

Minutes of Laceby Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting
Held at the Stanford Centre, Cooper Lane Laceby on Tuesday 4th May 2021 at 7.30pm

12657 Present: Chair – Cllr B Metcalf
Cllr S Greenbeck, Cllr D Johnson, Cllr S Turner, Cllr R Barford, Ward Cllr D Hasthorpe

Also present: Clerk – Nicola Ashton

Apologies: Cllr R James, Cllr P Schofield, Cllr J Dixon, Cllr L Emerson

Due to the covid19 pandemic, this meeting was a closed meeting to the public.

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Apologies were accepted by those present.

12658 Chairs Report

Cllr Metcalf provided a report for the year for all Councillors:

Firstly, I must thank all the councillors of Laceby PC for their hard work and commitment to the village of Laceby. Thanks must also go to Nicola our Clerk, who has worked conscientiously to keep us all on track and has to cope with more work because of covid-19.

The Parish Council has provided benches in the Cemetery, also a new mower, brushcutter and trimmer to maintain the Cemetery.

In September 2020 the new War Memorial was finally erected, followed by the resurfacing of the road in the Cemetery. The Cemetery is now a place to be proud of.

At St Margaret's Church the old floodlights and cages have been replaced, the new bulbs will be more economical. The Parish Council continue to provide a Christmas tree each year.

Unfortunately, the carol service had to be cancelled because of covid-19; hopefully it will go ahead this year.

The celebration which was to be held in May to celebrate VE day also had to be cancelled. This was a disappointment to all involved in the organisation of the event.

This year to commemorate VE day the Parish Council have purchased 6 'Unknown Tommy' figures that have been positioned around the village; 3 at the entrances to the village, 1 at St Margaret's Church, 1 at the Cemetery and 1 at the Stanford Centre.

The Parish Council continue to employ a cemetery keeper, Alf, who does a marvellous job to keep our cemetery looking splendid. The litter picker, Lynnden, has now been provided with a new barrow which will allow him to recycle more of the litter. Lynnden is out working most days to keep our streets clean.

We now have to find projects for the coming year, the first is the installation of the exercise equipment which has now been ordered.

12659 Stanford Trust Report

Cllr Greenbeck reported on the Stanford Trust:

It's been a quiet year for the Stanford Trust (like everyone) with only meeting twice because of covid-19.

A huge celebration was to have taken place for the tercentenary (300 years) but with covid, it had to be scaled back. The Trust did manage to have a very nice weekend last October where villagers and children came to view the beautiful art work in the Stanford Centre.

Founder's Day was cancelled last year, and again this year. Last year all the pupils received a commemorative mug and 50p. Founder's Day this year, the pupils will receive their 50p in the school instead of going to St Margaret's Church.

The Trust continues to support young people with grants for their apprenticeships and University students.

The Trust continues to support Laceby Stanford School with various projects – e.g. laptops.

The dilapidations of the Stanford Centre is ongoing but a lot has been done.

Mr Brian Lingard has resigned / retired as the Trustee member and Chair of the Stanford Trust; Mr Nigel Morrison is the new Chair.

Mrs Maureen Foot has also resigned / retired as St Margaret's representative of the Philip and Sarah Stanford Charity; Mrs Ann Scott will now take up this position.

Hopefully in the future things will get back to normal.

12660 Stanford Charity Report

Cllr Johnson confirmed that the Stanford Charity had again made awards to help older people, however the emphasis has now switched to assisting more younger families in need. The fund last year helped numerous younger families in need and some of the older residents – of the Parish.

12661 Brooks Charity Report

Cllr Turner reported that funds had been provided by the Charity in the last year, this charity offered support to women over 40 who are 'in need'. Cllr Turner confirmed that the fund currently stood at £3960.23.

12662 Community Centre Report

It was acknowledged that Cllr Schofield normally provides this report, however Cllr Turner was able to confirm that the Community Centre account currently stood at £32,486.36 and this was mainly due to the donations from the Solar Fund. There are works still ongoing and Cllr Turner confirmed that the Community Centre will need a new roof and that this would deplete the bank account; more money/funding was likely to be needed to fund the works. At present the Community Centre group were currently looking at quotes for the works.

12663 Police Report

No report was available for the meeting. It was agreed to permanently remove this item from the agenda.

12664 Footpath / Tree Warden Report

As this was now the responsibility of all Councillors, it was agreed to permanently remove this item from the agenda.

12665 St Francis Grove Play Area Report

Works have been completed over the last year to repair and maintain the equipment at the St Francis Grove, and it seems we are continuously battling the damage to the equipment and ensure it is safe to use. The basket swing is on order and the repair work to the wetpour surface is also planned. The new exercise equipment is on order; Cllr Metcalf confirmed the items that had been ordered.

12666 Stanford Centre Report

Cllr Metcalf reported:

- The new blinds were installed.
- Covid-19 meant that room lettings were nil.

- The library opened at the end of the first lockdown, closing again at Christmas. It is now open again on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. It has not been too busy, but it is getting busier.
- We successfully applied to the Solar Fund for £5063 to purchase a laptop for use by the group to do admin etc and to buy more books including large print books.
- Because the Stanford Centre has had no income for the most of last year, it has had to use up most of the funds to pay energy bills, insurance etc.
- Balance as at the 9/4/21 was £5993.89 of which £5063 is grant money already allocated. We have just over £600 in our current account to work with. We are therefore going to ask the Parish Council to fund us for energy bills for the last year which amounted to over £2000.

Action The Clerk will add this to the agenda for the next meeting.

12667 Allotment Report

The Clerk reported that the allotments had had another great year and confirmed that there was now a waiting list of 6 people waiting for a plot with enquiries coming in all the time.

The meeting was declared closed at 7.45pm, by the Chair.

Signed:

Chair

Dated: