

STANTON LACY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Stanton Lacy Parish Council on 16th November 2023

Members Present: Cllrs Martin Finch (Chair), Margaret Davis, Emma Gatehouse, Robin Gatehouse, Jenna Hossbach, Corin Redman, Phil Parker and Peter Williams. **In Attendance:** Cllr Cecilia Motley (Shropshire Council) and H Coonick (Clerk/RFO).

1. **Apologies for Absence and Acceptance of Apologies:** Cllr Phil Jones
2. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** Cllrs Martin Finch and Robin Gatehouse (item 7.1). Cllr Williams will chair the meeting for item 7.1.
3. **Public involvement session.** One member of the public reported that the residents of Vernolds Common would like to keep the telephone box at Vernolds Common preferably with the telephony equipment. They had not had letters from the Parish Council asking their views on changes to the Parish Boundary. Cllr Motley advised that Shropshire Council would consult with residents later in the boundary review.
4. **Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings on the 21st September 2023:**
RESOLVED: for the chair to sign the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting.
5. **Consider Adopting the Telephone Box at Vernolds Common:** Culmington Parish Council are in support of retaining the telephone box with telephony equipment as it is very close to the parish council boundary and affects several of the properties in their area.
RESOLVED: to ask Shropshire Council to make representation to BT to retain the box with telephony equipment due to the isolated area and poor mobile telephone coverage.
6. **Reports From Representatives:**
 - 6.1. Shropshire Council – Cllr Cecilia Motley reported that the Council is in the process of setting the budget for the next financial year. Although there is a big deficit, they are making progress at reducing it and have already found savings of £38 million without making any redundancies. An extra £20 million will need to be found for Adult and Childrens services unless the government allocate more funding. The government has given SC money to complete the Northwest Relief Road and £4 million to help with flooding on the River Severn. There is a new agreement between Shropshire, Herefordshire, Monmouthshire and Powys Councils to work together to attract funding particularly for infrastructure projects. The Head of Planning Policy plans to put forward a paper proposing to improve planning regulation in rural areas.
 - 6.2. Stanton Lacy Village Hall – Cllr Phil Jones was not in attendance. Cllr Hossbach reported that the new radiators have arrived and will be installed soon. Insulation has been put into the loft. The committee are getting quotes to refurbish the toilets. The Winter Warmer Events need to be advertised more widely and they are open to everyone. The council would like to thank those who provided the wide range of soups at the last Winter Warmer.
 - 6.3. Louisa Powell Almshouses – Cllr Peter Williams reported that there is a proposal to amalgamate the administration of the 4 Almshouses trustees in Ludlow. The different charities would remain distinct but the board of trustees would include representatives from each charity.
RESOLVED to support the proposal and for Cllr Williams to remain as the Parish Council representative.
7. **Planning:**
 - 7.1. [23/04759/FUL](#) Hopton Gate Cottage, Hopton Gate, Haytons Bent, SY8 2BE
Demolition of existing attached outbuildings and erection of extension
Applicant: Miss Heather Coonick and Mr Ian Evans. Cllr Finch and R Gatehouse and the Clerk left the meeting and Cllr P Williams chaired the meeting for this item.
RESOLVED: to support the application.

STANTON LACY PARISH COUNCIL

8. Correspondence:

8.1. Regarding Overgrown Footpaths and Bridleways: a letter and petition regarding the overgrown footpaths was received and forwarded to Outdoor Partnerships, Shropshire Council.

RESOLVED: A councillor will meet with a Rights of Way Officer from Shropshire Council and walk the routes which are of concern.

9. **Update on Broadband to The Hope and Downton Hall:** The working group has not continued and as the voucher scheme is due to end in two weeks' time a self-dig scheme is no longer viable. SWS are no longer interested in providing an alternative using the voucher scheme. Affected residents will now be dependent upon being included in a sub-regional Type C procurement in 2024 which is the next step for the delivery of gigabit capable broadband.

10. **Consider Alterations to Yew Tree Cottage, Bullring:** The Parish Council had been alerted to the alterations. As no planning application has been received for consideration contact has been made with the new owner and Shropshire Council to investigate the building work.

11. Consider Setting up a Village Whatsapp Group:

RESOLVED: that Councillor E Gatehouse and the Clerk will set up a Whatsapp Group which will be administrator only access.

12. **Consider Developing an Emergency Plan:** Deferred to the next meeting when all Councillors will submit draft proposals for their allocated elements of the Plan.

13. **Consider Alternatives to the Present Website Provider:** Hugo Fox will begin charging £8.49 + VAT per month from April 2024. Most alternatives are costlier.

RESOLVED: to remain with Hugo Fox and review it in November next year.

14. **Update on Repairs to Flood Damaged Roads:** Potholes can be reported to Shropshire Council via Fix my Street. There was major damage to the Hopton Cangeford Road at Cuckoopen. Shropshire Council have put up temporary road signs and are investigating government for funding for damage caused by named storms.

15. Finance:

15.1. NJC Pay Award 2023 has been agreed. The Clerk's salary will increase to £12.21 per hour backdated to April 2023.

15.2. Consider the Finance Report, Budget and Bank Reconciliation: The expenditure for the year so far is £1,653.50 and income of £5104. The expenditure is in line with the budget except for a small over expenditure on the Village Hall rental fee. As of the 25th September 2023 the bank account held £9,455.98 which was reconciled with the cash book and signed by Cllrs Redman and Hossbach.

RESOLVED to accept the report, budget report and bank reconciliation.

15.3. Authorise Payments: to D Lewis (Lengthsman duties) Inv 420 and 432 £191.25 and D Lewis (general repairs to telephone box and notice board) Inv 431 £46.75

15.4. Consider the Draft Budget: there were minor adjustments suggested. The final draft will be circulated as soon as possible for final adoption and precept setting at the Parish Council meeting on the 18th January 2024.

16. **Agenda Items for the next meeting:** a. speeding b. Budget c. Emergency Plan

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 18th January 2024 at 7.30pm.

Copies of the agenda and minutes are available from the Clerk, Heather Coonick:

www.stantonlacyparish.org email: stantonlacypc@gmail.com Tel: 07817607355

Signed:

(Chair)

Date: