



QEII Field

We are still discussing with the local planning authority the remaining steps needed to secure planning permission for our new recreation field. In the meantime, are thinking ahead to when we are able to start the first phase of the project, which will be to level the field and prepare the ground for the sports pitches, tennis courts, pavilion and other amenities we have planned.

As a parish council we don't have a great deal of experience in construction projects and would like to assemble a team of people who can help to steer and manage the project. If you have any experience in construction, landscaping or sports pitch preparation and would be willing to volunteer some time to help, perhaps with project management or some of the technical aspects, we would like to hear from you. Please contact any one of your parish councillors if this is an area in which would might be able to assist us.

Millennium Green

On the subject of volunteering, the parish council is also responsible for management of the Millennium Green via a charitable trust. This is another area where there is scope for volunteers to help us both maintain and improve the green. This could be by organising working parties to maintain the area or helping with longer term projects such as improving the facilities for picnicking on the green. If you would like to help, please get in touch with any of your parish councillors.

We would also like to remind parishioners that dogs are not permitted on the green. This is because it is intended as a recreation area and, in particular, is used regularly by the school for outdoor play and education. The presence of dog poo can be particularly hazardous to small children, whose immune systems are not fully developed, and can cause serious illness. So please be considerate and avoid taking your dogs onto the green. The same restrictions, for the same reasons, also apply to the play area and the football field.

Nature Archive For The Churchyard

We have been asked if we can help to find a home for a large archive of documents, photos and records relating to nature and conservation in the churchyard. The record is a valuable ecological

history which we want to preserve, both as a record of what has been achieved to document, conserve and enhance nature in the village also as a resource for future generations and local historians.

Some of the archive may need to be catalogued and digitised for storage. This might make a nice project for someone interested in nature or looking to put their IT skills to good use, or perhaps for a young person looking for a worthwhile school project or volunteering opportunity. If you can help, please contact Kevin Middleton (kevinfmiddleton@gmail.com).

We also need to find a permanent home for those parts of the archive that aren't suitable for digitisation, and it could be that some temporary storage might be needed while a more permanent location is found. If you can help with storage, please let us know.

Bus Service

Several parishioners have approached us with concerns over the long-term future of the 67 bus, particularly after the service was listed as under threat by Thames Travel in February due to uncertainties at the time about future funding. We recognise that a bus connection to Faringdon and Wantage is vital to many villagers and have been seeking clarification from the county council. We have been told that the service is operated under a contract until 2026, with an optional extension to 2028, and that six months' notice is required if the operator wishes to terminate the contract early. It appears, therefore, that there is no imminent threat to the service.

Fibre Broadband Rollout

We have been in discussion with Airband about their proposals to erect a large number of telegraph poles in the village to facilitate the delivery of full-fibre-to-premises broadband to residents. While we are supportive of the aim of improving rural broadband, we have some concerns over the detailed implementation. We are keen to ensure that existing infrastructure is reused where possible, that sensitive areas, such as the village greens, the conservation area and the protected water vole habitat along Bow Road are not adversely impacted, and that the rural character of the village is retained, particularly in

areas which have restrictions on overhead cables, such as Hunters Field.

We are in discussion with both Airband and the planning officer and have made our concerns known to both. Much of the infrastructure can be installed without planning permission under permitted development rules but the planning officer has advised that any poles within the conservation area will require prior approval and has also expressed similar concerns over some pole locations. We understand that the scheme that had been proposed has now been withdrawn but we will continue to liaise with Airband to make sure that, as far as possible, any scheme reflects local concerns.

Parish Council Elections

The next set of local government elections are due in May 2023, when all of the seats on the parish council will be up for re-election. Would you like to be involved with the future direction of your community? Are there things you think the parish council should be delivering for the village or particular issues that you think need addressing? Would you like to help to improve the place you live in? Then why not consider standing as a parish councillor?

The parish council has three main responsibilities: representing the whole electorate within the parish, delivering services to meet local needs and striving to improve quality of life in the parish. No particular experience is needed as training can be provided, and it could be argued the parish councils work best when councillors have a range of experiences, backgrounds and perspectives on life. You would need to be able to attend council meetings, which are on the first Wednesday of every month and to be able to put some time aside outside meetings to keep informed on local issues and to help to move forward issues that you feel need addressing.

If you are worried that this might be too big a commitment it is also possible to be co-opted as a non-councillor onto our environment or recreation and leisure committees. These meet roughly once every two months and might be a better fit if you would like to contribute in one of the specific areas covered by the committees.

If you would like to know more, please speak to any of your parish councillors.

Parking on Sheards Lane

We know that parking causes persistent difficulties in the village which are not easy to solve, given our rural location where many families need more than one car for essential transport and with streets that

were never designed for present day levels of traffic.

But we would be grateful if residents could be mindful of the need to leave sufficient space on Sheards Lane for large vehicles, such as the bin lorry, and emergency vehicles to pass when parking. The bin lorry has been unable to access some of the houses on Sheards Lane on several occasions due to parked cars blocking the road and, more seriously, an ambulance was recently unable to make it down the lane to answer a call out.

Wherever you are parking in the village, but particularly in the area around Sheards Lane and the school, please take a moment to think if an ambulance or the bin lorry could get past if it needed to and, if not, find an alternative location.

Kevin Middleton

Chair – Stanford in the Vale Parish Council

kevinfmiddleton@gmail.com



PPC News

The PPC Trustees held their last meeting of the year at the Stanford Social Club, followed by drinks with representatives from the many organisations and groups that have received grant funding from us over the year.

It was great to have a chance to chat and, in some cases, to put faces to names!

Like everyone in the Village, PPC is carefully watching the changing economic climate and the impact it is having on Stanford in the Vale as well as the impact it is having on the investments that give us the resources to provide funding to the Village. We are pleased to note that while the outlook is grim, we are lucky that the organisation that manages our funds, CCLA, is proving to be a diligent investor on our behalf.

The Trustees are delighted to see so many of the projects we have funded around the Village, some of which are more public: 4th defibrillator, lights for the Soccer Club, Church Clock that actually keeps time and new flagpole. Others are equally valuable but less obvious, like equipment for the pre-school, support for the Primary School activities, equipment for Pickleball, Drama and Art.

Most visible of all was the Jubilee celebrations which provided a range of activities that we all enjoyed!

At this time we say farewell to two of our Trustees. Andrew Higgins who has served with PPC for many years and Tim Mills who has managed the Allotments for us. We thank them and wish them well for the future.

If anyone is interested in supporting the Village and becoming a PPC Trustee please make contact with us either at info@ppcstanford.org or by filling in the application form at: <https://ppcstanford.org/contact/https://ppcstanford.org/contact>

I will be happy to give you more details about what we do and how we do it.

We wish everyone in Stanford in the Vale a happy and healthy Christmas and we look forward to supporting more Village activity in 2023.

Caryl Oliver

Public Purposes Charity Stanford in the Vale

Caryl.oliver@ppcstanford.org



Burglary - You think it won't happen until it does ♥

Please read our advice and share it with your neighbours and elderly relatives on how to keep your home safe this winter.

Advice Page is linked here:

www.thamesvalley.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/protect-home-crime

Home Security Guide is linked here:

www.thamesvalley.police.uk/SysSiteAssets/media/downloads/thames-valley/advice/home-security-guide2.pdf

The Stand-Up Training

Bystander intervention is the term for witness action to defuse situations and make public spaces safer. The Stand-Up training (sponsored by L'Oréal Paris and delivered by Suzy Lamplugh Trust) focuses on the "5 D's" intervention programme originally pioneered by the international NGO Right to Be.

It encourages those who witness harassment to act by:

1. Distracting the perpetrator
2. Delegating by asking for help
3. Documenting the harassment
4. Direct intervention by speaking up in the moment, and
5. Delaying by checking to see if the person is okay

The programme drives awareness of street harassment with a call-to-action on a global scale. By opening the public eye to the scale of harassment that women in particular experience, Stand-Up aims to simultaneously discourage harassers, support victims and encourage bystanders to intervene with the aim to drive a cultural shift in the global response to street and public harassment.

Sign Up Here

www.suzylamplugh.org/Pages/Events/Category/events?utm_source=Email&utm_medium=email_marketing&utm_campaign=Are%20you%20okay&utm_content=email

The training is open to everyone - action from people of all genders and ages is vital.

Although there is a long way to go and certainly not the only way to end harassment, given the primary responsibility lies with the harasser, not the harassed, bystander training can be a step towards supporting and empowering victims of and witnesses to street harassment.

Cllr. Amanda Bailey	-	07777 691336
Cllr. Chantelle Dabek	-	07482 850629
Claire Lewis (Clerk)	-	07710 760894
Cllr. Mike Dixon mike.dixon4@btopenworld.com		
Cllr. Simon Howes	-	07875 249265
Cllr. Mark Isaacs	-	01367 718719
Cllr. Peter Lewis (Deputy Chair)	-	01367 710166
Cllr. Kevin Middleton(Chair) kevinfmiddleton@gmail.com	-	01367 718395
Cllr. Janet Warren	-	01367 710789
Cllr. Karin WilliamsCuss	-	07771 614101