

**LITTLE STANMORE PARISH
ELECTION RESULTS, 1894-1918**

LITTLE STANMORE PARISH COUNCIL, 1894-1918

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Meeting Votes	Poll Votes
1894	196		William Cardo	23	112
			Charles F. Kersey	21	105
			Edward Ballard	27	103
			Richard Garrett	5	81
			James Mair	13	81
			Henry C. Davies	9	80
			William A. Tootell	14	45
			Stanley J. Goddard	20	32
			George T. Cliff	20	30
			George H. Cheshire	15	21
			Charles E. Cornwell	14	—
			William Preston	1	—

Note: The first Parish Meeting to elect councillors was held on 4 December at the Boys' School, Little Stanmore, with Mr. Charles E.C. Prichard in the Chair during the election. About 45 voters were present.

A poll was demanded, with Cornwell and Preston not proceeding to the poll. The poll resulted in the election of Garrett, Mair and Davies in place of Goddard, Cliff and Cheshire. In view of the number of votes polled by Cardo, the turnout at this election was at least 57.1%.

The *Hendon and Finchley Times* reported on this election as follows: "The poll [aroused] considerable interest in the village. Mr. D.R. Soames was the presiding officer, and by midday about 50 persons had registered their vote. Mr. Ballard was the first upon the scene, and early in the day there was a strong contingent up from Elstree. Plenty of placards were displayed in the village, and in the evening the polling was more active. At eight o'clock the poll was formally closed and the boxes conveyed to the Workhouse, where the counting did not take place until the next morning."

The *Middlesex Courier* added: "The neighbourhood ... was all excitement on Monday ... every available voter was looked after, and the scene outside the polling station in Whitchurch Lane, towards evening, was very animated..... Placards around the neighbourhood were very conspicuous, and towards evening the village assumed an unwonted air of excitement."

1896	183	Henry C. Davies	22
		James Mair	22
		William Cardo	20
		George T. Cliff	20
		John Rush	18
		James Pruden	11
		Thomas King	7
		William E. Highams	3

Note: The Parish Meeting to elect councillors was held on 9 March at the Whitchurch Schools with Mr. Charles E.C. Prichard in the Chair during the election. The *Minutes* recorded that there was a "good attendance of electors and others." A poll was not demanded.

LITTLE STANMORE PARISH COUNCIL, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Meeting Votes	Poll Votes
1897	179		William Cardo George T. Cliff Henry C. Davies William E. Highams James Mair James Pruden	Unopp. Unopp. Unopp. Unopp. Unopp. Unopp.	

Note: The Parish Meeting to elect councillors was held on 18 March at the Institute with Mr. Charles E.C. Prichard in the Chair during the election.

1898	178		George T. Cliff Thomas H. Drake William E. Highams Charles F. Kersey James Mair Luke Shaylor	Unopp. Unopp. Unopp. Unopp. Unopp. Unopp.	
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Note: The Parish Meeting to elect councillors was held on 14 March at the Institute with Dr. Alexander Findlater in the Chair during the election. The *Minutes* recorded that 27 electors were present.

1899	198		Isaac Taylor George T. Cliff Henry Johnson Ludwig E. Kreitmayer Rev. Henry E. Robinson Edward Ballard William Pollard James Mair Charles Holdbrook Richard Garrett George R. Mann	22 18 15 14 14 13 8 7 6 3 2	
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Note: The Parish Meeting to elect councillors was held on 6 March at the Institute with Dr. Alexander Findlater in the Chair during the election. The *Minutes* recorded that 26 electors were present. A poll was not demanded.

[Resignation of Ballard]

1900 (22/11)			Francis White	Co-opt.	
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Note: Cllr. Taylor proposed and Cllr. Johnson seconded that White be chosen to fill the vacancy. There were no other nominations.

LITTLE STANMORE PARISH COUNCIL, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Meeting Votes	Poll Votes
1901	200	73.0	Isaac Taylor	36	87
			James Clarke	27	86
			William Thorndick	23	82
			Henry Johnson	19	80
			George T. Cliff	29	78
			Robert T. Watkin Williams	19	75
			Ludwig E. Kreitmayer	20	61
			George R. Mann	18	48
			William Pollard	8	25
			Rev. Henry E. Robinson	24	—

Note: The Parish Meeting to elect councillors was held on 6 March at the Institute with retiring Edgware parish councillor Cllr. Frederick J. Allpress in the Chair during the election. The *Minutes* recorded that 36 ratepayers were present. A poll was demanded and resulted in the election of Johnson and Watkin Williams in place of Robinson and Kreitmayer.

The Returning Officer, F.J. Seabrook, took the view that the Parish Meeting was potentially invalid. The Parish Councillors Order (14 January 1901) and the Local Elections: Alteration of Dates Order (1901) specified that Parish Meetings called for the purpose of electing parish councillors should be held on 4 March. An application was made to the Middlesex County Council and a Special Order, giving retrospective validity to the Meeting, granted.

The voting figures for the poll were obtained from the *Hendon and Finchley Times* which did not mention Robinson as a candidate at the election: it is assumed he did not proceed to the poll. (Robinson's nomination, for the simultaneously held election of Hendon Rural District councillor for Little Stanmore, was declared invalid by the Returning Officer.) The turnout figure shown above has been calculated from the 146 valid votes cast in the RDC election.

[Resignation of Watkin Williams]

1902 (25/11)	Joshua Goff George R. Mann George H. Cheshire	Co-opt.
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Note: Cllr. Cliff proposed and Cllr. Johnson seconded that Goff be chosen to fill the vacancy. Cllr. Taylor proposed (but received no seconder) that Mann be selected to fill the vacancy. Cllr. Thorndick proposed (but received no seconder) that Cheshire be chosen. A vote on the initial proposition that Goff be selected to fill the vacancy resulted in 2 votes for and 2 votes against, whereupon the Chairman used his casting vote in favour of Goff.

1904	244	Ludwig E. Kreitmayer	14
		George T. Cliff	12
		John Lloyd Williams	9
		James Clarke	8
		Alfred C. Turner	7
		Frank Hardiman	6
		Isaac Taylor	9

Note: The Parish Meeting to elect councillors was held on 7 March at the Institute with Edgware parish councillor Cllr. George R. Mann in the Chair during the election. A poll was demanded by several electors on behalf of Hardiman whereupon Taylor withdrew his nomination so that a poll could be avoided.

LITTLE STANMORE PARISH COUNCIL, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Meeting Votes	Poll Votes
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[Resignation of Hardiman]

1905 (12/5)			Isaac Taylor Horatio A. Heffer	Co-opt.	
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Note: Cllr. Lloyd Williams proposed and Cllr. Turner seconded that Taylor be chosen to fill the vacancy. Cllr. Cliff proposed and Cllr. Kreitmayer seconded that Heffer fill the vacancy. When put to the vote Taylor received 3 votes and Heffer 2 votes.

[Resignation of Taylor]

1906 (16/5)			Horatio A. Heffer	Co-opt.	
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Note: Cllr. Cliff proposed and Cllr. Turner seconded that Heffer be chosen to fill the vacancy. There were no other nominations.

1907	310		George T. Cliff	37	
			Paul P. Sechiari	30	
			William A. Perry	28	
			John Barrett-Lennard	27	
			Ludwig E. Kreitmayer	27	
			George J. Dowdall	21	
			Alfred C. Turner	19	
			Horatio A. Heffer	18	
			William Newell	14	
			James Clarke	7	

Note: The Parish Meeting to elect councillors was held on 4 March at the Institute with district and Edgware parish councillor Cllr. George R. Mann in the Chair during the election. The local press reported that 93 ratepayers were in attendance.

Barrett-Lennard demanded a poll on behalf of Newell, and obtained the necessary number of supporters. On learning the probable cost of a poll, Barrett-Lennard withdrew his claim to a poll. This action was queried, so the Chairman put the question of whether there should be a poll or not to the meeting, which voted unanimously that there should be not be a poll.

[Resignation of Kreitmayer]

1907 (1/8)			Malcolm E. Giles	Co-opt.	
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Note: Cllr. Cliff proposed and Cllr. Dowdall seconded that Giles be chosen to fill the vacancy. There were no other nominations.

[Disqualification of Dowdall]

LITTLE STANMORE PARISH COUNCIL, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Meeting Votes	Poll Votes
1909 (5/8)			Nathaniel Lavender	Co-opt.	

Note: Dowdall was disqualified under the terms of the Local Government Act 1894, section 46, sub-section 7, for his failure, throughout a period of six consecutive months, to attend any meetings of the Council.

Cllr. Sechiari proposed and Cllr. Giles seconded that Lavender be chosen to fill the vacancy. There were no other nominations.

1910	335		Nathaniel Lavender	25	
			William A. Perry	24	
			Charles Barker	23	
			William H. Halsey	21	
			Malcolm E. Giles	19	
			Paul P. Sechiari	18	
			George T. Cliff	22	

Note: The Parish Meeting to elect councillors was held on 15 March at the Institute with district and Edgware parish councillor Cllr. George R. Mann in the Chair during the election. The *Minutes* recorded that 30 parochial electors were present.

Upon the Chairman enquiring whether a poll was demanded Cliff (who had been elected an Edgware parish councillor the previous day) withdrew his nomination so that a poll could be avoided. The *Minutes* recorded: "It was resolved that a vote of thanks be accorded Mr. Cliff for retiring and so saving the Parish the cost of an election." Subsequently the Parish Council elected Cliff as its Chairman, a position he held until 1919.

[Resignation of Barker]

1910 (16/12)			George A. Coldwell	Co-opt.	
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Note: Cllr. Sechiari proposed and Cllr. Giles seconded that Coldwell be chosen to fill the vacancy. There were no other nominations.

[Failure of Coldwell to sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office]

1911 (9/3)			Reginald T. Dadson	Co-opt.	
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Note: The Clerk reported to the Council that Coldwell had declined the invitation to become a Parish Councillor. Cllr. Sechiari proposed and Cllr. Giles seconded that Dadson be chosen to fill the vacancy. There were no other nominations.

LITTLE STANMORE PARISH COUNCIL, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Meeting Votes	Poll Votes
1913	428		Charles W. Burdett Reginald T. Dadson Malcolm E. Giles William H. Halsey Nathaniel Lavender Paul P. Sechiari	Unopp. Unopp. Unopp. Unopp. Unopp. Unopp.	

Note: The Parish Meeting to elect councillors was held on 18 March at the Institute with Mr. George T. Cliff in the Chair during the election. The *Minutes* recorded that 23 parochial electors were present.

[Resignation of Giles]

1913 (11/12)			James T. Child	Co-opt.	
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Note: Cllr. Dadson proposed and Cllr. Halsey seconded that Child be chosen to fill the vacancy. There were no other nominations.

[Resignation of Dadson]

1915 (14/12)			George F. Viccars	Co-opt.	
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Note: Cllr. Child proposed and Cllr. Sechiari seconded that Viccars be chosen to fill the vacancy. There were no other nominations.

Note: The 1916 election was postponed because of the First World War. All six members of Little Stanmore Parish Council continued as Councillors until the 1919 election, unless a casual vacancy was caused by death, resignation or disqualification. The following vacancy occurred during this period and was filled by the existing practice of co-option:

[Resignation or Disqualification of Sechiari — see footnote]

LITTLE STANMORE PARISH COUNCIL, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Meeting Votes	Poll Votes
1917 (28/3)			Rev. Colin W. Scott-Moncrieff	Co-opt.	

Note: Cllr. Child proposed and Cllr. Burdett seconded that Scott-Moncrieff be chosen to fill the vacancy. There were no other nominations.

The reason for this casual vacancy has not been found, the *Minutes* simply stating in the entry for 28 March: "The vacancy on the Council having been duly declared...."

A detailed study of the *Minutes* of the Parish Council from autumn 1915 to spring 1919 suggests this vacancy was occasioned either by the resignation or the disqualification of Cllr. Sechiari, who attended his last meeting of the Council on 14 December 1915; there is no further mention of him in the *Minutes*. Death can be eliminated as the cause: he placed a classified advertisement in the *Hendon and Finchley Times*, 31 August 1917, reading "Paul Sechiari, 'Erin', Edgware, Middlesex; 20 hens to be sold. 5s. each.—Apply, above address."

The poor record of attendance of two other councillors has been rejected as the reason for the vacancy. Cllr. Lavender attended a meeting of the Council on 11 April 1916 but no others afterwards. He was, however, reappointed an Overseer at the Council's 1917 Annual Meeting, held on 16 April (i.e. *after* the vacancy had been filled by the co-option of Scott-Moncrieff). Cllr. Halsey attended a Parish Council meeting on 19 October 1915 and was absent from subsequent meetings. However, on 25 March 1919 he was again in attendance. (This was the *final* meeting of the 'old' Council before the 'new' Council convened after the 1919 election, at which Halsey was re-elected.)

It is unclear why Lavender and Halsey were not disqualified and their seats declared vacant under the terms of the Local Government Act 1894, section 46, sub-section 7, for their failure, throughout a period of six consecutive months, to attend any meetings of the Council. It is possible they were engaged in essential war work or serving in HM Forces and may have submitted the reasons for their absence to the Clerk of the Council. If that was the case, and their absence was authorised by the Council, then they would not have been disqualified. It should be noted that no record has been found in the *Minutes* to support this theory.