

# STANTON LACY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Stanton Lacy Parish Council on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

**Members Present:** Cllrs Martin Finch (Chair), Margaret Davis, Emma Gatehouse, Robin Gatehouse, Jenna Hossbach, Phil Jones, Phil Parker, Corin Redman and Peter Williams.  
**In Attendance:** H Coonick (Clerk).

1. **Apologies for Absence and Acceptance of Apologies:** Cllr Cecilia Motley (Shropshire Council).
2. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** None
3. **Public involvement session.** No members of the public were in attendance.
4. **Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023.**  
**RESOLVED:** for the chair to sign the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting.
5. **Reports From Representatives:**
  - 5.1. Shropshire Council – Cllr Cecilia Motley had not sent a report.
  - 5.2. Stanton Lacy Village Hall – Cllr Phil Jones reported that the new heating system was working well. The New Years Eve event had been successful. There is a new treasurer, Jenna Hossbach and the previous one, Sarah Thomas had been thanked. There is an Abba Tribute Band in May and a Quiz Night in February.
  - 5.3. Louisa Powell Almshouses – Cllr Peter Williams had nothing to report.
  - 5.4. South Shropshire Area Committee – The Clerk reported that the January meeting had been delayed and a date had not yet been set.
6. **Parish Boundary Review:** The Clerk reported that Culmington Parish Council would like to resend the joint letter from both parishes to six properties in Vernolds Common giving them the opportunity to make comment on the suggested proposal to transfer from Stanton Lacy to Culmington Parish Councils.  
**RESOLVED:** for the Clerk to hand deliver a joint letter to six households in Vernolds Common.
7. **Update on the Telephone Box at Vernolds Common:** The Clerk reported that further information had been provided to British Telecom in support of the retention of the telephone box with telephony. The clerk will research methods of retaining the telephone box and report to the next meeting.
8. **Correspondence:**
  - 8.1. West Mercia PCC - Safer Roads Grant Round 2 Launch: Councillors had no suggestion for an application at this point.
9. **Outcome of the Meeting with Outdoor Partnerships Regarding Footpaths:** Cllr Emma Gatehouse reported that she had met with Brian Hickson, from Outdoor Partnerships. There were several issues of concern including incorrectly signed paths, the poor condition of stiles and overgrown paths. He will contact the landowners where necessary. He suggested that a Footpath Group is set up with the support of Outdoor Partnerships to maintain footpaths and bridleways across the parish.  
**RESOLVED:** that the Clerk apply for funding for the Footpath Group equipment and materials.
10. **Review and Adopt the Biodiversity Policy:**  
**RESOLVED:** to adopt the Policy.
11. **Finance:**
  - 11.1. Appoint an Auditor for 2024-2025 and Thank the Previous Auditor: The Parish Council would like to thank Mr Brian Cairns for his many years of service as the Internal Auditor. Mr Kevin Adams is an independent and competent replacement.  
**RESOLVED:** To send a gift and card to Mr Cairns and to appoint Mr Kevin Adams as Internal Auditor for 2024-2025.
  - 11.2. Authorise Payments:

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**RESOLVED:** D Lewis (inv448 for repairs to telephone box)£40, D Lewis (invs 449 and 454 Environmental Maintenance) £221, H Coonick (Clerk reimbursement for heating the hall in November and this meeting and stationery) £11.35

11.3. Adopt the Budget and Set the Precept: It is anticipated that the percentage increase for this year will be in the region of 11.6% or an additional £2.95 per year per Band D household. This is a larger increase than normal as there was no increase last year in recognition of the difficult financial climate for households. A brief report will be placed in Ripples explaining the reason for the increase.

**RESOLVED:** to set a budget of £4,787 and to request a precept of £4,677.

**12. Agenda Items for the next meeting: a. Emergency Planning. b. Parish Boundaries c. Telephone Box at Vernolds Common**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th March 2024 at 7.30pm.

**Please note the date of this meeting is not as usual on a Thursday.**

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

[www.stantonlacyparish.org](http://www.stantonlacyparish.org) email: [stantonlacypc@gmail.com](mailto:stantonlacypc@gmail.com) Tel: 07817607355

Signed:

(Chair) Date: