
STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL



NEWS UPDATE AUGUST 2015

Thank you

Firstly, to Sue Galsworthy who has kindly agreed to compile this newsletter for the Parish Council. We appreciate the time and effort that will go into preparing this in order to ensure that the entire village are kept up to date with council matters.

Secondly, to Joy Hindson, our internal auditor, who has recently completed the annual inspection of the Parish Council's accounts and financial controls. I'm pleased to report that these were all found to be in good order and have now been submitted to the government appointed auditor for final acceptance.

Finally, to the members of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee who have dedicated yet more hours to the most recent public consultation. Every household will have received a copy of their consultation booklet, and I would encourage as many of you as possible to respond in order to ensure that all points of view are captured. The results from the various consultations to date, will form the evidence base as the formal plan is drafted, so your response (due by 30th July) are vital.

Stanford in the Vale Primary School

The school's Gardening Club have recently been rejuvenating the garden area in the recreation field alongside the Village Hall, where it borders with Joyces Road. The results are brilliant and I hope that you will all join me in thanking them for their efforts - it is a pleasure to see some of the younger members of the community taking pride in their surroundings.

Council Vacancies

I'm pleased to report that we have had a number of applications for the 3 vacancies that existed following the recent elections. At the time of writing, Councillors are currently considering the applications received and will be looking to co-opt new members at the next council meeting.

Community Defibrillator

I am delighted to confirm that both of the new community defibrillators have now been installed. One is located at the Village Hall, the other at the Football Club. In case of an emergency, the 999 operator can provide a caller with an emergency access code in order to open the cabinet and collect the device. Whilst it carries full instructions, it has been really encouraging to see the large number of individuals who have signed up to attend one of the "training" sessions that have been organised by our Community First Responders in conjunction with South Central Ambulance Service. Our thanks to Les Harding & Jeanette Gill for their dedication to getting these devices installed so swiftly and to the Public Purposes Charity for the financial support required to install them.

Thames Water

Further to my previous update, Thames Water have cleaned the existing sewers along Faringdon Road again (as it wasn't done properly the first time), but are still investigating the issues with water pressure.

Planning

Despite concerns raised by residents, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee and the Parish Council, VWHDC's planning committee approved the extended scheme at Bow Farm recently.

Following numerous discussions with Vale and the land owner ahead of this, the silver lining is that a public footpath will be created to link the rear of the development to Horsecroft, and in so doing, complete another section of what we hope will eventually become a circular footpath route around the village.

Burial Ground

As many of you will be aware, the Churchyard is rapidly approaching capacity, and St Denys Church is therefore having to operate strict eligibility requirements for the remaining burial plots. If you, or someone you know has a plot of land within the parish, that you believe may be suitable for a future burial ground, then we would very much like to discuss the matter with you. This might be by way of a gift (or legacy) to the village, or perhaps by way of private sale. Please do contact the Clerk or Chairman if you wish to discuss this further.

Peter Lewis

Chairman – Stanford in the Vale Parish Council
plewis.sitv@gmail.com

Stanford in the Vale Public Purposes Charity (PPC) – August 2015

The Trustees held a Trustees' Meeting on Thursday 9th July 2015 in the Village Hall Committee Room.

Approved Grant Applications paid and outstanding include:

- A grant of £1,600.42 for support for the SitV Preschool for new and varied materials was approved in October 2014. Invoices amounting to £816.78 have been received and paid so far. The remaining grant approved by Trustees amounts to £783.64.
- The trustees have agreed to a grant of up to £5,000 for the revised proposal from the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for support for a grant to open part of the church wall on to Church Green in order to make the memorial more inclusive for the village as a whole has been received. The project awaits completion
- A grant of £3,000.00 was paid for the SitV Community First Responders for the purchase of two community automatic external defibrillators which will be accessible by members of the public if needed to help someone who has suffered a cardiac arrest was unanimously approved by the Trustees. These defibrillators are now installed.

It is worth noting here that our auditors have asked us to limit the period for which a grant remains in force to 12 months in principle, although a little leeway is allowed. Grants not used after 24 months will be automatically rescinded requiring a new grant application if the project is still required.

Allotments:

The waiting list has now risen to ten parishioners.

Allotment holders are reminded that if they do not keep up their allotments according to the Rules laid down by the Trustees their allotment holding will be withdrawn and given to the next villager on the waiting list.

Any parishioner who wishes his or her name to be added to the allotment waiting list should please contact Paul Corrigan on 01367 718325.

Villagers are reminded of the PPC Trust Mission Statement:

“Striving to improve and strengthen the community within Stanford-in-the-Vale by providing a source of finance for projects that will benefit the parish.”

Success of course depends on such projects being brought forward. The village organisations and societies which feel the need to improve their facilities are encouraged to make grant requests.

The Trust continues to have around £20,000 to £25,000 per year available for grants. Grant Applications are made to the Trustees through the Hon. Clerk/Correspondent, who can supply Grant Application Forms on request either by e-mail or hard copy. (Tel: 01367 718 480)

The next AGM of the PPC and standard meeting of the PPC Trustees is planned to be held on Thursday 22nd October in the Committee Room of the Village Hall.

David N. Axford
Hon. Clerk/Correspondent,
SitV Public Purposes Charity

Friday, 17 July 2015



Fraudsters are targeting classified advertisement websites like AutoTrader to advertise vehicles for sale. Buyers are then contacting these 'sellers' to find out more about the vehicles and are being told to pay for them via 'Apple Pay'.

In this case the fraudsters are not using the genuine Apple Pay service and potential victims pay money directly to bank accounts in control of the fraudsters.

Individuals receive emails claiming to be from Apple Pay with a web link to a cloned website with false terms and conditions of the 'escrow' service.

Any money remitted to the fraudsters is then unrecoverable and the vehicles are not delivered. Protect yourself:

- Meet the seller 'face to face' and view the vehicle before parting with any money.
- Be cautious of web links in an email. They may not direct you to the genuine website.
- Report scam advertisements to the classified advertisement websites.
- If the vehicle is below market value, consider whether this is an opportunity too good to be true!

MORE ABOUT THE SPEEDWATCH INITIATIVE

The Faringdon East Neighbourhood Action Group covers Stanford in the Vale, Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor, The Hanneys, and the surrounding villages.

One of our key roles is to identify and help resolve local community safety issues in partnership with residents, Neighbourhood Planning Group,, local councils and other partner agencies.

Whenever the Group has sought local views, speeding has been identified as an issue of significant concern.

Village surveys undertaken as part of Neighbourhood, Community or Parish planning frequently identify speeding as a problem.

Police resources are limited and the Thames Valley Police and other police forces are encouraging educational SpeedWatch initiatives as one way of reducing speeding in our villages.

With this in mind the NAG Group are keen to see a local initiative implemented.

So far seven villages have given a commitment and two others will consider participation shortly.

Of course, the scheme cannot operate without volunteers and I am encouraged that three of our villages have already had volunteers trained in anticipation of the scheme going ahead.

I hope the residents of Stanford in the Vale will give serious consideration to offering their services as a volunteer please get in touch with me at pam@fayre.eu or call 01367 710144.

Pam Mitchell

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