

STANTON UPON HINE HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Annual Parish Meeting held on **Tuesday 6th April 2021** via Zoom at **7.00pm**.

PRESENT: Councillor D Dee (Chairman)

In Attendance: Councillors C Warren
C Crackett
T Gurney
C Bayliss
M Moore
Katrina Baker (Clerk)
7 Members of the public

302.21C Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. This is a meeting of the residents of the Parish and an opportunity for them to discuss local matters with representatives of the Parish Council.

Good practice advice, regarding the use of zoom for virtual meetings, was shared.

303.21C Apologies

To receive and approve any apologies for absence, under Section 85 (i) of LGA 1972.

PC Alan Ambrose
Cllr I Yeadon
Cllr N Gray
Rev Cresswell
5 Members of the public

304.21C Parish Council Annual Report

The Chairman gave a short presentation on the work of the Parish Council and included details of projects worth noting including:

New Clerk, with thanks to the retiring Clerk.	2 Aeries Oaks in Stanton and High Hatton
Upgraded street lighting to LED	A defibrillator installed at High Hatton

Within the last 12 months, meetings had taken place via Zoom and thanks were extended to the Stanton Buddies for their work to support local residents during periods of lockdown and to Cllr Gray and Cllr Gurney.

Unfortunately, the VE/VJ day events had to be cancelled, however the Parish Council purchased a memorial bench which has been installed in Stanton. We have purchased the old red telephone box and thanks to Natalie, this will become a community library. We have purchased new noticeboards for High Hatton & Stanton and our own litter pick equipment. The defibrillator has been relocated to outside of the village hall for better access.

The recent RoSPA report identified some minor works which we are implementing and our thanks are extended to Lisa for her offer to undertake the weekly inspections.

As a Parish Council, we continue to monitor the state of the River Roden, via the River Action Group, and we monitor and report to Shropshire Council regarding the roads, footpaths and verges.

In the future, the Parish Council will continue to support the community support group. A grit bin has been ordered for High Hatton, we welcome the police and PCSO to the meetings and the visits by the mobile police station unit are appreciated. It is hoped that the community litter picks can start again soon.

Parish Council meetings will return to the village hall from May, with working group and topic meetings continuing by zoom. We welcome all local residents to our meetings.

We are considering a request for a baby swing and other enhancements to the play area site. We have also created our own planning guidance document - residents are encouraged to take a look at the document which has been agreed by Shropshire Council.

The Chairman thanked everyone in the Parish for all the work that is done to support the community and thanked colleagues for their help and support throughout the year.

A copy of the report will appear on the website.

305.21C Financial Report

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council started the financial year with a balance of £27,923. Receipts have included the precept, a highways grant and VAT reclaimed from the previous year, totalling £12,631. The payments were £11,202 leaving a balance of £29,352 at 31st March 2021. This is subject to the end of year audit.

We will be submitting a VAT return for £540.66.

Members of the Parish Council were keen, when discussing the budget for 2021/22, that every effort should be made to keep any increase to a minimum. Members recognised that this has been a difficult year for many people and therefore it was unanimously agreed that the precept would be set at £11,205.00.

306.21C Elections 2021

On 6th May, as well as the Police & Crime Commissioner elections, there will be elections for Parish & Town Councillors and Unitary Councillors for Shropshire.

If anyone is interested in standing as a candidate, nominations must be received by 4pm on Thursday 8th April – they should be hand-delivered to The Shirehall, Shrewsbury. Nomination Packs can be downloaded from Shropshire Council or the Electoral Commission websites.

307.21C Local Groups and Organisations

a) Stanton Village Hall

The Chairman of the Management Committee gave a short resume of the year where little had been possible due to the covid restrictions. It is hoped that the opportunity to hold meetings in the village hall will soon become practical. It is hoped that the AGM can take place in May. The Committee will consider other projects including improvements to the outside of the building in preparation for the re-opening of the hall to groups and other users.

A copy of the report is available on the website.

b) St Andrew's Church

Claire Crackett represented Rev Cresswell and gave a short report including that it was good to be back in church on Easter Sunday. During a difficult year, it had been good to have services available online, although everyone is looking forward to being able to sing.

A new website for the 3 churches in the Benefice, is now live with the ability to sign up for email alerts. There is also a new noticeboard to be installed. Thanks were extended to everyone who had worked together to maintain the building and churchyard.

A copy of the report will be available on the website.

c) **Stanton Newsletter**

The Editor informed the meeting that newsletters have been available electronically and in printed versions. These are available by email. There have been 12 issues. The income comes from the advertisers, of which there are currently 19. The account is healthy, due to no printing costs. Thanks were extended to the Editor and Team, on behalf of the Parish Council and residents. The newsletter is an important communication link.

308.21C West Mercia Police Report

The meeting welcomed Jake Garrett, a local PCSO part of the Safer Neighbourhood Team, who informed the meeting that there are few local issues and there has been no increase in asb or crime as covid restrictions start to lift.

The Parish Councillors are considering a response to the Local Policing Charter, which will be an agreement between the Parish Councils and Local Policing Teams. The community messaging service was run by volunteers, so it is hoped that this will be available again as restrictions lifted. The Neighbourhood Watch Scheme will continue to share information as it is available.

Thanks were extended to Jake, and to PC Alan Ambrose, for their commitment to keeping the Parish Council informed and to working together to support the local community.

309.21C Parish Matters

The Chairman invited local residents to share information and ideas or to ask any questions.

- a) work to tidy up the play area, with trees and shrubs cut back will be actioned
- b) additional trees will be available in the Autumn for land at the play area
- c) the local Neighbourhood Watch scheme co-ordinator details will be updated
- d) the poor road surface from the village towards Moreton Corbet has been reported to Shropshire Council
- e) the route of the Shropshire Way, along Harcourt Mill Lane, would benefit from improved drainage, this has been raised as a local issue with Shropshire Council
- f) details of village and church events will be made available as soon as agreed, depending on current restrictions.

310.21C Date of the Next Meeting

11th May 2021 Annual General Meeting 7.00pm Stanton Village Hall

Followed by the May meeting

Please note that social distancing will be necessary. There will be a one-way system introduced in the Village Hall and all attendees will be required to wear face masks.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.45pm thanking everyone for attending and for their important contributions.

SignedDate

E&OE

These minutes are Draft and will remain, for information only, until agreed as a true record at the next Full Council meeting on 11th May 2021.