

---

# STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL

---



---

# NEWS UPDATE March 2019

---

## Strategic Site developments

Amended plans have now been submitted by David Wilson Homes and whilst we are pleased to see some of the matters raised have been appropriately adjusted, in our opinion there is further work required to achieve the best possible outcomes for all concerned. We are therefore continuing to liaise with the Planning team at the District Council as well as the developer to ensure that the proposed development takes into account and reflects as many of these matters as possible.

## Burial Ground

Further to the latest update from the vicar, the Parish Council continues to seek areas of land that might be suitable for the creation of an additional burial ground. The existing burial ground is rapidly approaching capacity and without additional space, there simply will not be the possibility of burial within the parish. Consequently, if you have or know of land that might be suitable for such purposes we would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further.

## Local Elections

District Council elections are expected to take place in May 2019, and Parish Council elections follow the same timetable. Elections will only be held should there be more candidates than seats available. If you are interested, or have been considering standing for the Parish Council, any of the existing Councillors would be more than happy to discuss the obligations and address any questions or concerns you might have.

## Substance Abuse

We are aware of an increasing number of empty alcohol bottles being abandoned in the vicinity of the Multi-use Games Area (MUGA) and there have also been several reports relating to the use of illegal drugs in other areas of the village. Whilst not a PC matter, we are working to eradicate the problem – if you become aware of suspicious behaviour please report the matter to the Police at the time. There is a perception that the police won't "bother" the individuals here, and that is something that needs to change and this is only likely if the number of reports increases.

## Computer Equipment

We have recently invested in replacing the clerk's ageing computer, software and scanner/printer bringing this all up to date once again. Not only will this cope with the ever increasing digital workload, we also expect to see a number of efficiencies and improvements moving forward.

## Parking

Please **do not** park on any of the Village Greens, these are protected in law and very susceptible to damage at this time of year. There is plenty of hard standing in front of the Church, and overflow space available in the Village Hall for anyone attending the Church. If you frequently park on other grassed areas please remember that grass reinforcement strips can be purchased for a modest cost. These protect the underlying ground, allow the grass to grow through them and are simple to install, which must be better than driving your car through muddy ruts.

## Spring Bulbs

Following their recent technical issues, the Parish Council has recently received some compensation from TSB Bank. This is being used to fund the purchase of Bluebells "in the green" which we will plant underneath the trees bordering Manor Green – along the verge where very little currently grows. Bluebells are ideally suited to growing under the tree canopy, and so next spring we hope that they will brighten this footpath as it leads towards the Churchyard. We are aware of a number of public green spaces that could use some additional TLC and consequently are exploring the possibility of contracting some gardening services over the coming months.

## Peter Lewis

*Chairman – Stanford in the Vale Parish Council*  
[plewis.sitv@gmail.com](mailto:plewis.sitv@gmail.com)

## **Update from the PARISH COUNCIL ENVIRONMENTAL SUB-COMMITTEE**

The Environmental Sub-Committee plan to start a village fruit orchard and the Parish Council recently approved our funding request. Ten fruit trees, a mix of dessert and cooking apples, pears, plum and greengage, have been ordered and will be planted shortly. We will report on their progress and hope that all residents treat them kindly to allow them to flourish and ensure they are fruitful for years to come!

We also had partial funding from the Parish Council for a 1918 peace / memorial tree to be planted on the A417 Faringdon Road verge. This tree will now not be planted until later this year, possibly around Remembrance weekend in November. We aim to source additional funding to purchase a more mature specimen and install appropriate protection. The year old saplings provided by Oxfordshire County Council and the Woodland Trust as memorial trees, have been potted on to grow larger before planting out.

The bulbs planted in the Faringdon Road verges struggled through the snow and warmth and gave a bright but limited display. We will allow the leaves to die back naturally and feed these areas, which will hopefully give the bulbs a boost to give a more effective display in future years. Please avoid walking over these areas, both when in flower and while the leaves die back.

The landscape firm that planted the bulbs, replaced the dilapidated flower box on the High Street / Faringdon Road junction with a more robust sleeper version. Eventually, all the flower boxes will be replaced as part of the Public Art Project but thanks to Kennet Landscape Solutions Ltd for their kind donation in the meantime.



## **Update on the STANFORD IN THE VALE ART PROJECT**

As part of the Planning process, the Parish Council secured money from the housing developments to spend on Public Art works in the village. A small group from the Parish Council and Vale District Council, have been working on this project for a while now. Our brief was to provide the village with works that were both artistic and useful and to this end we have been lucky to appoint two very talented metalwork artists, to design and create the first of several items around the village.

Our first commission is with John Loveluck, of Anvil Forge, a small family run company of blacksmiths and metalworkers based near Wokingham. John and his team have designed a wildlife themed noticeboard, to be installed in the Nursery End / Faringdon Road verge near the pedestrian crossing. The design was approved late last year, and we hope to install the noticeboard in the next few months. The structure includes locally relevant creatures and plants and we hope it will be enjoyed by all residents, young and old. There will be an opportunity for village groups to create time-capsules to be sealed within the supports of the noticeboard during the final commissioning, so please keep an eye out for a call for your input soon.

Our second commission is with Melissa Cole, an Artist Blacksmith based in Marlborough, Wiltshire. Melissa will be seen around the village as she works on creating design ideas, initially concentrating on new planters for the village entrances, where we want to replace the existing, rather tired planters, and also install a few new ones! Melissa hopes that these will be beginning of a village arts trail that will creatively explore and bring together some of the events and features that have shaped the village over the years. Again, there will be an opportunity for you to get involved as Melissa would like to meet with interested village societies and groups, and any other residents that are interested. Melissa will be attending the Village Festival in June so now is the time to get involved, as she is happy to come along to your group meetings, just contact the Clerk and we'll put you in touch.

Melissa's provisional timetable is to finalise designs by early summer ready for making and installation in the autumn. We also hope that community groups or local companies will adopt a planter and look after it during the year. Again please contact the PC Clerk if you are interested.

We look forward to see what these talented artists create for the village and this is just the beginning, so watch this space.

[Stanford in the Vale Parish Council Public Art Working Group](#)

## Public Purposes Charity News

### Announcing our New Trustee:

PPC is delighted to welcome the Hon Geoffrey Somerset as a Trustee. Geoffrey has a wealth of knowledge and experience to bring to the Charity and is a long-time resident of Stanford in the Vale.

We look forward to his insights and his humour at our meetings and if you bump into Geoffrey in the Village do congratulate him!

More new Trustees are in the pipeline – watch this space to see if you know them when we make the announcements.

### **New Grant Applications Welcome:**

To help appropriate organisations to apply for Grants we have provided some guidance notes on our website.

Under the overarching objective of supporting projects that benefit all or many of those living within the Parish, examples of what might be supported by PPC include:

- Capital schemes to create or improve buildings or facilities
- The provision or replacement of equipment
- The provision of other material items or amenities
- The staging of an event by an established village club or society may be considered provided that the event is open to all parishioners
- The production of publications relating to village life. This may be limited to a contribution if a cover price is charged and copies are sold commercially

The list above is not exhaustive, so if the nature of your project is not listed or described please contact us and we will try to help and offer advice.

Please see some of the projects supported by PPC at <http://ppcstanford.org/projects> - you can download a grant application form to see if your project is eligible. You can also download the Application notes.

You won't know if you don't ask!

### **Next round of Grants:**

The next meeting of Trustees is 18 April where all grant applications received up to that date will be considered. Grant Applications received after 18 April will be considered at the July Meeting.

### **Allotments:**

Invoices are going out for Allotment holders. Please note that they will be coming from our Treasurer and you can now pay directly into the PPC Bank Account or by cheque.

### **Newsletter Advertisers:**

PPC supports the Newsletter costs and by managing the advertising – if you are an existing advertiser you will have recently received your invoice. Note that you can now pay your invoices directly into the PPC bank account or by cheque. If you are interested in advertising, please contact us at [info@ppcstanford.org](mailto:info@ppcstanford.org) for details.

### **Ask us about PPC:**

Have a look at the PPC website: [www.ppcstanford.org](http://www.ppcstanford.org) and see if it inspires you to think about something you can do for Stanford in the Vale with our help.

**Caryl Oliver – Clerk/Correspondent**  
**PPC Stanford**



### **Scam Warning - Fake TV Licensing Emails**

An ongoing TV Licensing phishing campaign, first identified by the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) in September 2018, continues to be reported to Action Fraud in high numbers. Fraudsters are sending to the public fake TV Licensing emails that are designed to steal their personal and financial information. Since April 2018, Action Fraud has received over 900 crime reports with victim losses totalling more than £830,000.

### **How you can protect yourself:**

- Don't click on the links or attachments in suspicious emails and never respond to messages that ask for your personal or financial details.
- Don't assume a phone call or email is authentic, even if someone knows your basic details (such as your name or address). Remember, criminals can spoof phone numbers and email addresses to appear as companies you know and trust, such as TV Licensing.
- Your bank will never call and ask you for your PIN, full banking password, or ask you to transfer money out of your account.

### **What to do if you've fallen victim:**

- Let your bank know as soon as possible and monitor your bank statements regularly for any unusual activity.
- If you suspect your identity may have been stolen you can check your credit file quickly and easily online. Use a reputable service provider and

follow up on any unexpected or suspicious results.

- If you have been a victim of fraud or cyber crime, report it to Action Fraud at [actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk), or by calling 0300 123 2040.



## OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### TRAFFIC REGULATION NOTICE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT, 1984

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 14(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984, that the Oxfordshire County Council

#### TEMPORARILY PROHIBITS THE USE OF THE HIGHWAY BY ALL MOTOR VEHICLES

**LOCATION:** Wantage, Challow Road  
OX12 9EB

**REASON:** To facilitate connection of a  
new water mains

**DURATION:** Starting on 13 April 2019

The anticipated completion date is 15 April 2019.  
(Traffic Regulation Notices cover a maximum  
of 5 consecutive days).

This is a 24 hour closure

**ACCESS:** Limited access will be  
maintained for emergency service vehicles  
and for frontage within the closed section of  
road, subject to the progress of the works

**SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE ROUTE:** via Denchworth  
Road-A417 Mably Way-A338-A420-Stanford Road-  
A417 Faringdon Road and vice versa

Owen Jenkins, Director for Infrastructure  
Delivery Communities Date: 6 March 2019



THAMES VALLEY  
POLICE

### Neighbourhood Policing Newsletter

Here is the latest update from the Faringdon  
Neighbourhood policing Team

#### **Priorities**

**Burglary** - The team have been out patrolling current hot spot areas such as Shrivenham and Faringdon, completing cocooning efforts which involved talking to neighbours and nearby residents in response to a burglary in their area to help provide crime prevention advice and identify possible future victims. We have been successful with signing people up to Thames Valley Alert

([www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk](http://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk)) and the SmartWater scheme in the village of Shrivenham around the recently targeted streets. Our advice is to be vigilant and to keep all valuables locked away and out of sight. Remember to lock doors to dwellings and out buildings, also remember to utilise window locks. Please be confident to report suspicious persons or vehicles on 999.

You can reduce the risk of becoming a victim of burglary by taking a few simple security measures to make your property less:

When going out, remember to light up your home using timer switches or a TV simulator.

- Don't leave valuables or cash on display and store your house and car keys away from your letterbox.
- Move bins away from any side gates to prevent easy access into your property.
- Lock any tools away to prevent them being used to break into your home.
- Consider fitting a motion activated external light and installing a CCTV system.
- Speak to your neighbours, look out for each other's homes and think about setting up Neighbourhood Watch schemes.
- Remain vigilant and report all suspicious people or vehicles by calling 101 or reporting it online at [www.thamesvalley.police.uk](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk)
- Mark your valuables using Smart Water
- Talk to neighbours when going on holiday or away for short breaks

Crime prevention surveys are available to offer advice and can be provided if you feel that you are vulnerable. We are very keen to prevent victims of crime and to help deter criminals.

**Anti-social behaviour (ASB)** - ASB reports have reduced in Faringdon Town centre with very few reports. We have recently received a report from Stanford in the Vale highlighting a slight increase of

ASB in their area. The team will be showing an increased presence in the next few weeks to assess any possible issues and deter any possible ASB.

**Rural Crime-** There have been several reports with regards to Hare Coursing in the rural areas including Buckland, Charney Bassett and White Horse Hill area. We continue to make efforts to be visible in the area, deter and catch offenders.

**Cyber Crime/Scams/Fraud** - The team have been supporting Operation Signature which is designed to help prevent vulnerable victim so fraud through more complex scam attempts. The team are tasked to visit those identified as possible victims or already targeted individuals. The team complete a structured risk assessment and provide fraud prevention documents to highlight current fraud scams happening in the area.

We encourage the public to safeguard yourselves with a good anti-virus and malware software and help protect anyone that may be vulnerable to this kind of issue.

We have seen an increase in telephone banking fraud. Telephone banking fraud is a scam which is becoming increasingly commonplace. The fraudsters do not actually scam their victims online, but use the telephone to do so.

Here's how it works:

You receive a call from somebody who claims to be from an organisation you trust, such as your bank or the police. They inform you that there is a safety or security problem associated with your bank account or payment cards, and you need to take some kind of immediate preventative action, which normally involves confirming your confidential login details. However, the person on the other end of the call is not your bank or card issuer, but a fraudster.

You may also be asked to give your cards to a courier sent by the 'bank' or 'police' to ensure that they have been stopped, or for evidence. This is known as 'Courier Fraud'.

**The risks**

- You provide your account details and answers to security questions to fraudsters
- Your bank account is emptied and/or cards used to their limit
- You could become a victim of identity theft because you have revealed confidential financial and personal information

**How to avoid telephone banking fraud**

- A bank or payment card company will never ask you to transfer money out of your account to another that you do not recognise, so hang up immediately.
- If you do think that the call may be authentic and you choose to call your bank or card issuer, call the number on your bank statement or other document from your bank – or on the back of your card, and NOT a number given to you by the caller or the one you were called from.
- Never provide financial or personal details to a caller, but call back on a number you know to be authentic. Many scammers have the ability to spoof authentic numbers to fool you into thinking that they are genuine.

**If you have been a victim of telephone banking fraud**

Report it to Action Fraud, the UK's national fraud reporting centre by calling 0300 123 20 40 or by visiting [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk). Report it to your relevant bank or payment card provider immediately. You will find out how to do so by looking on their websites.

**Please get in touch/follow us using the following:**

E-mail: [FaringdonNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:FaringdonNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)

Twitter: @tvpsouthandvale

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/tvpsouthandvale](http://www.facebook.com/tvpsouthandvale)

Phone: 101

*Always phone 999 in an emergency*

<b>Mike Dew (Clerk)</b>	-	<b>01367 710387</b>
<b>Cllr. Amanda Bailey</b>	-	<b>07777 691336</b>
<b>Cllr. Peter Gill</b>	-	<b>01367 718224</b>
<b>Cllr. Simon Howes</b>		<b>07875 249265</b>
<b>Cllr. Mark Isaacs</b>	-	<b>01367 718719</b>
<b>Cllr. Simon Jackson</b>	-	<b>07979 917001</b>
<b>Cllr. Tina Jenkins</b>	-	<b>07443 906150</b>
<b>Cllr. Peter Lewis (Chair)</b> <a href="mailto:plewis.sitv@gmail.com">plewis.sitv@gmail.com</a>	-	<b>01367 710166</b>
<b>Cllr. Kevin Middleton</b>	-	<b>01367 718395</b>
<b>Cllr. Janet Warren</b>	-	<b>01367 710789</b>
<b>Cllr. Karin WilliamsCuss</b>	-	<b>07771 614101</b>