

Minutes of Laceby Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting
Held at the Stanford Centre, Cooper Lane Laceby on Tuesday 3rd May 2022 at 7.30pm

- 12870 Present:** Chair – Cllr B Metcalf
Cllr S Greenbeck, Cllr D Johnson, Cllr S Turner, Cllr R Barford, Cllr R James,
Cllr P Schofield, Cllr L Emerson
- Also present:** Clerk – Nicola Ashton
- 2 members of the public**
- Apologies:** Ward Cllr D Hasthorpe, Cllr J Dixon

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

12871 Chairs Report

Cllr Metcalf provided a report for the year:

Firstly, I must thank all the parish councillors for their efforts during this past year. Also thanks to our Cemetery keeper and litter picker for their hard work. Our Clerk deserves a big thank you for all her hard work and for keeping us legal.

Laceby Parish Council has continued to support Laceby in Bloom through a donation of £500, we also supported the Stanford Centre, who received a donation of £2289.34 to cover the energy costs during covid.

We welcomed a delegation of residents from Laceby and Grimsby to listen to their objections to the Grimsby West development and we gave our support to this cause. The Parish Council took part in this year's Remembrance Sunday parade, the first one that the PC organised. This year we purchased 100 poppies to put on lampposts in the village.

In November we had our first meeting of the Queen's Jubilee committee where representatives from Laceby organisations attended. It was decided that we should have an event on the Thursday 2nd June to light the beacon, and a picnic on the Sunday 5th June.

The Parish Council annual Christmas tree light switch on was well attended with over 100 attendees. Mulled wine and mince pies went down well.

Following the erection of a new War Memorial a booklet was produced to mark the occasion.

Work at St Francis Grove play area has seen the installation of gym equipment for the use of all residents. A new piece of equipment has been added to the children's area and we have agreed and instructed our contractor to enlarge the play area and install a new slide and a roundabout which can accommodate a wheelchair or pushchair.

The Co-op have now received permission to convert the pubs to a convenience store and we have managed to persuade them to keep the carpark open for public parking and that the parking will be free.

We are now looking forward to the Queen's Jubilee celebrations when we will be decorating the square and other roads with bunting and I hope we will all have a great weekend.

12872 Stanford Trust Report

Cllr Greenbeck reported on the Stanford Trust:

The Stanford Trust have only met twice in the last year as there were still concerns about the covid pandemic.,

Founders Day in May 2021, was cancelled because of covid so Mr David Hasthorpe, a Trustee and Mayor of NE Lincolnshire at the time went into the school and gave the pupils a nice talk and explained about the Sarah and Philip Stanford Trust.

The Trust continued to support young people with grants for either apprenticeships or University.

The Trust also continues to support the Laceby Stanford School with various requests.

The Trustee's of the Sarah and Philip Stanford Charity are myself (Cllr Greenbeck), Cllr Johnson and Mrs Anne Scott who replaced Mrs Maureen Foot on her retirement.

12873 Stanford Charity Report

Cllr Johnson confirmed that the Stanford Charity had again made grants from the Stanford Charity fund to help both older people and also young families with children who were struggling. Cllr Johnson advised that they had retained some funds to enable them to help support people in need throughout the year.

12874 Brooks Charity Report

Cllr Turner reported that the charity had made 1 grant during the year, and now have £3,401.37 in the bank. The group has not met during the year due to covid. It was noted that the stipulations of the grant were quite rigid and this impacted on who they could help; this charity offers support to women over 40 who are 'in need'.

12875 Community Centre Report

Cllr Schofield advised that the Community Centre was in the process of putting a new roof on the centre. A grant has been received from the Solar Farm for £20k and that the bank balance was £52,138.36 (including the grant). Work needs to be done regarding traffic management whilst the roof is placed and as the hall is in a conservation area, they will be re slating the roof; it is not known what will be found when the current roof is taken off. Cllr Schofield confirmed to Cllr Emerson that there was not asbestos to be considered.

12876 St Francis Grove Play Area Report

The Chairs report covered the St Francis Grove play area. It was noted that there was still vandalism at the site and that Cllr Greenbeck and Cllr Johnson continued to provide checks on the site and repair any vandalism, breakage or wear and tear of the equipment.

12877 Stanford Centre Report

Cllr Metcalf advised that Val Brumfield had provided the report for tonight:

Following the break for the Covid pandemic, the Stanford Centre very quickly became open for the use of the local community. The Library is open on two days per week. Tuesday and Thursday from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. and is used by a wide range of people from very young toddlers who attend with parents and grandparents to retired villagers/shift workers/home workers who are able to visit during the weekdays.

Libraries throughout history have been used as knowledge institutions but we need to look to the future generations and as such we welcome toddlers and babies into the library to play, read and enjoy craft facilities. Many children do not want to leave and cry when it is time to go! The library is fast becoming a centre for the development of knowledge and community. It is seen as a safe, free place in which to read, chat, use the computers and meet with friends.

The main hall of the Stanford Centre has become a thriving place for a wide variety of educational activities, as per a list of users supplied to the Stanford Trustees at their last meeting. We see the hall as an important hub for community learning activities and also act as a social meeting place.

Thanks to the support of the Parish Council financially, we have been able to ride the closure period caused by Covid and with the increase in user groups are seeing the bank balance steadily build.

The whole building is looking much brighter and even one of the Engineers visiting on behalf of the Local Authority, commented on the improved look and feel. We look forward to having the washroom/toilet facilities improved in the very near future. All work will be overseen by the Local Authority team Equans for which we must pay a percentage fee.

The group has held meetings in accordance with the constitution and has updated the Risk Assessments, Insurance, has regular legionella water checks, electrical checks, etc as routine. Financial records are kept and are being prepared for Audit.

In addition to the report Val had provided a list of the users of the Stanford Centre, which are vast and include various groups offering exercise from boxercise to tai chi , dance classes, choir, crafts, meeting rooms for the Trustees, Laceby in Bloom & the Parish Council and had a very close working relationship with the school.

The dilapidations report demonstrated that the Stanford Group had completed much of the work required for the general upkeep of the centre from grants they had applied for. They have installed a central heating system, completed electrical & H&S checks, new computers, vertical blinds, furniture and were now in the process of replacing the toilets. The Trustees have also provided the art work for the main hall.

12878 Allotment Report

The Clerk reported that the allotments had had another great year and confirmed that there was still a high demand and waiting list for a plot with enquiries coming in all the time and it was felt that covid and the increasing household costs were what was driving the need for allotments. The Parish Council considered whether to extend the allotments, but it was felt that this would not be feasible at this time.

12879 Public Question Time

Q1 – would it be possible to ask the BMW garage to landscape and upkeep the entrance to the village as it looks a eyesore?

It was explained that this was NELC land and part of the highway. Cllr Barford questioned whether Laceby in Bloom could make a feature of the entrance (as Caistor Road) and then ask BMW to provide the water as watering the plants would be a problem. This to be considered, but Laceby in Bloom desperately needs volunteers to support the work that is done.

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

Signed:
Chair

Dated: