

Stoneleigh & Ashow Joint Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Thursday 9th May 2019
At Stoneleigh Village Hall at 7.00 pm

PRESENT:

Cllr R Hancox
 Cllr J Astle
 Cllr D Jack
 Cllr A Bianco
 Cllr P Redford
 Cllr W Redford
 Cllr T Wright (arrived 7.17)

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr S Williams

There were 3 members of the public present.

1. Appointment of Chairman and Vice Chairman

R Hancox proposed for Chairman by Cllr Bianco and seconded by Cllr Jack. This was unanimously agreed.

J Astle proposed for Deputy Chair by Cllr Bianco and seconded by Cllr Jack. This was unanimously agreed.

2. Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr Hancox signed a formal Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Chairman.

Cllr Astle signed a formal Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Deputy Chairman.

Cllrs Jack and Bianco signed the formal Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Cllr Hancox proposed a resolution that Cllr Williams sign her formal Declaration of Office at the next meeting, and this was agreed.

3. Declaration of Interest

Councillors' attention was drawn to the following Declaration of Interest, which will continue to be printed on all Agendas issued.

Councillors are reminded importance of making declarations of interest in respect of any items appearing on the Agenda, preferably at the beginning of the Meeting. In the event of your interest being a disclosable pecuniary interest, you are reminded that you should leave the room during discussion on the item unless a dispensation has been obtained.

4. Chairman's Allowance

It was unanimously resolved that the Chairman's allowance for the year would be £80.

5. Committees of the Council

It was agreed that there will be no committees.

6. External Committees

The appointments for the following committees were as follows:

Stoneleigh Village Hall & Playing Fields Trust	Councillor Hancox
The Leigh Educational Foundation	Councillor Williams
Trustees of the Stoneleigh United Charities	Councillor Hancox
Dame Alice Leigh's Almshouses, Stoneleigh	David Franklin and Suzanne Crofts to be re-appointed as Representative Trustees for a further 4 years.

7. Reports

- A written report was received from the Village Hall Committee, annexed at page 3.
 - A written report was received from the Dame Alice Leigh's Almshouses, Stoneleigh, annexed at page 4.
 - A written report was received from the Trustees of the Stoneleigh United Charities, annexed at page 6.
 - A written report was received from the Leigh Educational Foundation, annexed at page 7.
- Ask Sarah how many young people were supported through the Leigh Educational Foundation and for some follow up information about people who have been supported.

8. Calendar of Meetings

The dates listed below for meetings of the Council for the Council year May 2019 to April 2020 were approved. – annexed at page 8.

9. Closure

Business being completed, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.30 p.m.

Stoneleigh Village Hall**Chairman's Report to the Annual General Meeting – April 2019**

Thank you to all the committee for their support and help over the past year.

The year has been good, bookings are doing well. There is always ongoing maintenance to the hall and grounds. We have had the car park lines repainted as well as no overnight parking signs and the kitchen worktops mended.

The hall is now on face book as well as the Stoneleigh website.

“Jean’s Bench” has now been placed by the play activities. This is in memory of Jean Fardo who was a committee member for many years.

No overnight parking signs are now placed around the car park.

We are in the process of putting a permissive path around the playing field.

Further projects are rein the pipe line for this year.

Denis Craddock has stepped down from the Stoneleigh Village Hall Committee. I would like to thank him for all his years of help and support he has given to the hall.

Lynne Fletcher (Chair)

Dame Alice Leigh's Almshouses Trustee's Report – Activities during the year 2018.

During 2018 the Charity has produced The Resident's Handbook to ensure that the Dame Alice Leigh's Almshouse complies with all the latest legislation including; GDPR, social housing and charity regulations specified by the Charity Commission.

The Charity continued to provide accommodation for residents in the ancient parish of Stoneleigh.

No 8 Almshouse was vacant from 14th April 2018 to 1st June 2018.

No 1 Almshouse was vacant from 13th Oct 2018 to 23rd Dec 2018.

All Almshouses were occupied at the end of the year.

In 2017, during routine repair work extensive cracking was discovered to the chimney of No 1 Almshouse. In 2018 Croft Construction were engaged and the chimney was completely dismantled and rebuilt using new ashlar stones where necessary.

Trustees have continued with day to day repairs as well as remedial and modernisation work to the Almshouses. Although damp has been largely brought under control it is under constant surveillance by the Clerk.

Brad Steele, a Master Stonemason was engaged to carry out routine maintenance to stonework during the year. This has included repairs identified in the last Quinquennial Report and additional lime mortar repointing was carried out.

Routine electrical maintenance has included portable appliance testing of all resident's and charity owned electrical appliances.

The Almshouse is a listed building and therefore does not need to comply with the 2018 'Minimum Level of Energy Efficiency' standard (EPC band E). Nevertheless, Trustees decided that it was appropriate to review the existing heating systems.

It was decided to replace existing economy 7 storage heaters with the latest range of economy 7 storage heaters to improve heating efficiency at lower cost. All Almshouses now have up to date heaters and residents report on much improved warmth and controllability.

Routine plumbing maintenance has involved the installation of new immersion heaters and new stop taps have been installed at all Almshouses.

Garden maintenance has included regular mowing of lawns and hedge trimming.

The Almshouse Trust has continued its support of local charities with donations to

Shakespeare Hospice

The Addington Fund

Waverley Day Centre

Warwickshire Vision Support

The Ups of Downs

The Trust has increased charitable donations to support needy people living in the Ancient Parish of Stoneleigh through the Together for Change initiative and the Coventry Children's Boot fund.

Together for Change (TFC) is a joint venture charity between the Diocese of Coventry and the Church Urban Fund. Together For Change is working with churches and other public & private sector groups in order to transform the communities of Coventry and Warwickshire and tackle systematic poverty. In the three years since the inception of this project, the Churches in Tile Hill have set up and grown a range of projects supporting needy people in the community. The Job Club and MakeLunch project are among notable successes. This year donations have also been made to SportPlus which engages young people in an area where Coventry City Council closed youth services.

The Coventry Children's Boot Fund started in 1893 with the object of providing boots to children in poverty so that they could attend school. The fund has served Coventry's poorest children through two world wars, the depression of the 30's and the up's and down's of the 20th century. Even today many children attend school wearing worn out leaking shoes in winter, because their parents cannot afford to replace them. Then you realise that the Boot Fund is as relevant today as it was over a hundred years ago.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

THE DAME ALICE LEIGH'S ALMSHOUSE

Accounts year end to the 31st December 2018

INCOME

Contributions	37,171.59
Grant From Duchess Dudley Charity	21,412.00
Bank Interest	2.40
Total Income	58,585.99

EXPENDITURE

Donations	-21,846.00
Governance Costs	-648.00
Housing Management Costs	-10,122.76
Repairs & Maintenance Costs	-50,589.29
Service Costs	-22,776.41
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Total Expenditure	105,982.46

SURPLUS/DEFECIT	-47,396.47
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STONELEIGH UNITED CHARITIES
2019 Report for Annual Parish Council Meeting

The ancient charities of Stoneleigh were combined in 1970 to become Stoneleigh United Charities. Details of the original bequests can be seen inscribed on the balcony in Stoneleigh Church.

The purpose of the charity is to provide financial assistance to those in the villages of Stoneleigh, Ashow and Stareton who are in need.

The United charity receives its income from interest on its long term investments and two generous donations each year from the estate charity of Duchess Dudley. The charity also receives a donation each year from Coventry Mummers following their performance at Stoneleigh on Boxing Day.

The Charity is administered by a Clerk to the trustees and a board of eight trustees.

In the past the charity has helped towards costs such as hospital visits, emergency property repairs, winter heating costs and emergency advances. Every Christmas the charity makes donations to elderly local villagers and those who have come to their attention as being in need, or perhaps having had a particularly hard year.

The charity also makes annual contributions to larger local charities as a way of supporting residents who may have use of these. In 2018 the charity supported the following local charities: Air Ambulance, Myton Hospice, The Addington Fund (supporting farmers in need), The Friends of Warwick Hospital and The Salvation Army (Leamington Branch). A donation was also made to the Ashow organ repair appeal.

The charity welcomes requests for support from the residents of the three villages, or perhaps from their neighbours on their behalf. These requests will be considered at the biannual meetings, or more quickly if there is an emergency. The Clerk to the trustees is Sue Wareham, to whom initial enquiries for assistance should be made, she may be contacted by phone on: 01608 654299 or by email: smwareham@gmail.com

Annual Report from the Leigh Educational Foundation

Sarah Williams
Ashow Parish Councillor

The LEF continues to work for young people under 25 from Stoneleigh, Ashow, Leek Wootton and Burton Green by providing financial support and assistance for school/educational trips both home and abroad, school uniform and equipment, university/college/training expenses and grants to schools, teams and youth groups of all kinds.

The Foundation has granted over £45,000 to such causes during the year 2018/9.

The LEF continues to update its own website throughout the year:
www.leigheducationalfoundation.org.uk. Applicants can now find application forms to fill in and submit online or the clerk can still be contacted by phone and asked to post out application forms.

Contact details of the clerk:-

Email: admin@leigheducationalfoundation.org.uk

Telephone: 01926 419300 / 07831 816638

Stoneleigh and Ashow Joint Parish Council

Calendar of meetings 2019-2020

All meetings start at 7 pm unless stated otherwise

April 11 th 2019	Ashow Village Club
May 9 th 2019	Stoneleigh Village Hall (AGM)
June 13 th 2019	Ashow Village Club
July 11 th 2019	Stoneleigh Village Hall
August 2019	No meeting
September 12 th 2019	Stoneleigh Village Hall
October 10 th 2019	Ashow Village Club
November 14 th 2019	Stoneleigh Village Hall
December 12 th 2019	Ashow Village Club
January 9 th 2020	Stoneleigh Village Hall
February 13 th 2020	Ashow Village Club
March 12 th 2020	Stoneleigh Village Hall
April 9 th 2020	Ashow Village Club
May 14 th 2020	Stoneleigh Village Hall

Members of the public are invited to attend.

The agenda, including all planning applications, will be published on the Parish Council website at least 3 working days before the next meeting.

<http://stoneleighashowparishcouncil.btck.co.uk/>

Clerk: Hannah Watts

Email: stoneleighashowparishcouncil@gmail.com