

Minutes of a meeting of STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 5th October 2016 in Stanford Village Hall

Present: Cllr.P.Lewis (Chair) @ 1950 Cllr.Warren Cllr.Isaacs Cllr.Jackson
Cllr.Bailey Cllr.Jenkins D.M.Dew (Clerk)
Cllr.Sharp (VWHDC) 2 Parishioners

01/10/16 Apologies and reason (If offered)

Cllr.Gill (vacation) Cllr.N.Lewis (Business) Cllr.Williams Cuss (Business)
Cllr.Fletcher (Business) Cllr.Tilley (Oxfordshire County Council)

02/10/16 Declarations of Interest by Councillors on any agenda item

Nil

03/10/16 To receive, approve and sign as a true record minutes of previous meeting 7th Sept 2016

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.BAILEY
SECONDED BY Cllr.ISAACS
IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes be signed as a true record

04/10/16 To receive,approve and sign as a true record minutes of previous meeting 17th Aug 2016

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.JENKINS
SECONDED BY Cllr.JACKSON
IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes be signed as a true record

05/10/16 Report of County Councillor

In the absence of the Councillor her report was read by the Clerk

**REPORT TO STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL
OCTOBER 2016
FROM CLLR Melinda Tilley
GENERAL OCC REPORT**

UNITARY DEBATE

The report commissioned by OCC from Grant Thornton came up with an option that suggested a single unitary council but with some decision making devolved to different parts of the county based on the current boundaries of the five district and city councils. A recent meeting of OCC's Performance Scrutiny Committee saw County Councillors from across all parties interested in exploring this option further – and the OCC Cabinet has now agreed to do that. The key features are:

- A strategic unitary council with overall responsibility for determining a framework of delegation of powers and budget.
- Constitutionally established area boards reflecting the administrative boundaries of the current city and district councils exercising these delegated powers and budgets.

This model is still a single unitary, but builds on existing strengths and familiar geography, rather than starting from scratch. At this stage it is just a possible option that OCC is keen to

explore further while acknowledging that there needs to be a lot of detailed negotiation in the weeks and months ahead.

GRANT SCHEME LAUNCHED FOR OPEN-ACCESS CHILDREN'S SERVICES

A £1m start-up fund has been launched by OCC to help community groups develop and deliver open-access children's services. Local solutions for open-access provision – such as 'stay-and-play' - will complement a comprehensive new service for 0-19-year-olds across Oxfordshire, which ensures the most vulnerable children are protected and that families who need extra help are identified at an early stage. As part of OCC's continuing investment in early intervention, and in addition to the £1m fund, new teams of 'locality workers' will advise and support community groups delivering open-access sessions – as well as other universal services such as schools, health and early years providers. Council-funded open access provision will continue to be offered at the new children and family centres, and other buildings as part of the new 0-19 service from next year.

CHANGES AT PROPERTY & FACILITIES

Since taking over the Property & Facilities portfolio in May, Cabinet member Lorraine Lindsay-Gale has been working with Bev Hindle, the Acting Director, to bring about some fundamental changes to the way OCC works with Carillion, the contractor that manages property resource. This includes renegotiating the contract to ensure that OCC regains oversight and control of development projects to improve performance. A 'placed based planning' system will be introduced that involves Councillors right from the start, taking advantage of their local knowledge on potential development opportunities.

HOUSING PLANS FOR OXFORD REJECTED BY SODC

Plans to build thousands of homes to deal with Oxford's housing crisis were rejected by South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) when the Oxfordshire Growth Board, made up of council leaders, met in September to approve plans to deal with the city's housing need identified in a 2014 report. The Oxfordshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment said neighbouring councils needed to provide 14,850 houses to help Oxford cope with its increasing demand. Oxford would look to build another 550 houses, while Cherwell would contribute 4,400, Vale of White Horse 2,200, West Oxfordshire 2,750, and South Oxfordshire would build 4,950.

06/10/16 Report of District Councillor

Regarding a burial ground – Some funds would be available for land purchase and a feasibility study. Parish Councillors were concerned that there was no guidance available regarding planning conditions type of soil etc. Clerk to contact Grove PC who had several years ago made a new cemetery. Following the clerks letter to VWHDC parks regarding grass cutting , Cllr.Sharp said that if we minded to cut Ock Meadow and other sites then we would not receive any finance for doing so and if the residents of the areas cut under VWHDC contracts were not being done then they should contact him. Regarding new housing in the parish there were education issues which would not allow building until these issues had been resolved

07/10/16 Questions/comments from parishioners

South Oxfordshire DC had rejected the overspill housing allocation from Oxford City Council, did VWHDC also reject their allocation? – No they did not but at the moment there will be no more for Stanford
Overgrown hedgerows alongside QEII field – Advised to contact OCC via Fixmystreet.com

08/10/16 Report of Clerk

Increase in vandalism. All 4 notice boards had been damaged the worst being corner High St/Huntersfield which had locks taken off and all notices destroyed. Also in play areas which have now had wet pour dug up and fires lit by groups of teenagers. The matters have been reported to the police who wish that items of vandalism however trivial be reported to them. In the meantime they will be conducting extra patrols

09/10/16 Report of Chairman including items for next agenda

Further issues reported with use of Nursery End play area - and additional vandalism, both of which the police have been made aware of.

Nursery End Boundary Hedge (bordering A417) – this will transfer to PC for mgt – chair still to contact David Wilson Homes to confirm.

A417 - bridge closure - believe this is now averted, although details still to be finalised/circulated by OCC in due course.

Planning permission for QEII field - already referred to, initial online quote was £15k, working with VWHDC to resolve!

Street light - next to play area (beside village hall) - reported several occasions but still out – ongoing discussions with OCC to resolve the problem.

10/10/16 Correspondence

Parishioner - request for a water/sprinkler play area in the recreation area as in Wantage. Clerk had pointed the R & L chair to various web pages. It was thought that it could possibly be included in the proposed new play areas

I.Astell – request for 2 Oak trees I to replace lime in Chapel Road and one near Upper Green. Letter to be circulated to Council and item to next agenda Trees

11/10/16 Planning applications

P16/V2307/HH – 47 Joyces Road – *Extensions to include a porch attached to the front of the dwelling. A kitchen and dining room extension at the rear. A utility room to the rear of the existing garage and a games/hobbies room with an ensuite toilet.*

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

IT WAS RESOLVED that there were no objections but wish the following comments to be taken into account : Proximity/ impact on neighbouring property

Given that the neighbours have already highlighted concerns regarding noise levels at present, we would ask the planners to ensure that suitable installation is provided to mitigate problems emanating from the proposed use of the new extension.

12/10/16 To receive and approve minutes of planning committee 21st September 2016

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.JACKSON
SECONDED BY Cllr.BAILEY

IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes be approved

13/10/16 To receive Monthly Statement of Accounts

MONTHLY STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS ENDING 01/09/16

CASH AT BANK

Beginning balance		21,943.08
Total cleared transactions	- 1819.55	
Total new transactions	- <u>1233.30</u>	
	- 3112.85	
Ending balance		18,830.23

BUSINESS 30 DAY NOTICE ACCOUNT

Beginning balance		7,896.76
Total cleared transactions	0.94	
Ending balance		7,897.70

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.ISAACs
SECONDED BY Cllr. WARREN
IT WAS RESOLVED that the accounts be approved

14/10/16 To approve accounts for payment

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT/APPROVAL SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

7 th Sept	Murodigital	Newsletter Ink	27.30
7 th Sept	D.Rolls	Mowing	556.00
14 th Sept	OCC	QEII Lease	350.00
14 th Sept	Southern Print Services	Folder machine repair	114.00
20 th Sept	H.Wood	Photocopy (N plan)	12.00
21 st Sept	Came & Co	Insurance	1554.40
30 th Sept	D.M.Dew	Salary	684.04
30 Sept	C.Stallard	Litter pick	60.00
30 Sept	Post Office	PAYE & NI (HMRC)	195.71
5 th Oct	BDO	External Audit	240.00

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.P.LEWIS
SECONDED BY Cllr. WARREN
IT WAS RESOLVED that the payments be approved/paid

15/10/16 To approve the external audit Annual Return Including their certificate and issues arising

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.ISAACs
SECONDED BY Cllr.P.LEWIS
IT WAS RESOLVED that the certificate be approved and issues noted

16/10/16 To discuss grant to Speedwatch for equipment repair

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.P.LEWIS
SECONDED BY Cllr.WARREN
IT WAS RESOLVED to grant £150

17/10/16 To discuss bulb planting following offer of 2,500 bulbs from Faringdon Rotary Club

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.BAILEY
SECONDED BY Cllr.WARREN
IT WAS RESOLVED that the bulbs be planted on Upper Green (triangular section at junction of Bow Road, Chapel Road & Cottage Road) as well as Church Green, bordering the entrance to the war memorial.

18/10/16 To review Public Art Brief (Issued at meeting)

The brief will go out to artists preferably local. It is hoped for community engagement. VWHDC will be the purse holders. Council thanked those who had compiled the brief

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.ISAACS
SECONDED BY Cllr.P.LEWIS
IT WAS RESOLVED that we should move forward

19/10/16 To discuss burial ground

As discussed at item 5

20/10/16 To discuss QEII Field

Planning change of use had been quoted at £15,000 although it seems that discussion had reduced this considerably. Environmental Committee to meet in field with Earthline representatives to discuss levelling.

21/10/16 To receive report of Neighbourhood Plan

Collating and writing actual report

22/10/16 To receive report of Environmental Committee

Following the site visit by OCC Tree Officer more trees will have to be planted as the woodland is unlikely to meet Woodland Trust required survival rate of 95%. Cllr.Isaacs stated that conflicting advice had been given. Cllr.Jackson had been comparing tractors in advance of the take over of the QEII field. A medium sized machine to cope with 14 acres would be in the region of £38,000 and would include hedge cutting. It was noted that ragwort was growing again. There will be a need to replace the concrete blocks at entrances with 5 bar gates. Item to next agenda

23/10/16 To receive report of Recreation & Leisure Committee

It was agreed to continue to keep the two committees separate as each has many different items to discuss. The R & L committee to meet in November. Regarding improvements these should be in budget discussions November/December

24/10/16 Date of next meeting

2nd November 2016