STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL



NEWS UPDATE February 2022

School Parking

Following feedback on continuing problems with parking on the verges adjacent to the school entrance on Hunters Field we have decided to pause our plans to introduce some yellow zig-zag no parking lines outside the school entrance on the High Street. We were concerned that this might exacerbate the problems in Hunters Field and so we have put these plans on hold to give us an opportunity to take a more holistic view of the parking situation to see if there are other measures we might take instead of, or alongside, the line painting to help matters.

There is however, a limit to what we can do, and, to some extent, we have to rely on people being considerate to residents when parking outside the school. We would like to remind people again that the Highway Code advises that drivers should not park on the pavement as it "can seriously obstruct and inconvenience pedestrians, people in wheelchairs or with visual impairments and people with prams or pushchairs." In addition, parking on the grass verges can (and is) damaging them, particularly in the winter months. Please avoid parking on pavements and verges when dropping children at school, particularly in the vicinity of the Hunter's Field entrance.

Millennium Green Working Party

Unfortunately we had to cancel the Millennium Green Working Party that we had organised for January. A new date will be set and readvertised in the next newsletter.

High Street Flooding

As many of you will probably have seen, drainage repairs have finally been undertaken outside the CoOp after a lot of chasing by the Parish Council. The work needed proved to be more substantial than had been thought and it was necessary for the County Council to extend things into the first couple of weeks of January. The work is now complete and we'll continue to monitor the situation to see if the problem has been resolved.

Domestic waste in Parish Council bins

In recent months our Litter Picker has been finding sacks of household waste dumped in the bins we provide in the play area, sports fields and Millennium Green. We carry out litter picking and bin emptying on a weekly schedule, but we are not equipped to deal with sacks of household rubbish being left in bins when they could quite easily be left out for the District Council's waste collection service. The bins are intended to be used for small items that you might not be able to take home with you and are not a replacement for the household waste collection service. In addition, all rubbish placed in the bins is incinerated and dumping sacks of mixed rubbish in them means that potentially recyclable materials are not recovered for reuse. Please dispose of rubbish in a considerate and environmentally- friendly manner.

Footpaths Warden

The Parish Council is looking for a Footpaths Warden who can help us keep an eye of the status of our local footpaths. No particular qualifications are needed other than to enjoy being outdoors and an interest in helping others make the most of the countryside that surrounds us. This is one of those roles that can take up as much, or as little, time as you wish and would involve things like helping us to investigate reports of problems with footpaths, getting out to check paths are unobstructed and in good order and, optionally, helping us to organise working parties to repair paths. If you're interested, please contact Kevin Middleton

(kevinfmiddleton@gmail.com).

Daffodil Bulbs

We had received a very generous donation from a parishioner towards planting daffodil bulbs around the village. It's a little too late to plant for this year, but we will be making plans for planting to give a display next spring. We're grateful for such a generous contribution towards the village which will, no doubt, brighten all our days come next year.

Kevin Middleton Chair – Stanford in the Vale Parish Council kevinfmiddleton@gmail.com

SITV Helpers

SITV HELPERS are still on hand if anyone in the village requires help with:

- Shopping
- Posting letters
- Prescriptions
- Just for a talk

during these challenging times or any other emergency. We have a Facebook page **"SITV Helpers**" where helpful information is shared.

Any other problems or concerns contact <u>sitvhelp@gmail.com</u> – phone number 07710760894 or 07891013114. Also contact, if you are happy to join this group and be on hand should help be needed

Wantage Advice Centre is also there to refer families for food and heating vouchers. They are also able to offer advice on legal matters, benefit, education, housing etc over the phone. Contact them on 01235 765348 /

Or <u>help@wantageadvice.org.uk</u> Very many thanks to all again





PPC News

The Public Purposes Charity Trustees wish everyone in Stanford

in the Vale a healthy and happy 2022.

The last two years have indeed been very difficult and we are not out of the woods yet, but we have learnt to work together at a distance, wear masks and pay attention to the wellbeing of our families and the community in which we live.

During this time, PPC has made temporary changes to its normal granting rules in order to provide real support to organisations and individuals in the Village who have struggled as a result of the pandemic. As things settle down a bit we are turning our focus back onto projects and activities that will materially improve our infrastructure for the future.

PPC is providing substantial funding support for the repairs to the Skate Park and we continue to upgrade and monitor the allotments while seeking space to offer more allotments to our ever growing community. PPC continues to support repairs to the fabric of the Church as well as regular funding of activities at the pre-school and the primary school. We continue to welcome grant applications from very small and specialist groups who provide activity for friends and colleagues in the Village.

Through the very careful management of our funds the Trustees are proud and delighted that Stanford in the Vale has benefitted, over the years, from many hundreds of thousands of pounds of support that would not otherwise have been available for the benefit of the Village and its facilities.

PPC looks forward to continuing to work with organisations both large and small to provide the major and minor things that make living in this Village a pleasure. We have a Jubilee year ahead of us so there is much to anticipate!

Caryl Oliver Clerk/Correspondent Caryl.oliver@ppcstanford.org



This year it is 40 years since the first Neighbourhood Watch group was formed in the UK in Cheshire in 1982. We have since grown to be the largest crime prevention charity in the UK. We will be celebrating this incredible achievement in a variety of ways throughout the year, and we'd love you to get involved.

To kick-start our celebrations we have launched a special 40th anniversary logo. which you can see above. Throughout the year will be focusing on recognising and we cheering volunteers, our and ensuring inclusion, representation and diversity throughout the organisation to help ensure Neighbourhood Watch has another great 40 vears ahead.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH WEEK

(30th May - 5th June) this year will have the theme of 40 YEARS - 40 ACTIONS to encourage groups to engage with their communities through a mix of small and big actions. The week falls over the same weekend as the Queen's and a Big Lunch provides the perfect opportunity to get together safely with your neighbours outdoors with a street party.

However you choose to join in, we look forward to celebrating with you this year and strengthening our role in making communities even better.

Warmest wishes for the year ahead.

John Hayward-Cripps, CEO, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK

We are always exploring ways that we can equip our volunteers with the skills needed to best perform in their role. That is why we are excited to offer our volunteers the opportunity to complete a number of optional free courses.

COORDINATOR SKILLS TRAINING

This is a free bespoke course provided through our new NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH LEARNING PLATFORM - a training platform tailored to our volunteers. The COORDINATOR SKILLS TRAINING certified course comprises of various modules including:

~An Introduction to GDPR ~Unconscious Bias ~Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity ~Active Listening

After completing the course and downloading your personalised certificate, you can explore over 3,000 additional courses on the LEARNING PLATFORM.

BYSTANDER TRAINING

What does being an Active Bystander mean? Why is it important to know what to do when confronted by situations in our workplace, in the street, on public transport or anywhere? Often being that person who either deflects attention away from the victim of harassment or reports what is happening, can make a huge difference to the victim and their community. What is our responsibility as a bystander? Is it to just ignore what is going on or is it to speak out? How do we do this safely? In this course, provided by L'Oreal and partners, you can explore the main reasons why we don't action when we witness take street harassment.

If you would like to complete the training full details on how to apply can be found under the <u>Personal Development section of our</u> <u>KNOWLEDGE HUB</u> - a bespoke platform for Neighbourhood Watch volunteers developed with funding from the National Lottery Community Fund.

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Cllr. Tina Jenkins	-	07443 906150
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