
STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL



NEWS UPDATE MAY 2017

Welcome

We are delighted to welcome Dr Simon Howes to the Parish Council following his co-option in May. Simon and his family moved into the village in early 2016, his professional background is in Government Policy, particularly in the area of healthcare.

Following the County Council elections in May, we also welcome Anda Fitzgerald-O'Connor as our County Councillor. Whilst the County Ward she represents covers almost 20 parishes, as Anda lives in Hatford we are hopeful that she will be very familiar with local matters and look forward to working with her over the months ahead.

High Street Bus Stop / Parking

It was recently highlighted to us that the new buses serving the Stanford to Wantage route regularly obstruct the pedestrian crossing when using the High Street stop, which then results with 3-way traffic at the T-junction, competing with pedestrians and the bus for use of the same section of road. After discussions with Oxfordshire County Council, it has been agreed to move the stop a few metres closer to the BT Exchange building, which will keep the crossing clear, and allow drivers a better line of site when the bus is there.

QEII Recreation Field

To proceed with plans to convert the field into a functional, recreational space involves the relocation of the existing power lines. This requires a 3-party wayleave agreement which is taking much longer for Oxfordshire County Council to review/agree than should be necessary. We are however pressing the County Council to progress this, which will then put us in a position to seek detailed agreements for the levelling that will need to be completed.

Love where you live?

From the conversations I have, I firmly believe that the vast majority of residents do indeed love where they live. Of course, that's not to say that we should rest on our laurels and your Parish Councillors voluntarily give up a significant amount of their time to secure improvements in many areas around the village. So it came as something of a surprise to learn that during recent weeks our staff and contractors

have been collecting vast amounts of litter that had been abandoned around the village. For many years, the Parish Council has employed a regular weekly litter pick and thanks to their efforts our streets and public open spaces are usually kept clean. The worst affected areas are the Millennium Green and the Skate Park where over 4 sacks of litter were collected in just one week. Maybe you use these areas, or at least know someone who does – if we want to continue to enjoy these open spaces it becomes our joint responsibility to ensure that litter is put in the bins provided and to encourage those with us to do the same.



Peter Lewis

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

Stanford in the Vale Public Purposes Charity (PPC) Report for June 2017

The Trustees met on Monday 3rd April 2017 with Roger Griffin in the Chair.

It was noted that the PPC portfolio continues to provide a satisfactory income to meet new grant applications. However there have been no new grant applications so far in 2017.

Approved Grant Applications from 2016

The Trustees noted that the only outstanding grant offer is the remaining £5,000.00 support for SitV CE Primary School to improve the Foundation outside area (matched funding with FOSS).

Allotments:

The waiting list is now down to two villagers. The rent of one of the Jubilee Allotment holders remains outstanding and this allotment will be offered to a villager on the waiting list. The Trustees agreed that with the increasing costs of the allotments in providing water supplies and hedge trimming,

The rentals will have to be increased by £2 for each allotment in 2018.

As usual, 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 to have his or her name added to the allotment waiting list should please contact Paul Corrigan on 01367 718325.

Villagers are reminded of the PPC Trust Scheme Statement:

“The Trustees shall apply the income of the Charity for the general benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Stanford in the Vale.” The Trustees interpret this with the hope that their grants will improve and strengthen the community spirit 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 email or hard copy. (01367 718480 or dnax@btinternet.com)

The next meeting of the Trustees will be on Thursday, 13th July 2017 to be held in the Village Hall Committee Room.

David N. Axford, Hon. Clerk/Correspondent,
SitV Public Purposes Charity, Saturday, 15th May 2017



Great news for the Faringdon area after the Winners for the Community Policing Awards 2017 were announced on the 15th May.

PC Robert Maris from the Faringdon Neighbourhood Policing Team won the award for the ***Oxfordshire and Overall Community Police Officer 2017.***

Also, Andi Cunningham, the NAG 1 (Neighbourhood Action Group) Chair won the award for the ***Community Volunteer 2017. Thank you to the Faringdon and district community for showing your appreciation for their hard work.***

The awards, now in their sixteenth year, recognise the exceptional efforts of our policing teams, including, police officers, PCSOs, Special Constables and volunteers for the positive impact they have on the local community they serve. This year also introduced a new award, Community Volunteer of the Year, to showcase the work of voluntary roles within the

community itself that are not directly linked to Policing but support the work of Thames Valley Police.

Earlier in the year, nominations opened which gave members of the public, police officers and staff, and partnership colleagues the chance to nominate those members of Thames Valley Police who go above and beyond in helping with their community.

Environmental Report:

Footpaths:

Our new footpaths officer, Barry Hudson, who lives in Cottage Road, is settling into his role and is patrolling the bridleways and footpaths (note not pavements) and reporting issues to the landowner/Oxfordshire County Council as required. If you are need to report anything please contact Barry on 01367 710342 or e-mail him on barhud@aves123.co.uk

Community Woodland:

We are also delighted that Alethea Creighton has volunteered to be a Woodland Guardian to look after our Community Woodland and to liaise with Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)/the Forestry Commission regarding these woods.

Alethea has been busy planting trees donated by parishioners and working with OCC to replace the majority of the losses caused partially by ash dieback with a mixture of broadleaved species protecting them with new, though shorter, tree shelters. Existing trees and shrubs, though not the ash, has been pruned back as required and protected with a spiral guard or shrub shelter. There will be some herbicide weed control in the spring / early summer.

We do have an aspiration to have some fruit trees in the Community Woodland so if anyone has any suitable rootstock that we could plant please do contact Alethea on 01367 710320 or e-mail her on creightonalethea@gmail.com.

Finally we are looking for more Woodland Guardians to work with Alethea in tending to and improving our Community Woodland please do contact Alethea or me

Nursery End:

We have been quite frustrated by the slow speed of progress in finishing this estate and your Parish Council have now engaged with both the District Council and the County Council to ensure that the builder fulfils its contractual commitments and meets its promised

QE2 New Recreation Field

Slow progress on this as we seek to move the electricity pylon and negotiate with OCC over the Wayleave to move this.

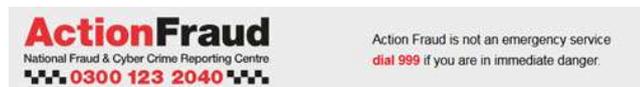
On a more positive note outline planning has now been achieved for change of use from agriculture to recreation land.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you want to discuss environmental matters in the village or better still volunteer to get involved

Mark Isaacs
Parish Councillor 01367 718719

Millennium Green AGM

This is to be held on 21st June 2017-- At 7.30 pm in the school.



Following the ransomware cyber-attack on Friday 12 May which affected the NHS and is believed to have affected other organisations globally, the City of London Police’s National Fraud Intelligence Bureau has issued an alert urging both individuals and businesses to follow protection advice immediately and in the coming days. Ransomware is a form of malicious software (Malware) that enables cyber criminals to remotely lock down files on your computer or mobile device. Criminals will use ransomware to extort money from you (a ransom), before they restore access to your files. There are many ways that ransomware can infect your device, whether it be a link to a malicious website in an unsolicited email, or through a security vulnerability in a piece of software you use.

Key Protect messages for businesses to protect themselves from ransomware:

- Install system and application updates on all devices as soon as they become available.
- Install anti-virus software on all devices and keep it updated.
- Create regular backups of your important files to a device that isn’t left connected to your network as any malware infection could spread to that too.

The National Cyber Security Centre’s technical guidance includes specific software patches to use that will prevent uninfected computers on your network from becoming infected with the “WannaCry” Ransomware:

www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/ransomware-latest-ncsc-guidance

For additional in-depth technical guidance on how to protect your organisation from ransomware, details can be found here:

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/protecting-your-organisation-ransomware>

Key Protect advice for individuals:

- Install system and application updates on all devices as soon as they become available.
- Install anti-virus software on all devices and keep it updated.
- Create regular backups of your important files to a device (such as an external hard drive or memory stick) that isn’t left connected to your computer as any malware infection could spread to that too.
- Only install apps from official app stores, such as Google’s Play Store, or Apple’s App Store as they offer better levels of protection than some 3rd party stores. Jailbreaking, rooting, or disabling any of the default security features of your device will make it more susceptible to malware infections.

Phishing/smishing Fraudsters may exploit this high profile incident and use it as part of phishing/smishing campaigns. We urge people to be cautious if they receive any unsolicited communications from the NHS. The protect advice for that is the following:

- An email address can be spoofed. Don’t open attachments or click on the links within any unsolicited emails you receive, and never respond to emails that ask for your personal or financial details.
- The sender’s name and number in a text message can be spoofed, so even if the message appears to be from an organisation you know of, still exercise caution, particularly if the texts are asking you to click on a link or call a number.

Don’t disclose your personal or financial details during a cold call, and remember that the police and banks will never ring you and ask you to verify your PIN, withdraw your cash, or transfer your money to another “safe” account. **If you have been a victim of fraud or cyber-crime, please report it to Action Fraud at <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>**

Mike Dew (Clerk)	-	01367 710387
Cllr. Amanda Bailey	-	07777 691336
Cllr. Peter Gill	-	01367 718224
Cllr. Simon Howes		07875 249265
Cllr. Mark Isaacs	-	01367 718719
Cllr. Simon Jackson	-	07979 917001
Cllr. Tina Jenkins	-	07443 906150
Cllr. Nona Lewis	-	01367 710779
Cllr. Peter Lewis (Chair)	-	01367 710166
		plewis.sitv@gmail.com
Cllr. Janet Warren	-	01367 710789
Cllr. Karin WilliamsCuss	-	07771 614101