

**Minutes of a meeting of the STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 28 March 2007 in the Millennium Hall Stanford in the Vale.**

Prior to the meeting a presentation was made to Ms J.Northcote on behalf of the Council and the Council expressed appreciation and recognition of 25 years as a Council employee and her dedication to the Community. Ms Northcote who is moving from the village thanked everyone and said how much she had enjoyed her 25 years.

There were no questions from Parishioners

**Present:** Cllr.P.G.McMorrow(Chair) Cllr.G.Hughes  
 Cllr.P.Gill Cllr.B.Burls  
 Cllr. Mrs.G.McMorrow Cllr.M.Mullen  
 Cllr.M.Isaacs (2015)  
 Mrs.M.Tilley(County Cllr) R.Sharp(District Cllr) D.M.Dev

**1/03/07 Apologies**

Cllr.D.Monahan-Smith (Personal) Cllr.S.Bambury(Business)

**2/03/07 Declarations of Interest by Councillors on any agenda item**

5 ( c )– Hall Hire – Cllr Hughes 11 – Accts for payment – Cllr.P.G.McMorrow

**3/03/07 Minutes of previous meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2007 to be received and signed as a true record**

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.HUGHES  
 SECONDED BY Cllr.Mrs.G.McMORROW  
 IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes be approved and signed as a true record

**4/03/07 Report of County Councillor**

**School results** – village schools in the area did very well including Stanford Primary and Shellingford did better. County have allocated more finance towards gifted/talented children.  
**Earthline** – OCC are keeping a close watch on the quarry due to muddy state of A417  
**Road Repairs** – OCC have been allocated £60 million for repairs  
**Foster Parents** are urgently required – any age/sex – item to newsletter  
 Cllr.Hughes asked about extra classroom at the primary school which was supposed to be provided by “Planning Gain” from “Forest Grove” as he had been informed that new age was 5 ½. There followed a discussion as to what had the money been spent on and governors would have decided rather than OCC

**5/03/07 Report of Clerk**

a)**Street Cleaning Machine** – Council informed of vacuum machine demonstration within the village hall carpark. The other machine hired from Cannings was rather cumbersome and more suitable for larger areas eg skatepark, MUGA and carpark. Clerk felt that the vacuum machine could be hired (approx £90 perday) say quarterly while the purchase at approx £400 for the vacuum was a better option

1/5

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr Mrs.G.McMORROW  
 SECONDED BY Cllr.B.BURLS  
 IT WAS RESOLVED that a grant application be made to the PPC for funds to purchase a vacuum. It was further resolved that the sweeper be hired as per Clerks suggestion

b) **Weed Control** – following OCC inviting the Parish Council to tender for weed control OCC no longer have responsibility for this function and therefore will not contract to carry out this task.

c) **Hall Hire Charges**

Previously the Council have not been charged for use of the Millennium Hall but have kindly (ie tables) The new Minister was not happy with this situation as were both Clerk and Clerk. Following discussions with Cllr Hughes in his role as official of the Charity agreed that a fee of £8 per meeting be presented to Council to commence from the next meeting.

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.GILL

SECONDED BY Cllr.BURLS

IT WAS RESOLVED that the hire fee of £8 per meeting be accepted

d) **Casual Litter Picker** – It had been discovered that Mr.C.Stallard had been picking litter during his daily walks and following many complimentary remarks Clerk has added Stallard to the paid work force in part replacement of Ms Northcote

e) **War Memorial** - As previously stated we are not allowed to use public money to erect a new memorial but are allowed to refurbish an existing one. The War Memorial Trust have confirmed this and having circumstances have agreed with the Clerk's suggestion that the Millennium Green stone be used/refurbish a War Memorial, registered at the Imperial War Museum and dedicated by the Royal British Legion

f) **A417 Mud** – Several letters and oral communications had been received regarding the some quite abusive towards the Council for not doing enough to improve the situation Clerk reiterated that he was in constant touch with both OCC Highways and the Police the situation and that Parishioners should be aware that it was not in the Parish Council remit to solve the problem

g) **Bus Routes** – Now that the Church Green road is open again it appears that the buses varying their routes via Joyces Road and Cottage Road causing confusion to passengers making the bus shelter redundant and causing school bus users to get wet. A complaint OCC Transport Officer resulted in the fact that more use is made of buses travelling Joyces Road and as routes are for review soon perhaps this is the best way to go

**6/03/07 Report of Chairman inc. non-agenda items and items for next agenda**

a) **Salaries** – Following discussion regarding present and future salaries and hours it was suggested that the following rates be adopted:

Clerk 22 hours per week @ £11.22 (NALC rates) Clerk to be paid at lower rate when not engaged in Clerk duties

2/5

Mowing/Maintenance £7 per hour

Litter Picking £5.75 per hour

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.ISAACS

SECONDED BY Cllr.BURLS

IT WAS RESOLVED that the pay awards be approved

b) **Church Green Path** – Following complaints re disabled access across the green a quote of

£3825 (Cotswold Playgrounds) was obtained. It was felt that concrete edges and green tarmac was in keeping and to this end an application would be made to the PPC for grant aid. Having heard nothing from OCC regarding the corner refurbishment, a quote from the same company of £525 was obtained although Council considered that they had not quoted for sufficient area and the quote could be up to three times higher. It was not intended to include this in the grant application.

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.HUGHES  
 SECONDED BY Cllr.BURLS  
 IT WAS RESOLVED that a grant application be made

c) **General** – Playarea train seat installed – Honours Board being prepared – Meeting with Vale Officer regarding litter, collections and cleaning. She will contact CO-OP regarding their yard

### 7/03/07 Correspondence

- a) VWHDC – Carbon Savers Action Day 10 March – Noted
- b) VWHDC – Post Office Network – Noted
- c) VWHDC – District & Parish Elections 3 May 2007 - Noted
- d) VWHDC – Communications – Noted
- e) Audit Commission – Appointment of External Auditors
- f) Audit Commission – Audit of Accounts 4 years ending March 2001

### 8/03/07 Planning applications

**STA/19973** 15 Hunters Field – Erection of 1.82m high fence – **Not supported** highway visua restriction.

**STA/19980** Between 25 and 27 High St. – Change of use from storage building to retail – **Supported** ( 1 against 1 abstention) there were concerns regarding parking

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.Gill  
 SECONDED BY Cllr.HUGHES  
 IT WAS RESOLVED that these decisions be approved

### 9/03/07 Report of District Councillor

3/5

2007/08 budget set at 4.99% increase – Band D £1316,23 E £1608.72 F £1901.22  
 Old Goal Abingdon several interested but uses and improvements limited as it is listed

### 10/03/07 To approve Monthly Statement of Accounts

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.ISAACS  
 SECONDED BY Cllr.BURLS  
 IT WAS RESOLVED that the statement of accounts be approved

### 11/03/07 To Authorise Accounts for Payment

D.M.Dew	Salary, Casual and Expenses	1114.59
D.Rolls	Salary & Fuel	193.37
CPRE	Membership Fees	27.00
Handy Garden	Mower Spares	51.02

P.G.McMorrow	Presentation Flowers	23.50
Waste Recycling Group	Grant Starter	178.00

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.ISAACS  
 SECONDED BY Cllr.GILL  
 IT WAS RESOLVED that the accounts be paid

### **12/03/07 To approve Planning & Finance(Bills) committee minutes/decisions Feb 2007**

Delete Cllr. D.Moreton-Smith insert Cllr. D.Monahan-Smith  
 Following this change:

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.HUGHES  
 SECONDED BY Cllr.Mrs.McMORROW  
 IT WAS RESOLVED that the decisions be approved and minutes be accepted as a true record

### **13/03/07 Recreation and Leisure Report**

There was a discussion regarding the forming of picnic areas within the village and in general a brightening of the village. D.Rolls had started by renewing the flower boxes and the Clerk asked that Council give further thought to this subject, flower beds etc. as we are considered authorities to be an active village

#### **Projects:**

- One swing seat had become loose and has been sorted by the contractor.
- Contractor has replaced the Spring Duck and will erect seat in the train as soon as possible.
- Some timber pieces to be non-slip by the addition of surface textures or cross-cutting.  
*D.R. or P.G to do.*
- *Weed and cut back hedge in Toddlers Area- D.R.*

4/5

- We still have quotations for other items to be considered for the Play Areas into the future.
- The group of young people we were supporting in their bid to build a mini ramp have submitted an application to The County Opportunities Fund.
- We have trialled two hand controlled road sweepers and need to discuss at March meeting.

#### **Maintenance:**

- Two gates on the Recreation Ground do need fixing (wire has been kicked loose). Also have locked one of the gates nearest to the Bungalows as a temporary measure to see if this lessens the amount of noise disturbance. Have given a key to the nearest bungalow and to the Chair of the Football Club.
- Also have discussed the higher fence issue with the above Chair and suggested a different type of fence being erected (different to below) to stop balls flying into the Bungalow area (will share this idea).
- Following concerns from parishioners in the Perrys Road Bungalows- councillor McMorrow and I have asked the contractor to cost for a stronger and higher fence to protect windows etc from flying footballs. Propose we share half of cost with the Football Club.  
 Further *report and discussion at our meeting Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> 2007.*

- Gate and timber rails have been placed (*Some still to complete*) at Huntersfield side of Village Park Fencing to improve entrance / exit from park and Village Hall. The intention to discourage climbing and further breakages.(D.Rolls)
- The Youth Shelter is being well used again but this now means we have a very slippery and mudded area- propose we install slabs or similar as a safer surface. ***To combine with tarmac repair at the Millennium Field when contractor is ready.***
- A second hand John Deer cylinder cut, a replacement to the Ransom we were trialling in October, and is being put to good use and proving more acceptable to our needs.
- The Toro mowers will need to be serviced before the new cutting season. Petrol mower has been done. We will continue to receive diesel sponsored by Martin Cox who owns the Challow Station Garage where servicing takes place. There will be a charge for servicing but at a lower rate than other contractors.
- We have purchased Grass / Leaf Blower
- **We still await the County Council Village Maintenance Team to clear footpaths and grass in road verges.**
- **Also quotations for refurbishment of the Church Green**