e.g. £500) at the Chairman's discretion between meetings. Clerk suggested that petty cash could be used as an alternative, although it was felt that the amounts could exceed those available through petty cash. Various controls and caveats were discussed, Chairman suggested that it would not be appropriate whilst the Chairman was also the RFO. Further discussion took place around potential for matters to be agreed amongst Chair/Deputy-chair and

finance “approvers”. Chairman stated that rather than a fund, it would be more aligned to a change in financial regulations, effectively authorising spend under specific circumstances and controls were needed to ensure it was used exceptionally. Chairman will aim to bring a review of Financial Regulations back to Council, including this matter. Item deferred to next meeting.

- 17/04/21 To discuss/agree potential measures/mitigations to progress Council business lawfully if the temporary changes permitting virtual meetings are not extended**
Item deferred to next meeting.
- 18/04/21 To receive report of Environmental Committee**
As circulated to Council
- 19/04/21 To receive report of Recreation & Leisure Committee**
Report of repair required in playarea by Cllr.Williams-Cuss passed to D.Rolls for action. Chairman is in contact with a number of potential suppliers in relation to longstanding issues with Skatepark ramps.
- 20/04/21 To receive report of Neighbourhood Plan**
Feedback has been received from Planning Consultant, work is progressing to formalise policies.
- 21/04/21 To receive report of Millennium Green Trust**
Trustees meeting to be arranged, this could be virtual
- 22/04/21 To receive report of Public Works of Art Liaison Working Party**
NIL
- 23/04/21 Date of next meeting**
Annual Parish Meeting – 5th May 2021 7.30pm
Annual Meeting of the Parish Council – 5th May 2021 7.45 pm
- 24/04/21 Questions/comments from parishioners**
Nil