

Accessibility statement for Stocklinch Parish Council

(As required by Public Sector Bodies Accessibility Regulations 2018)

The Stocklinch Parish Council's website is a sub-part of the Stocklinch Village Website. This site is run by the village for the benefit of the village and those interested in Stocklinch. Our aim is that as many people as possible should be able to use the Parish Council's area of the website. This means, by using various tools, you should be able to:

1. change colours, contrast levels and fonts
2. zoom in up to 200% without the text spilling off the screen
3. navigate most of the website using just a keyboard
4. navigate most of the website using speech recognition software
5. listen to most of the website using a screen reader (including the most recent versions of JAWS, NVDA and VoiceOver)

We have also attempted to make the website content as easy as possible to understand.

Customising the website for accessibility

If you have a disability, AbilityNet, an external website, has guidance on how you may make your device easier to use. To ensure you can customise your device to meet your needs, you may need, initially, to ask an able-bodied family member or friend to assist you.

[AbilityNet - My computer my way](#)

With a few simple steps you can customise the appearance of our website to make it easier to read and navigate.

Improving accessibility and settings for internet browsers

To improve 'Accessibility' in Edge, Chrome, Firefox and Safari, you may need to install specific plugins. This is quite simple and easy to do on your own devices please click on the browser you use to obtain further information,

- [Internet Explorer](#)
- [Windows Edge](#)
- [Chrome](#)
- [Firefox](#)
- [Safari](#)

Our website and accessibility

We know some parts of our website are not fully accessible:

- some parts may not be fully compatible with screen readers
- you may not be able to access all content by using the keyboard alone
- not all media will have a transcript or be subtitled
- some text may not reflow in a single column when you change the size of the browser window and at certain levels of magnification
- some older PDF documents are not fully accessible to screen reader software

Accessibility problems with this website

If you need information on this website in a different format like accessible PDF or large print or, if you have any problems not listed in this document, please contact the Parish Council Clerk via www.stocklinch.org.uk/ParishCouncil.html or please: [CLICK HERE](#)

Enforcement procedure

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) is responsible for enforcing the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018 (the 'accessibility regulations'). If you are unhappy with how we respond to your complaint, please contact the Equality Advisory and Support Service (EASS) directly.

[Contact details for the Equality Advisory and Support Service \(EASS\)](#)

Technical information about this website's accessibility

This website is partially compliant with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1 AA standard, due to the non-compliances listed below.

The full guidelines are available at:

[Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1](#)

Noncompliance with the accessibility regulations

The following items do not comply with the WCAG 2.1 AA success criteria

- It is not possible to use a keyboard to access all the content
[2.1 - Keyboard accessible](#)
- Some information uses an image rather than text itself so that it's not compatible with screen readers and other assistive technology
[1.4.5 - Images of text](#)
- Most tooltips disappear as soon as the cursor moves. Also tooltips are not always present for all icons and images.
[1.4.13 - Content on Hover or Focus](#)
- There may not be sufficient colour contrast between font and background colours especially where the text size is small.
[1.4.3 - Contrast \(Minimum\)](#)
- Visual information to identify user interface components, such as keyboard focus, may not always have a sufficient contrast ratio
[1.4.11 - Non-text contrast](#)
- Pre-recorded video media may not have alternative media that presents equivalent information e.g. audio track with description of the action in a video with no sound
[1.2.1 - Audio-only and Video-only \(Prerecorded\)](#)
- Video content where present, may not have subtitles or subtitles.
[1.2.2 - Captions \(Prerecorded\)](#)

Noncompliance with the accessibility regulations (*cont*)

- Not all our PDF's and Word documents meet accessibility standards. From May 2020 onwards we are looking at how we may improve the accessibility of these documents.

[1.1.1 - Non-text Content](#)

[2.4.5 - Multiple Ways](#)

[1.3.2 - Meaningful Sequence](#)

[1.4.5 - Images of Text](#)

- It might not be possible where form fields are used, to be programmatically determined. This means that when using auto-fill functionality for forms, not all fields will be identified
- We have inserted a 'Skip to Text' link on our web pages to permit the bypass of headers and pictures.

PDFs and other documents

Many of our older PDFs and Word documents do not meet accessibility standards - for example, they may not be structured so they are accessible to a screen reader. This does not meet WCAG 2.1 success criterion 4.1.2 (name, role value) and we do not plan to make these accessible. *Please see our Disproportionate Burden Section.*

[WCAG 2.1 success criterion 4.1.2 \(name, role value\)](#)

We will endeavour to ensure all new PDFs or Word documents we publish meet accessibility standards.

The accessibility regulations do not require us to fix PDFs or other documents published before 23 September 2018 if they are not essential to providing our services. For example, we do not plan to fix material such as papers published before 2018.

[Regulations for PDFs or other documents published before 23 September 2018](#)

Disproportionate burden

We have assessed that it would be a disproportionate burden within the meaning of the [Public Sector Bodies \(Websites and Mobile Applications\) \(No. 2\) Accessibility Regulations 2018](#) to pay an auditor to do a detailed check on our website and entire collection of associated documents.

We do not believe the benefit of paying for detailed checks of our website would justify the impact on a small Parish Council especially as our documents are rarely accessed and not specifically aimed at those with a disability.

Fixing documents

Having carried out a brief check on Stocklinch Parish Council's documents, we have assessed that it would be a disproportionate burden within the meaning of the No. 2 Regulations to fix all documents published on our site since 23 September 2018.

The majority of these documents have never been viewed; therefore, they are not negatively impacting users with disabilities or impairments. For this reason, we do not believe we can justify the time, effort, resource, and associated costs, to fix all the documents involved and believe our limited funds are better employed elsewhere.

Estimated Audit costs

We have assessed that an external audit could cost between £1,300 – £3,900 for a detailed check (and later re-audit) on our website.

These costs are based on estimates from GOV.UK's [guidance on checking your website](#) and [getting and accessibility audit](#) This includes:

- a third-party day rate of £1,300
- about 1 to 3 days to audit a small website
- about 5 to 20 days to audit a large website

Estimated Fixing costs

It is difficult to gauge how long it would take to make every document accessible without first reviewing each one.

However, if we assume it takes two hours to review, fix and re-publish every document, delivering all 120 documents involved would take 240 hours or 34.25 working days (based on a 7-hour working day). Assuming we retained a third-party to deliver this, at £1,300 a day, it would cost the Parish Council £44,000

Rationale Behind Our Decision

- Stocklinch Parish Council is a small council comprising seven members encompassing a village of approximately fifty (50) properties. We are managing increasing demands upon us but with reducing annual budgets.
- Much of this work would have little to no benefit to users with disabilities due to the low usage of most online documents.
- Assigning appropriate staff, if even feasible, to fix all documents, especially when considering the extremely low usage for our documents, would not be justifiable and would impose a disproportionate work demand on limited council personnel.
- The costs of paying for detailed checks on our website and subsequently fixing all documents using external resources would place a disproportionate and an unreasonable financial burden on our Council.
- We believe that users will benefit most from us focusing our available resources on ensuring that all new documents and papers are accessible.
- During 2020 we have also been forced to look at all resources owing to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, to ensure continuity of our services.

The draft statement was prepared in June 2020.

Stocklinch Parish Council