STANFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 11 November 1997
in the Parish Room

Present: Cllr J Dadswell (Chairman)
Cllr D Holt (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr A Dadswell
Cllr E Holt
Cllr N Gershon
Mrs G Howard (Clerk)
Cllr S Newlands (SDC)
PC T Greaves (Community Police Officer)
Mr K Hull (Neighbourhood Watch)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
There were no apologies for absence.

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 25 SEPTEMBER 1997
The Chairman signed the Minutes as a correct record.

3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
3.1 Millenium Celebrations
The Clerk had for a second time asked residents, through the Parish Magazine, for ideas if SDC had money available for local projects, and again had received no response. Cllr Newlands said that Lympne Parish Council were negotiating with a local landowner to acquire land for a picnic area. She suggested that Stanford Parish Council might talk with a local landowner.

It was agreed to write to SDC thanking them for their correspondence and explaining that the Parish Council would contact them if any suggestions were made nearer the time.

3.2 Planning Applications - The Old Mill, Kennett Lane, Stanford North 97/0240/SH & 97/0241/SH.
The Parish Council had written to SDC requesting a copy of the work programme, both on the interior and exterior work, on the above property. However, the Parish Council had so far received only an acknowledgement card.

It was agreed to follow the matter up with SDC.

3.3 Parish Notice Board
Cllr D Holt offered to contact a carpenter regarding a new notice board.

3.4 Shepway District Local Plan
The Chairman and Cllr Gershon had attended an interesting and informative meeting with the SDC planning team.

3.5 97/0656/SH - Stanford Interchange, Junction 11, M20
Outline planning application for a Business Park and Hotel
The Parish Council had written to Saltwood Parish Council to ask its views. Saltwood Parish Council had replied, saying that it had opposed the application in that the proposed development was over-intensive and would create a great deal of extra traffic through Saltwood.
3.6 Kent Health Authorities’ Support Agency
New Pharmacy Application - Unit 4, Stanford Motorway Service Area
The Parish Council had received copies of all the responses to the application from other interested bodies.

The Parish Council had opposed the application by 3 votes to 2.

3.7 Shepway Civic Service - 19 October 1997
None of the Parish Councillors had been able to attend.

3.8 Parish Clerks’ Meeting - 24 September 1997
The Clerk had been unable to attend but had requested a copy of the Minutes.

3.9 Road Sign - Kennett Lane
The Parish Council had been informed by Kent Highways that the road sign at the top of Kennett Lane was being replaced.

4 PLANNING
4.1 97/0776/SH - Stanford House (Land adjacent), Stone Street, Stanford North
Application for approval of reserved matters relating to means of access in respect of Outline Planning Permission 92/0249/SH.

The Parish Council voted unanimously to oppose the application.

However, should it be necessary to give conditional support, the Parish Council made the following stipulations: - The development should be limited to one family dwelling per plot; neither dwellings should be occupied for commercial operations; the shrubbery & bushes that form the southern boundary and separate the site from Hazelyn are retained completely; access is only allowed from Stone Street as shown on drawing 96/15/05; no access to be permitted from the "Farmers’ Bridge"; no access to the large backland area generally demarcated in blue on drawing 96/15/01 from either Stone Street or the Farmers' Bridge ramps or slip road; no development allowed in the large backland area shown on drawing 96/15/01; plots 1 & 2 should be contained as shown on the drawing 96/15/05; no developments or works should be allowed in any way that may jeopardise the flow of the stream/Lesser Stour River.

4.2 97/0778/SH - Woodcote (Land adjacent), Stone Street, Stanford North
Outline application for the erection of a detached dwelling.

The Parish Council supported the application provided that it was restricted to one dwelling.

4.3 97/0873/SH - Granville (Land rear of), Stone Street, Westenhanger
Outline application for the erection of a dwelling.

The Chairman reported that the owners of Granville strongly opposed the application as the only access to the land was along their drive. A previous planning application had been refused.

The Chairman and Cllr A Dadswell declared an interest in the matter as their property was adjacent to the land.

The application was circulated to Parish Councillors for them to study.

5 FINANCE
5.1 Parish Council Triennial Audit
The District Auditor had approved and signed the Parish Council’s accounts for the period 1 April 1994 to 31 March 1997.

5.2 Appointment of a Responsible Officer
The District Auditor had pointed out that the Parish Councillor must formally appoint a Responsible Officer.

The Clerk was appointed.
5.3 VAT - Claim for refund for period 1 October 1993 to 31 January 1997
The Clerk had applied for a refund of £53.36 for the above period.

5.4 Bank Mandate and Change in Banking Arrangements
Due to changes in NatWest banking arrangements and the appointment of a new Parish Councillor it was necessary for all the councillors to sign a new Mandate. The Clerk would circulate it.

5.5 Photo-copying
Due to the fact that the lady who had previously photo-copied the Parish Council's Minutes had married and moved away, it was necessary to make alternative arrangements. The Clerk reported that she had been in contact with Parochial Church Council members of All Saints' Church, Stanford who agreed that the Minutes could be photo-copied on the church machine at lower cost than having them copied commercially - possibly 5p a copy, to be paid on a quarterly basis.

The Parish Council agreed to use the church photo-copier.

5.6 SDC - Concurrent Services Grant and Precept 1998/99
The Parish Council was making no request for a Concurrent Services Grant.
It was agreed to request a Precept of £600.00 for 1998/99.

5.7 Fordred Charity
The Parish Council had received a cheque for £120.00 which had been banked.
It was agreed to leave the decision on the distribution of the money until the next meeting.

6 RAILWAY CORRIDOR
6.1 SDC - Briefing Note 95 & Letter regarding Consultation Period
The Chairman reported that three trial borings were being carried out.
It was agreed that he should ask for further information.

6.2 SDC - Dollands Moor Lighting
SDC and villages adjacent to Dollands Moor were keen to reduce light pollution on the site.

It was agreed to write to SDC supporting their project.

7 CORRESPONDENCE
It was agreed to circulate all the Correspondence to Parish Councillors.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS
8.1 Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Cllr Newlands reported that she now represented SDC on matters concerning AONB.

8.2 Belmont, Stone Street, Stanford North
Cllr Gershon reported that local residents were concerned that rules governing the operation of Belmont as a care home were possibly not being followed. It was felt that there might be more than the permitted six residential clients. If this were so, nearby parishioners were anxious that security levels should be adequate in order to protect the clients and neighbours. Concern had also been expressed at the degree of incapacity of the clients; neighbours would like to be aware of exactly what sort of individual Belmont catered for. It had originally been stated that the clients would be aged 16-23 but there were people there with young children.

The Parish Council agreed to request that privacy levels should be maintained. An immediate neighbour reported that trees had been removed at the back of Belmont, thus removing the screening between Belmont and his land.

Cllr Newlands said that if it were found that there were more than six residential clients, then Social Services could be consulted.

The Parish Council agreed to write to SDC planning department expressing the
Parish’s concerns and asking SDC to address the points of concern.

8.3 Westenhanger Station
Mr Hull reported that there were still occasional inaccuracies on the electronic indicator board.
He was distributing new railway timetables to every house in the village.
He said cars were still being stolen from the station car park and some had been broken into.

8.4 Neighbourhood Watch
Mr Hull said that everybody in the village should receive a free quarterly copy of "The Voice", a new Neighbourhood Watch paper.
There had been a very swift police response when somebody was seen trying to break into a car at Folkestone Racecourse.
Cllr Newlands said that she had asked that the Railway Police be invited to attend local Police Liaison Meetings.

8.5 Stanford Parish Room
Cllr E Holt had contacted one of the remaining Trustees of the Parish Room, regarding the bad state of the kitchen, and she had agreed to contact a local builder.
The Chairman said he had asked to see the Parish Room accounts but had received no response. He wondered if it might not be better for the Parish Room to appoint its own Trustees and committee and leave the Parish Council out of it.

Cllr Newlands pointed out that, unlike individual Trustees, parish councils did not die. She suggested that Mr Robert Spicer, as the last Trustee, should invite the Parish Council to be the Trustees, which could be constituted under the old Deed.
The Chairman agreed to follow up the matter of the accounts and to try to convene a meeting.

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING
The next meeting was arranged for Friday, 5 December 1997, at 6pm.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 7.40pm.