Accessibility Review of Parish Council Website

I believe that the Parish Council website (stuttonpc.org.uk) is partially compliant.

This is based on assessment following the steps on the gov.uk webpage "Doing a basic accessibility check if you cannot do a detailed one", published 22nd August 2019. I viewed a sample of webpages to assess them against the criteria detailed on that page. My findings are as follows:

A. Text Content

The website is generally accessible, with a good structure, use of headings, appropriate page titles, and link titles. The following issues were identified:
1. Agenda and Minutes pages are not formatted in a useful way; they are missing heading levels altogether, making them difficult to navigate – several pages
2. Low contrast text – may difficult to read – Calendar page
3. There are missing heading levels – possible difficulties navigating – many pages

B. Images, video and audio Content

There is little/no video or audio content. No images containin text were found. The following issues were identified:

1. Empty alt-(ernative) text – pictures without descriptions – some pages

C. Interactive tools and transactions

The Search function appears on every page, but no other forms were discovered. The following issues were identified:

1. Search box – missing form label – every page

D. PDFs and other documents

There are numerous documents linked from the website. The filenames and link names are descriptive. The following issues were identified:
1. Links to PDF files – possible poor structure for screen readers – several pages
2. More recent PDF files may need to be republished to comply.

E. Technology

It is possible to navigate the website using only a keyboard, and tabbing follows a logical sequence. The pages do not reformat. The following issues were identified:

1. Links to PDF files – poor structure for screen readers – several pages
2. The focus is not highlighted when TAB is pressed to move around the webpages
3. The design may need to be tweaked to make it easier to access items in the lower pages more quickly
4. The 'Search' box is accessible, but needs a form label to make it useful (see C1)
5. The font size does not change when requested.
6. The site does not reformat when the page is zoomed in or out.
7. The site does not reformat when viewed on different platforms

F. HTML Checks

The HTML seems to be properly formed by the WordPress software. The language is described for each page. The following issues were identified:

1. The language is 'en-us' rather than 'en-uk'; screen readers may employ an american voice rather than english.

Next Steps

There appears to be a strong case for a "disproportionate burden assessment", which means that the Parish Council would be exempt from compliance.

The Parish Council may nevertheless want to make a plan to fix the issues identified. The process may well uncover more issues as well. If the Council decides it wants to fix some or all of the issues identified, it may want to employ a thrid party to ensure compliance.