

Minutes of a meeting of the STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 7th March 2012 in the Millennium Hall Stanford in the Vale

Comments/questions from Parishioners

There were over 20 questions and comments from parishioners, all regarding the closure of the Anchor PH and the planning application by the new owners for “change of use”. These questions ranged from the planning system and any appeals which could take up to 4 months and the objections to loss of central village amenity, the loss to the community of a rural concern and loss of jobs and yet another pub gone from the village. The feasibility report was challenged as was the lack of notice and opportunity prior to the sale. It was reported by a parishioner that there had been 75 objections and 16 in support of the application. The chairman thanked the parishioners for their attendance and interest

**Present: Cllr.Gill(Chair) Cllr.Bambury Cllr.Hughes Cllr.Jackson
Cllr.Isaacs Cllr.N.Lewis Cllr.P.Lewis Cllr.Monahan Smith
Cllr.Warren Cllr.Williams Cuss**

Cllr.Tilley(OCC) Cllr.Sharp(VWHDC) D.M.Dew (Clerk)

27 Parishioners

01/03/12 Apologies Nil

02/03/12 Declarations of Interest by Councillors on any agenda item

Cllr.Bambury – Cllr.Isaacs Item 13 Accounts for payment

03/03/12 Minutes of previous meeting 4th January 2012 to be received and signed as a true record

Following discussion on amended points regarding housing needs survey

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.BAMBURY
SECONDED BY Cllr.P.LEWIS

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

04/03/12 Minutes of meeting of the *Recreational & leisure – Environmental – Planning Committees* to be received and signed as a true record

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.N.LEWIS
SECONDED BY Cllr.WILLIAMS CUSS

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

05/03/12 Report of County Councillor

The county budget had been approved and some hard decisions had been made including a 25% cut in staff. Councillor talked about education and the problems with the academies. Cllr.Isaacs thank the County Councillor for her help and support over the new foot bridge and asked for her further support with the problems of the 20 acre designated recreation area off cottage road

06/03/12 Report of Clerk

Internal audit – Contacted IAC auditors who had quoted £180 for audit and risk assessment. There was a discussion regarding the need for this assessment but clerk stated it was required by law regardless of how inappropriate it seemed. Cllr.N.Lewis had contacted someone who would audit for free but the clerk said that how could he explain the government requirements when the auditor was supposed to audit him. Due to previous financial happenings in the parish we are watched very carefully by government external auditors and clerk thought it right that a dedicated company should audit our systems even for a short time if necessary. Council also asked Cllr/N.Lewis to thank the volunteer for her offered services

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.BAMBURY

SECONDED BY Cllr.WARREN

IT WAS RESOLVED that IAC be appointed with a review after one year

Survey of Village Greens – Geophysical survey being carried out by Univ of Winchester to investigate a medieval market

Playgroup building “Schedule of Condition “ following an estimate received through contacts with Cllr.Jackson it was decided that further estimates be sought.

Cllr,Bambury to enquire.**Action Cllr.Bambury**

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.BAMBURY

SECONDED BY Cllr.HUGHES

IT WAS RESOLVED that up to £300 be spent on the schedule.

Notice board – site still required to enable board to be removed from ex-newsagents.Coop site owners not happy to have it placed there. Cllr.Gill to contact OCC re siting near Millennium Green **Action Cllr.Gill**

07/03/12 Report of Chairman

Hedge Trimming – Bow Road has been trimmed from Hunters Piece up to the Hatford Turn. The residents at Bow Road continue to clear some of the woodland

in Mrs Champion's and make use of the wood. Some odd bits of tidying will be done with hand tools. Trimming has been completed at Joyces Road by the recreation field. The trimming over the gateway by the street lamp will be done by hand as the tractor/trimmer was limited by space. The Millennium Green has also been trimmed

Ocado – Vans have been tracked along the A417 and A420. Also some in the village but have been delivering.

Snow/Bad weather plans – Since the last meeting the plan has operated on one day. This means we will have salt stored ready for next winter. At the last meeting we resolved to buy another 400 litre bin. It would seem more sensible to have 2 x 200litre bins placed strategically around the village so that our spreader can collect as it travels around. It also means volunteers could utilise as well. Robert Sharp has offered to help us move the salt to other bins with his fork lift.

Housing needs survey – After the visit of representatives from ORCC I hope we will be able to move forward starting by agreeing the resolution I have proposed on the agenda.

Village Woodland – Some smaller motor bikes have been using the woodland for recreation. The police have been involved and I assume we would want to discourage this activity.

Footbridge/Gates – Looking very good and thanks to Cllr. Isaacs for pressing these items forward.

Public Purposes Charity – Have supported our request for decorations/bunting/marquee to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee - £1750

Thanks to all Councillors who responded to my comments which were placed on the village web site.

It is clear that we must make our Parish Council website fuller , communicative and up to date

Items for next agenda – Parking on village greens – Standing Orders (Objections to planning)

08/03/12 Proposal by Cllr.Gill

This Council to ask ORCC to organise an independent housing needs survey to ascertain the need for affordable housing on a Rural Exception Site

Proposed by Cllr.Gill Seconded by Cllr. Warren

An amendment was proposed by Cllr Isaacs seconded by Cllr.P.Lewis

A survey to be carried out by the parish council of all housing needs that may incorporate questions from ORCC existing surveys

The amendment was carried with Cllr.Gill voting against. The original proposal by Cllr.Gill was not supported

09/03/12 Correspondence

SIV PPC – Approval of support for purchase of Marquee/Bunting – Noted with thanks. Council to reply to several questions **Action Cllr.Gill**

BDO Audit - Audit advice – Noted

Stanford in the Vale FC – Notification of roof repair – Council to help with grant application **Action Cllr.Gill**

County Councillor – Notification of discussion meeting Recycling site on 3rd May at Uffington – Noted Cllrs Gill and Isaacs attending

10/03/12 Planning applications

12/00291/COU The Anchor PH – Change of use from public house with ancillary residential accommodation to a dwelling (without building work)

The chair commented on how the District Council would view the application and read from planning policy CF5. He also commented re the campaign to object to change of use. He had been saddened by many statements/comments (web site and leaflets) which he felt was inciting ill feeling. He believed it was unfair to call a young family “property developers” and “in it to make a fast buck” He also said what happens if change of use is not granted ? The owners could still continue to live in the premises whilst renovating. They may choose to use the PH part for other business where present planning conditions apply. He hoped that the objectors would be supportive if it did reopen as a pub. Would you all visit the pub ? The owners could be approached by objectors to see what could be done by cooperating. In January he said that if more people had been using the pub then we would not be in a position to lose it.

Following further discussion and reminders of the parishioner attendees had said
ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.ISAACS
SECONDED BY Cllr.HUGHES
IT WAS RESOLVED that the application not be supported

11/02235/FUL Stanford pre-school playgroup – Erection of a shed in the pre-school garden

Following a reminder that the playgroup should ask the council (Landlords) first
ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.N.LEWIS
SECONDED BY Cllr.ISAACS

IT WAS RESOLVED that the application be supported subject to no objections being received during the qualifying period of 21days

11/03/12 Report of District Councillor

Savings had been made through staff cuts inc work carried out by joint Vale and South Oxfordshire job sharing. Local plan up to 2029 includes new house building allocated for the Vale amount to 6500 although large villages will bear most of this with Stanford as yet not mentioned

Due to the lateness of the hour

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.GILL

SECONDED BY Cllr.MONAHAN SMITH

IT WAS RESOLVED that standing orders be suspended to allow the meeting to continue

12/03/12 Monthly statement of accounts

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.P.LEWIS

SECONDED BY Cllr.WILLIAMS CUSS

IT WAS RESOLVED that the monthly statement of accounts be approved

13/03/12 Accounts for payment

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.P.LEWIS

SECONDED BY Cllr.WILLIAMS CUSS

IT WAS RESOLVED that the accounts be paid

The remainder of the agenda forwarded to next agenda due to time restriction