



**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL
held on Wednesday 6th May 2026 at Stanford in the Vale Village Hall**

Present: Cllr Middleton (Chair) Cllr. Foulkes Cllr. Isaacs
Cllr. Kent Cllr. Lewis Cllr. Silk
Cllr Evans (OCC and VWHDC)

Claire Lewis (Clerk)

1 member of the public

01/05/26 To elect the Chair for the year 2026/27

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. Isaacs

SECONDED By Cllr. Kent

IT WAS RESOLVED that Cllr. Middleton was elected Chair. All in favour.

02/05/26 To receive apologies

Cllr. Howes

Cllr. Page

Cllr. Horrobin

Cllr. Burls

03/05/26 To receive Declarations of Interest from Cllrs on any agenda item

- Cllr Silk Item 10b

04/05/26 To receive, approve & sign as a true record, minutes of previous meeting 1 April 2026

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. Kent

SECONDED By Cllr. Silk

IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes be accepted, with abstentions from those not present at the previous meeting.

05/05/26 To receive report of District and County Councillor

District:

- First council meeting next week. Can ask 2 questions at each meeting. Question on supporting hospitality. Question on waste handling, particularly of merge with West Berkshire. Planning to put down motion on fly tipping data.
- Playing pitch and leisure strategy meeting scheduled to discuss QEII and its ambitions
- Climate and Action Fund launched

County:

- A417 Lane Rental Scheme
- Following up on notifications to residents before road closures (e.g. Bow Road)
- A417 roadworks scheduled – completion at Mill Farm and Shellingford Crossroads
- Grass verges – ask to be added to local area council meeting

Signed.....

Date.....

- Glebe Road – asking highways to add white line at junction with Joyces Road
- Cottage Road – asked for meeting with highways to walk the length – they walked it along and did not find issues
- Chapel Road pavement – OCC maintain that it is not sufficiently bad to repair – chasing
- Chaired meeting with villagers and cabinet member for transport about travel to King Alfred's
- Waiting for regulation 25 letter for Shellingford quarry – advice on what needs to be done before next consultation can take place

Raised by councillors:

- Bow Road footpath progress
- Thames Water dumped diggings on Church Green (from separate works) – council has asked for copy of permit which allowed them to do it.
- Cllr Evans will ask for the Thames Water report from Bow Road culvert investigation

06/05/26

Questions/comments from Parishioners

- Planning application 10a - missed footpaths on plans and footpath looks like it goes through the ménage

07/05/26

Election of Officers: a) Deputy Chair b) Hon Secretary c) Senior Councillor

a) ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. Middleton

SECONDED By Cllr. Kent

IT WAS RESOLVED that Cllr. Horrobin was elected as Vice Chair. All in favour

b) No one offered to be Hon Secretary

c) ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. Middleton

SECONDED By Cllr. Kent

IT WAS RESOLVED that Cllr. Isaacs was elected as Senior Councillor. All in favour.

08/05/26

To agree working groups for 26/27

- **Finance and Planning Committee** – all councillors are members by default – no resolution needed
- **Personnel Committee and Working groups** – deferred to next month when more councillors will be available

09/05/26

To appoint up to 4 PC members to Village Hall Management Committee

- Deferred to next month when more councillors will be available to volunteer

10/05/26

To discuss Planning Applications

a. P25/V0548/FUL – Rose Livery Stables – log cabin, wooden stables and ménage

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. Middleton

SECONDED By Cllr. Isaacs

IT WAS RESOLVED to COMMENT on the application:

The proposal has 4 elements to it: (1) a proposed dwelling in a log cabin; (2) a ménage; (3) 2 stable blocks and (4) access. Taking each element in turn:

Dwelling: The PC wishes to **OBJECT** to the dwelling element of the proposal for 4 principal reasons: 1) the residential dwelling element of the proposal constitutes inappropriate development in the countryside; (2) the 'log cabin' design and appearance are incongruous to its setting and the wider agricultural built form; (3) the rural exceptions case for development in the countryside has not been demonstrated to an extent that justifies or outweighs harm caused by departure from relevant planning policy; and (4) if the log cabin was to be deemed acceptable in terms of land use, it would be more appropriately located closer to the existing hardcore area.

Ménage: The PC has no objection to the proposed ménage as land use. However, it appears that parish footpath STA/FP-09 crosses proposed location. In the event that the ménage location and/or any other elements of the proposal conflict with the alignment of the definitive right of way, the parish would strongly object to its location. It would helpful to have the footpath routing clarified by the applicant and shown on the plans, bearing in mind that it is a definitive public right of way and should not be obstructed or diverted.

Stables: In relation to the 2 stable blocks proposed the PC has a concern, relating to their proposed siting: it would be more appropriate for these to be positioned in a linear way, alongside each other and facing out to the field from the western boundary. If there is an operational justification for these stables to be at an angle to one another, this should be 'handed' to face out to the field rather than facing back to the boundary.

Access: The PC is concerned about additional traffic using an access consented under class Q for three dwellings and would ask that the impact of an increase in vehicle movements be assessed, bearing in mind an access point with limited visibility.

b. P26/V0737/S73 – QE2 Recreation Field

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. Isaacs

SECONDED By Cllr. Lewis

IT WAS RESOLVED to SUPPORT the application with 1 abstention

11/05/26 To receive report of Chairman inc. items for next agenda

- I have replied to a parishioner about No Mow May, highlighting the steps we are taking within the parish to support nature and biodiversity – see correspondence.
- I've reported a damaged sluice valve sign on the junction of Huntersfield and High Street (immediately to the left of the noticeboard) on FixMyStreet.
- I've confirmed with the WI that they are happy to take over responsibility for the flower display in the planters at the junction of the A417 and High Street. They will tie up with the clerk around available budget and reimbursement of expenses for plants, compost etc. We may want to consider moving to a self-watering planter at the same time to save on labour during the summer months.

12/05/26 To receive correspondence and Clerk's Report

Correspondence – relevant copies are in the meeting correspondence folder

1. TTROs:

- a. A417 closure from High Street – Goosey 11-15 May from **4am to 6pm** for surface sealing (only 1-2 days required)

Signed.....

Date.....

- b. A417 closure from Ware Road roundabout – A420 from June 1st -6th overnight for Shellingford Crossroad works. Soft closure at Ware Rd roundabout – hard closure after Cottage Road.

2. OALC newsletter in folder
3. Letter received regarding No Mow May – Cllr. Middleton is responding
4. Complaint about visibility on turning right from Cottage Road onto A417 – handyman has mowed grass.
5. Resident emailed regarding FTTP to Bow Road estate – Mark Burgess at OCC has picked up.
6. VWHDC biodiversity report is in the folder
7. Thank-you letter received from VCI following donation

Clerk's report

1. Bow Road culvert investigation has completed. The contractors surveyed the area with cameras to build an underground topology. Report will now go to Thames Water for a decision on next steps.
2. Submitted the S106 application for the final Wayfinder Trail costs.
3. The mower has been serviced
4. New handyman has settled in very well – we have capacity to increase number of tasks allocated
5. I have sent a rent increase letter based on CPI to the Football Club
6. VWHDC planning portal is now live – more usable and informative, including ability to download all docs as a zip file (hooray). Some bugs still being ironed out.
7. Someone has been spraying weedkiller on footpaths and pavements around the village. I have put a notice in the boards to remind people that it is illegal without a licence, is causing harm to wildlife and pets and that we can address with our weed burner.
8. The shared drive has now migrated to Zoho Drive – we are working through access rights. Contact me if you need anything in the meantime.
9. Councillors now have .gov.uk email addresses and associated distribution lists – I am only using these to communicate now.
10. This month will be focussed on providing materials for the internal audit and preparing the accounts for the external audit.
11. Planning application decisions – none.

13/05/26 To approve Accounts for Payment

Stanford-in-the-Vale Parish Council

01 May 2026 (2026-2027)

PAYMENTS LIST

Vouche	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Payment Ref.	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
4		03/04/2026		Current Account (TSI		Village Hall Hire	SITV Village Hall		32.25		32.25
5		03/04/2026		Current Account (TSI		Google Drive subscription	Google Cloud EMEA		5.90		5.90
1		03/04/2026		Current Account (TSI		QEII Amendments to Phase 1	ASA Landscape Architects		700.00	140.00	840.00
2		03/04/2026		Current Account (TSI		QEII Additional works : annota	ASA Landscape Architects		800.00	160.00	960.00
3		03/04/2026		Current Account (TSI		QEII Phase 1 CDAs MMAA, Pha	RPS Tetratech		6,450.00	1,290.00	7,740.00
15		08/04/2026		Current Account (TSI		Monthly Floodlight Bill	Yu Energy		111.86	5.59	117.45
8		20/04/2026		Current Account (TSI		Zoho mail annual subscription	Zoho Corporation Limited		124.80	24.96	149.76
6		20/04/2026		Current Account (TSI		Replacement swing seat	Online Playgrounds		58.67	11.73	70.40
7		20/04/2026		Current Account (TSI		Postcrete for community woodl	Jude Bond		15.96		15.96
9		20/04/2026		Current Account (TSI		Monthly camera SIM subscrip	Lebara		7.33	1.47	8.80
11		24/04/2026		Current Account (TSI		Litter picker salary	Stephen Rolls		176.71		176.71
10		24/04/2026		Current Account (TSI		Clerk's Salary	Claire Lewis		1,383.83		1,383.83
13		24/04/2026		Current Account (TSI		HMRC employee tax and NI	HMRC - PAYE & NI		173.89		173.89
14		24/04/2026		Current Account (TSI		HMRC employer NI	HMRC - PAYE & NI		164.57		164.57
12		24/04/2026		Current Account (TSI		Handyman salary	Dave Rhodes		72.00		72.00
Total									10,277.77	1,633.75	11,911.52

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. Lewis

SECONDED BY Cllr. Isaacs

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Parish Council approves the accounts for payment. All in favour.

Signed.....

Date.....

Stanford-in-the-Vale Parish Council

A	Bank Reconciliation at 30/04/2026		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2026		113,120.99
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2026 - 30/04/2026		17,477.77
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2026 - 30/04/2026		130,598.76
	Cash in Hand 30/04/2026 (per Cash Book)		11,911.52
B			118,687.24
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Current Account (TSB) 30/04/2026	10,160.32	
	Savings Account (Redwood) 30/04/2026	52,833.96	
	CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund 30/04/2026	45,673.68	
B	HRBS Account 30/04/2026	10,019.28	
			118,687.24
	Less unrepresented payments		
			118,687.24
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
B	Adjusted Bank Balance		118,687.24
	A = B Checks out OK		

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. Isaacs

SECONDED By Cllr. Foulkes

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Parish Council approves the monthly statement of accounts. All in favour.

Signed.....

Date.....

- 15/05/26 To review FY24/26 financial performance**
Performance against budget was reviewed. Annual return being prepared.
- 16/05/26 To approve the external audit Annual Governance Statement 25/26 (AGAR Section 1)**
ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. Lewis
SECONDED BY Cllr. Foulkes
IT WAS RESOLVED to approve the Annual Governance Statement. All in favour.
- 17/05/26 To approve and adopt the Risk Register**
ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. Lewis
SECONDED BY Cllr. Isaacs
IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Risk Register. All in favour.
- 18/05/26 To approve expenditure on floodlighting consultancy for QEII**
ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. Silk
SECONDED BY Cllr. Isaacs
IT WAS RESOLVED to approve expenditure of up to £5000 from CIL for a floodlighting consultant to assess and inform the location and design of floodlighting and delegates the selection of consultant to the QEII working group.
- 19/05/26 To approve complaint letter to OCC regarding bridleway/strip wood**
ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. Lewis
SECONDED BY Cllr. Middleton
IT WAS RESOLVED that Cllr. Isaacs will write the letter
- 20/05/26 To consider an application to the VWHDC Climate Action Fund**
ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. Lewis
SECONDED BY Cllr. Kent
IT WAS RESOLVED to apply to the Fund. Cllr. Isaacs and Middleton to complete application.
- 21/05/26 To agree wildflower verges approach and agree communication to OCC**
Cllr. Isaacs to contact OCC and speak to parishioner
- 22/05/26 To discuss request to OCC to delineate cycle path and footpath on A417**
Councillors to monitor. Cllr. Isaacs to write to resident.
- 23/05/26 To discuss Millennium Green drugs issues and letter of complaint from school**
Cllr. Isaacs to schedule meeting with school
- 24/05/26 To receive an update on the cycle path to Faringdon**
Defer to next meeting
- 25/05/26 To receive an update on the Wayfinder Trail and approve purchase of a gazebo**
ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. Kent
SECONDED BY Cllr. Isaacs
IT WAS RESOLVED to spend up to £5800 on gazebo, maps and launch material from S106 funds
- 26/05/26 To receive update on grass verges and parking around the village**
Identified grass verges that need to be protected and those where cars should not be parking. Raised with Cllr. Lee and waiting for response from OCC. Will look at grasscrete solutions.

ON THE RESOLUTION OF Cllr. Lewis

SECONDED BY Cllr. Middleton

IT WAS RESOLVED to suspend standing orders to continue beyond 10pm

- 27/05/26 To receive update from the working group on budgets and precept**
Group has identified and spoken to parishes with similar demographics to understand the services provided and funding sources. Will report back quarterly.
- 28/05/26 Provisional date of next meeting – Wednesday 4th June 2025**
- 29/05/26 Questions/comments from parishioners**

Meeting finished at 22.10