

**Minutes of a meeting of STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL held remotely on
Wednesday 7th October 2020**

**Virtual meeting – held by videoconference to comply with HM Government social
distancing requirements**

Present: Cllr. Middleton (Chair) Cllr. Warren Cllr. Isaacs Cllr. Jackson Cllr. Bailey Cllr. Jenkins
Cllr. Williams Cllr. Williams Cuss Cllr. FitzGerald O'Connor (OCC)

01/10/20 To receive apologies and reason (If offered)

Cllr. Lewis (paternity leave) Cllr. Howes (meeting) D.M. Dew (Clerk) (illness) District Cllr. Boyd (other meeting)

02/10/20 To receive Declarations of Interest from Cllrs on any agenda item
Cllr. Middleton – item 11

03/10/20 To receive, approve & sign as a true record minutes of previous meetings

5th August 2020

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. ISAACS

SECONDED BY Cllr. JACKSON

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

2nd September 2020

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. JACKSON

SECONDED BY Cllr. ISAACS

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

04/10/20 To receive report of County Councillor

The application for £500 for the bus stop at Shellingford Crossroads has been successful.

The Digital Infrastructure Programme at Oxfordshire County Council has been awarded £1m from the MHCLG, Getting Building Fund. Broadband for Rural Communities are using this funding to top-up the existing voucher scheme up to a value of £7,000 per qualifying property in Oxfordshire; both residential and business premises can receive this amount. Details to be forwarded to councillors.

A reminder about the free electric blanket testing

COVID update. Public Health are working with the police to check the rules are being adhered to.

Councillors asked for support and help to extend the lease on the QE2 field as it states that there should be a football field within 5 years of signing the lease. Councillors reported that there had been delays as OCC took 2 and a half years to agree to the pylons being moved.

Councillors reported that two particular drains in Joyce's Road and Church Green are completely blocked and have not been emptied for many years. Reports on Fix my Street have not been acted on.

05/10/20 To receive report of District Councillor

Apologies given. Written report provided.

Vale of White Horse District Council.

The Vale Communications Team continue to provide regular updates to all Town and Parish Councils. As mentioned previously most Vale staff are working from home and this is likely to continue for the foreseeable future. Obviously working from home doesn't provide the same support as in the office

and it would be appreciated that if there is a need to contact officers please do so by email rather than telephone.

Climate Emergency Advisory Committee.

The Committee met on 7 September. The Committee acknowledged that following the restructure of Cabinet roles Cllr. Catherine Webber is now the Cabinet Member responsible for Climate and Environment. The Committee agreed to hold public meetings on a quarterly basis rather than monthly but task and finish groups will continue as required. Agendas and minutes for this Committee are available on the Vale's website.

Civil Parking Enforcement.

A report is due to be presented to Vale Scrutiny in November.

Corporate Plan.

This has been considered by the Vale Scrutiny Committee and will be considered by the Cabinet on 2 October. It is also an agenda item for the full Council meeting on 7 October.

Council Meeting 7 October.

The agenda includes changes to the existing budget 2020/21, an update on Oxfordshire's Growth Board, a review of the Council's constitution and a Motion on the Governments Planning proposals.

Yellow Letter.

Please remind your residents if changes have taken place to return the completed form asap.

Planning.

The Government consultation – Planning for the Future – has caused a great deal of controversy. The Vale will be making a formal response and Town and Parish Councils and residents are encouraged to reply. Part 1 of the consultation – Changes to the current planning system – closes on 1 October but Parts 2 and 3 on 29 October. Details of the consultation are available on the Vale's website and the Government's website - www.Gov.uk

COVID Support.

The COVID grant scheme remains open after representations to the leadership and the rising amount of cases. If support groups are interested in additional funds then please get in touch.

Cllr. Boyd will continue to send out COVID resilience emails to parish councils and support groups as information comes in, and if you ever have any questions on these then please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Stanford specific items

Cllr. Boyd met with Cllr. Isaacs and walked the "Bow Road" footpath, and Cllr. Boyd has since been in touch with Vale officers over securing this footpath for the village. The team at Vale are reaching out to OCC and the landowner to try to make progress on this. Cllr. Boyd reported that it was great to see it being used so much just in the 30 minutes we were out there.

It was emphasised that this footpath needs to be a definitive path so that it cannot be removed at a later date.

Following the Parish objection to the change of use on the Lagan Homes site reference additional garden for plot 1, the planning officer referred this to planning committee, but did not notify anyone. Cllr. Boyd found out the day of the committee and got a slot to speak where he fully supported the Parish council's objections and those of residents and argued we should not remove public open space due to bad design and construction. The planning application was approved 5-0 with 3 abstentions and the POS next to plot 1 can now form part of the garden.

06/10/20

Questions/comments from parishioners

None

07/10/20 To receive report of Clerk

Apologies given. Written report provided.

Darren is starting to clear weeds from gutters but needs to know which gutters.

The Clerk assumes notice boards are still ongoing, only one being serviceable.

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. JACKSON

SECONDED BY Cllr. JENKINS

IT WAS RESOLVED that for health and safety reasons the notice board at Huntersfield/School Corner be removed as dangerous.

Cllr. Jackson offered to discuss removal with Darren

08/10/20 To receive report of Chairman inc. items for next agenda

Cllrs Lewis and Middleton undertook a cashflow analysis for the August-September period where lots of QEII expenditure was expected prior to the receipt of our second precept payment. Based on the expected dates at the time, and the need to give 30 days' notice to Redwood Bank, £12,000 was transferred to the linked account (Council's TSB Current Account). Having now received the precept payment and with some delays to the expected invoices, £4,000 of this has subsequently been returned to the Redwood savings account.

Following the issue at the end of August with fully approved transactions failing to be completed by TSB, Cllr. Lewis raised a complaint to the bank and they have credited us with £156 (£150 for the complaint, £6 for call costs).

Cllr. Lewis has also complained to British Gas (outgoing energy supplier) that despite us providing photographic evidence of the meter reads, they were still to credit the approx. £80 taken from our account by Direct Debit - they have apologised for the delay and seem to believe that they need to liaise with some central metering organisation to resolve, which might take until January.

Helicopters - ongoing, little movement from RAF Benson & MOD; Cllr. Lewis is trying a more local/direct route.

Cllr. Lewis has spoken to Vale's homelessness team (Tues 06/10), confirmed that they are aware of the caravan in Horsecroft (they were contacted direct by the occupant) and a team are due to visit (Weds 07/10) to discuss needs, see what help can be offered or will be accepted. Anti-social behaviour relating to this should be reported to Thames Valley Police (101 or website), more severe matters may be reported via the usual emergency channels.

Cllr. Jackson offered to contact the landowner on behalf of the Parish Council so that we can work together on this problem.

Cllr. Lewis has been in contact with Les Harding (First Responders) who in turn has checked with the ambulance service - both are of the opinion that nothing needs to be done regarding the defib. batteries at this stage - they monitor them as part of their routine checks and will advise if/when a new battery is required.

Cllr. Lewis has not yet managed to make arrangements ref. the adjustment to the crossing on the Ock footbridge, but will aim to do so shortly.

Cllr. Lewis has (06/10) raised a complaint to Thames Water Developer Services in relation to the ongoing roadworks in Bow Road as well as the previous works beyond Bow Road that are now failing.

Cllr. Middleton has now managed to speak to Arthur McEwan-James, our Countryside Access Field Officer at Oxfordshire County Council, about the repair to the QEII field crossing at the Cottage Road entrance. He has ascertained that repair is in fact the responsibility of the county council, contrary to our previous assumption that it was the parish council's responsibility. OCC have it on their jobs list. They were planning to replace the existing wooden bridge with a culverted crossing; this however needs approval from the Environment Agency, which could take some time. He has informed OCC that we have closed the crossing as we consider it unsafe. Arthur said that, in light of this, he would

assign a higher priority to the repair and consider a like-for-like wooden bridge replacement instead, as this will be quicker. Cllr. Middleton has passed on the quote we have obtained (thanks to councillor Jackson for sourcing this) on to OCC.

Cllr. Middleton has discussed repair of the wobbly stile on one of the well-used footpaths to the south of the village with Arthur, which OCC had previously offered to repair. OCC have said that they will aim to complete repairs by the end of the month.

We have received the grant from the OCC Councillor Priority Fund for a bus stop at Shellingford Crossroads and Cllr. Middleton is discussing with the Bus Infrastructure Officer at OCC how we now transfer the funds to the council so they can carry out the work. OCC estimate that the new stops will be installed during the 2 weeks commencing 9th November.

A parishioner living in Sheard's Lane has reported problems on a Monday with the bins not being emptied because the lorries cannot get down due to parked cars. Cllr. Warren agreed to contact the Waste Department at VWHDC.

Items for next agenda.

Funding for new notice boards – We have quotes for 2 new notice boards but awaiting 106 money. The Clerk reports that the Govt and OALC have agreed a 2.75% payrise backdated to April- for the Clerk this means a 42p per hour increase, which will need Council approval.

The Clerk reports that has been some discussion previously with the Chairman about working from home allowance. Govt and HMRC have agreed £18 per month tax free. The Clerk reports he has been in post since 1997 with no recompense – and again would seek backdated to April

09/10/20 To receive correspondence

As forwarded to the Council from the Clerk.

10/10/20 To discuss Planning Applications

P20/V2174/HH *Hatches Farm barn SN7 8LE Erection of a wooden summer house in Garden.*

This has come to Council as a planning application as the property is in the conservation area.

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. JACKSON

SECONDED BY Cllr. ISAACS

IT WAS RESOLVED that there were no objections.

P20/V1745/A & P20/V1754/FUL *Ware Road Erection of Marketing Suite and temp sales suite with assoc. planting, parking and advertising/signage*

There was a decision notice (June 2019) giving permission for a Marketing Suite. This application relates to an extra flag pole and 3 more lights. Council has no objections but would reiterate its wish that all lighting should be switched off when the marketing suite is not in use, as per the decision notice associated with the previous approval of 28th June 2019, P-19-V0962-FUL and P-19-V0963-A.

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. JACKSON

SECONDED BY Cllr. WILLIAMS CUSS

IT WAS RESOLVED that there were no objections but that the comments above about lighting should be submitted as a response to both of the applications.

P20/V1381/AG *Mill Farm Faringdon Road – Addition of a lean-to extension to building previously approved under P18/V0587/FUL – Livestock housing*

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. ISAACS

SECONDED BY Cllr. JACKSON

IT WAS RESOLVED that there were no objections.

11/10/20 To approve accounts for payment

12:36 PM

06/10/20

Stanford in the Vale Parish Council
Reconciliation Detail
Current Account - TSB, Period Ending 06/10/20

Type	Date	Num	Name	Clr	Amount	Balance
Beginning Balance						19,103.60
Cleared Transactions						
Cheques and Payments - 10 items						
Bill Pmt -Cheque	18/09/20	BACS	Came & Co Insuran...	X	-1,296.93	-1,296.93
Bill Pmt -Cheque	18/09/20	BACS	Oxfordshire C.C	X	-350.00	-1,646.93
Bill Pmt -Cheque	18/09/20	BACS	D Rolls	X	-318.25	-1,965.18
Bill Pmt -Cheque	25/09/20	BACS	D.M.Dew	X	-776.20	-2,741.38
Bill Pmt -Cheque	25/09/20	BACS	HMRC	X	-226.87	-2,968.25
Bill Pmt -Cheque	25/09/20	BACS	N.Middleton	X	-72.00	-3,040.25
Bill Pmt -Cheque	25/09/20	BACS	Wicksteed Leisure ...	X	-66.60	-3,106.85
Transfer	30/09/20			X	-4,000.00	-7,106.85
Bill Pmt -Cheque	30/09/20	BACS	EE Broadband	X	-34.33	-7,141.18
Bill Pmt -Cheque	06/10/20	BACS	Fenland Leisure Pr...	X	-38.40	-7,179.58
Total Cheques and Payments					-7,179.58	-7,179.58
Deposits and Credits - 5 items						
Deposit	08/09/20			X	11,850.00	11,850.00
Bill	30/09/20		Redwood bank	X	0.00	11,850.00
Deposit	01/10/20			X	500.00	12,350.00
General Journal	06/10/20	Corre...		X	155.97	12,505.97
Deposit	06/10/20			X	500.00	13,005.97
Total Deposits and Credits					13,005.97	13,005.97
Total Cleared Transactions					5,826.39	5,826.39
Cleared Balance					5,826.39	24,929.99
Uncleared Transactions						
Cheques and Payments - 3 items						
Bill Pmt -Cheque	06/10/20	BACS	Penny's Garden Ma...		-103.50	-103.50
Bill Pmt -Cheque	06/10/20	BACS	Millennium Green T...		-100.00	-203.50
Bill Pmt -Cheque	06/10/20	BACS	Wicksteed Leisure ...		-66.60	-270.10
Total Cheques and Payments					-270.10	-270.10
Total Uncleared Transactions					-270.10	-270.10
Register Balance as of 06/10/20					5,556.29	24,659.89
Ending Balance					5,556.29	24,659.89

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. JACKSON.

SECONDED BY Cllr. ISAACS

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the accounts for payment.

12/10/20 To approve monthly statement of accounts

12:30 PM
06/10/20
Accrual Basis

Stanford in the Vale Parish Council
Statement of Accounts - Summary
As of 6 October 2020

	6 Oct 20
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash at bank and in hand	
Current Account - TSB	
Reserves - NP	152.00
Current Account - TSB - Other	24,351.92
Total Current Account - TSB	24,503.92
Redwood 35 Day Savings Account	
Reserves - Play Equipment Savin	750.00
Reserves - CIL Savings	2,285.12
Reserves - NP Savings	3,589.05
Redwood 35 Day Savings Account - ...	21,986.35
Total Redwood 35 Day Savings Account	28,610.52
Petty Cash	0.10
Total Cash at bank and in hand	53,114.54
Total Current Assets	53,114.54
NET CURRENT ASSETS	53,114.54
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	53,114.54
NET ASSETS	53,114.54
Capital and Reserves	0.00

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. WARREN

SECONDED BY Cllr. BAILEY

IT WAS RESOLVED to approve the statement of accounts

13/10/20 To discuss repair or replacement of skate park ramp

The Play Inspection Company reported that they had carried out an Annual Inspection at the skate park and has found multiple skate ramps with holes and perforated riding surface. As a result, notices warning notices saying that the skate park was unsafe and not to use. They had all been taken down, along with the safety tape.

Awaiting a visit and quote from a welder however it was noted that all previous repairs had been vandalised.

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. ISAACS

SECONDED BY Cllr. JENKINS

IT WAS RESOLVED to authorise Cllr. Jackson to make the necessary health and safety repairs to the skate park up to £2,000.

14/10/20 To discuss Traffic congestion outside the village school

Due to the COVID 19 arrangements in school there was concern expressed about the congestion outside the front of the school caused when parents were coming to collect their children at the end of the day because of parked cars, the narrow pavement and the speeding traffic. Buses also having problems getting through.

As a temporary action it was suggested that the school contact the police and ask for some police traffic signs that could be put out at the relevant times.

Cllr. Williams Cuss offered to investigate 20mph flashing lights to be investigated as a more permanent action. To aid this the School Travel Plan to be circulated to councillors.
Cllr. Jenkins will contact the bus company for their view.

- 15/10/20** **To discuss provision of a litter bin for the new bus stop at Shellingford Crossroads**
A letter had been sent to the residents to inform them that the Parish Council were planning to install a pair of marked bus stops at Shellingford Crossroads. They replied that happy to have bus stop outside their house but worried about the extra litter that may come into the garden and wanted a litter bin installed. VWHDC to be contacted about this request as they would have to be responsible for any bin. Cllr. Middleton will speak to them.
- 16/10/20** **To receive report of Environmental Sub-Committee**
As circulated to council
- 17/10/20** **To receive report of Recreation & Leisure Sub-Committee**
The latest list of issues sent through to the clerk have been completed by Darren. This included the replacement of wetpour, a swing and filing down of some rough wooden surfaces.
Liaison continues with 3 play equipment providers to quote for replacement equipment in the play area. This is to be split into 3 sections: area nearest preschool, toddler area and swing area.
Inspections continue on a weekly basis. Most recent conducted today - No issues found.
- 18/10/20** **To receive report of Neighbourhood Plan**
Nothing to report.
- 19/10/20** **To receive report of Millennium Green Trust**
Some vandalism on the Green has been reported, Waste bins installation is ongoing.
- 20/10/20** **To receive report of Public Works of Art Liaison Working Party**
Stalled at present
- 21/10/20** **Date of next meeting**
4th November 2020
- 22/10/20** **Questions/comments from parishioners** None
None.