

Minutes of a meeting of STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 1st November 2017 in Stanford Village Hall

Present: Cllr.P.Lewis(Chair) Cllr.Warren Cllr.Gill Cllr.Isaacs Cllr.Williams Cuss

Cllr.Bailey Cllr.Jenkins

Cllr.Fitzgerald O'Connor(OCC) M.Dew(Clerk) 6 Parishioners

01/11/17 To receive apologies and reason (If offered)

Cllr.N.Lewis(Business) Cllr.Howes(Business) Cllr.Jackson(III)

02/11/17 To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on any agenda item

Cllr.Bailey – Item 9 Correspondence

03/11/17 To receive, approve and sign as a true record minutes of previous meeting 4th October 2017

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. WILLIAMS CUSS

SECONDED BY Cllr.BAILEY

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

04/11/17 To receive report of County Councillor

Ground-breaking transport technology being pioneered in Oxfordshire has won a share of £51 million government funding with organisations based in Oxfordshire Science Vale UK working on projects such as autonomous cars and smart traffic management systems

Applications for children due to start primary school in September 2018 can now be made online. Families with children born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014 are urged to visit the primary school admissions pages on the OCC website to find out how to apply for places for next year. Council still accepts postal applications but recommends families apply online as this will result in an automatic response. Postal applications forms are available from schools

OCC are tackling sellers of illegal tobacco. Trading Standards Officers and sniffer dogs will take to the streets to ask for the public's help. Cheap prices encourage children to smoke. Anyone wishing to report the selling can do so anonymously to Trading Standards at www.stop-illegal-tobacco.co.uk or call the hotline 0300 999 6 999

OCC have launched a campaign to recruit "digital helpers" in libraries to help boost skills of those who need help to get online. Volunteers able to give up a few hours each week are being sought at branches across the county. Find out more at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/digitalhelper

Thousands of people packed the new shopping centre at Oxfords Westgate Centre. Shoppers and visitors are being encouraged to use Park & Rides with new message signs installed on the outskirts of Oxford to update people of spaces and directions.

05/11/17 To receive report of District Councillor

Nil

06/11/17 Questions/comments from parishioners

Concerns regarding parking outside school both in High Street and Huntersfield including parking on pavements restricting passageways especially for pushchairs etc. Police to be informed again and their presence requested to see the inconsiderate parking

07/11/17 Report of Clerk

While it was noted that the Council charity donation was to be decided and agreed in February 2018 , correspondence had been received from Independent Advice Centre Wantage stating their position regarding grants from VWHDC

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.ISAACS

SECONDED BY Cllr.BAILEY

IT WAS RESOLVED that the grant was likely to be as per last year (£50) subject to the February discussion/meeting

Clerk stated that posters displayed on poles/posts around the village were not being removed after date elapsed and highlighted the school posters. In the days of “best Kept Village” competition we would have been penalised for this. It was agreed that posters would be removed when councillors observed out of date

08/11/17 Report of Chairman inc items for next agenda

In light of reports of a potential lack of new/replacement directors for the Pre-school, I have been making some contingency plans, but fortunately, it has transpired that these will not be required. We have received notification from the auditors that they are surcharging us £20 as the Audit documentation was returned electronically, and their outdated system apparently requires hard copy. However, their own instructions fail to mention this – I have challenged this stance albeit unsuccessfully. Given the amount and the fact that BDO will no longer be the auditor, it has now been paid.

Following our last correspondence with Amanda Benham of Benham Law, despite her assurances in June 2017 that her failure to register the leasehold (from the previous year) would be dealt with “forthwith”, it transpires that nearly 4 months later she has still not undertaken this simple task. In light of this, and Amanda Benham’s subsequent claims regarding my conduct to the Clerk, I would urge Council to seek new legal advisors should the need arise.

I have been in contact with the (new) solicitor at OCC dealing with the wayleave for the QEII field power lines and explained the reasons for needing to get this prioritised and resolved ASAP. As the cables will be going underground, it seems that an easement is required instead, and this is being drawn up.

I have also been contacted by parishioners with regards to tree maintenance at both Jubilee Green and the play area behind the village hall. The former is believed to be the responsibility of OCC and the latter I have looked at, but it really doesn’t seem to require any maintenance in my opinion at the present time. Some concerns were also raised with me by a previous Councillor in relation to dead Ash trees in the verge of the Cottage/Joyce’s Road footpath. *Clerk advised that OCC had inspected previously and advised no action required.*

We had a productive meeting with Daniel Ede of Ede Homes regarding their revised plans for the “second phase” of Bow Farm. Thanks to Cllrs. Howes & Jenkins for being able to join those discussions. We await their formal response, but I am hopeful that this will align with our thoughts.

Cllr.Warren stated that the school will list requirements to refurbish Jubilee Garden. Concerned about leaves on footpath Joyces Road to VH carpark. To be attended to although more leaves are

going to fall. There have been two accidents at the Skate Park involving scooters, broken legs. Chairman to look at regulations regarding use of scooters rather than skateboards. It was felt that it was not possible to ban scooters although signs warning of danger might be possible

09/11/17 To receive correspondence

CPRE – request for applicants for Chairman and Committee – Noted

Cllr. Isaacs – Phasing out of oil-fired heating systems by 2020's – Should Council be looking to VWHDC and British gas for subsidised gas connection within the village. Council agreed that this was something that they should keep an eye on and future discussion.

VWHDC – Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). This item to next agenda

VWHDC – Local Development Order – Land at Hill farm Didcot – Noted

P17/V1985/FUL – Various letters regarding Meadowlands requesting that the PC request NPlan to reconsider 3x sites as being not suitable for development.

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. ISAACS

SECONDED BY Cllr. WILLIAMS CUSS

IT WAS RESOLVED that the meeting be closed to discuss this item

Chairman stressed that no sites had been allocated as the Neighbourhood Plan had not yet been issued in a draft format. The sites in question had been identified in a previous public consultation as being “*potentially suitable for development*” but further work was needed before any final decisions/recommendations were made. However, the planning refusal in question does mean that it is likely that *all* sites need to be reviewed in light of the comments from Planning Officers.

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. ISAACS

SECONDED BY Cllr. BAILEY

IT WAS RESOLVED that the meeting be reopened

10/11/17 To discuss planning P17/V1708/RM – report of meeting with Ede Homes

Email circulated to Council. Chairman to discuss with VHHDC case officer. Regarding Penstones site plans still show gate in place and no increased lighting there being no change from the rejected plans

11/11/17 To approve accounts for payment

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. WILLIAMS CUSS

SECONDED BY Cllr. ISAACS

IT WAS RESOLVED that the accounts be approved/paid

12/11/17 To approve Monthly Statement of Accounts

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. P. LEWIS

SECONDED BY Cllr. ISAACS

IT WAS RESOLVED that the accounts be approved

13/11/17 To consider Data Protection Regulations 2016(GDPR)

Item to next agenda. Council need to appoint a Data Protection Officer and this needs to be appointed at each annual meeting

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.P.LEWIS
SECONDED BY Cllr.ISAACS
IT WAS RESOLVED that Cllr.Jenkins be appointed as Data Protection Officer

14/11/17 To discuss & approve Footpaths Aspirations

Proposed footpaths map circulated

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr.ISAACS
SECONDED BY Cllr.JENKINS
IT WAS RESOLVED that the proposed footpaths aspirations be fully supported and forwarded to District Council

15/11/17 To discuss Pre-School – Future Governance

Cllr.Williams Cuss stated that the pre-school was both a charity and limited company. Six new directors had been appointed while the previous directors had been in discussion with the primary school that possibly the pre-school could come under an umbrella of the primary School. The Pre-school would still pay the lease rental £1000 per annum to the PC

16/11/17 To receive report of Environmental Committee

Cllr.Isaacs thanked Cllr.Jackson regarding the application and approval of grant from PPC of up to £10,000 towards pylon move at QEII field. The next project will be the levelling of the land

17/11/17 To receive report of Recreation & Leisure Committee

Log walk post needs to be cemented in

18/11/17 To receive report of Neighbourhood Plan

Had met with Vale Policy Officer who confirmed that a Strategic Environment Assessment was needed. School sites to be shared with PC at meeting 13th November

19/11/17 To receive report of Public Works of Art Liaison Working Party

Visiting artist's forge on 19th November

20/11/17 To receive report of Millennium Green Trust

Nil

21/11/17 Date of next meeting

6th December 2017

Questions/comments from parishioners

Hedge cutting Millennium Green – Contractor due 2 November