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# STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL

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# NEWS UPDATE December 2019

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## **Bow Road Re-opened**

We're pleased to report that works to replace the cast iron water main in Bow Road completed successfully, and as reported previously, following our joint meeting between the Parish Council, Thames Water and Oxfordshire County Council Highways, the revised working program did succeed in reducing the closure period by almost 2 weeks.

Unfortunately, BT Openreach have since advised that they are now planning to do some works in Bow Road – but as yet there are no details on the plans nor timescales, but we will be working to ensure that any disruption is kept to an absolute minimum.

## **Localised Flooding**

During severe rain, you will likely see pools of water around the drain grilles, particularly along High Street – if driving, please either slow down or drive around these, since the wash from vehicles is causing damage to homes in the proximity. We are aware of an ongoing issue with the storm-water drains affecting the entire length of High Street which, we strongly suspect, is having a knock-on effect elsewhere around the village (including Manor Crescent, Joyces Road and Van Diemens). At the last update, the County Council were intending to undertake a CCTV survey along the entire length of the drain in High Street in order to identify the cause of the blockage – however, we don't believe this has taken place yet. The matter is in the hands of the highways drainage team at Oxfordshire County Council and we are pressing both that team, and your County Councillor to see the matter is properly resolved and as quickly as possible.

## **Public Access Defibrillator**

The third public access defibrillator, is now fully operational and is located on the wall of the Primary School, accessible from the main entrance off High Street. Access to these devices is managed by the ambulance service, should the need arise. We are grateful to the Public Purposes Charity who have kindly agreed to fund this device.

## **QEII Recreation Field Update**

We have obtained outline approval from Oxfordshire County Council for the levelling model that has been produced in order to prepare the site for the creation of various pitches and are now working with the District Council on pre-planning advice, which we

hope will ensure there are no unexpected hurdles to obtain the required planning permission for levelling.

## **Play Equipment / Skate park**

Efforts are continuing to repair the fenced off "Half-pipe" in the skate park. The metal surface has eroded and cannot be welded due to the fire risk presented by the foam installed beneath. We are currently carrying out an alternative repair, but this is extremely weather dependent and has had to be delayed on numerous occasions. We will remove the fencing as soon as it is safe to do.

We have instructed a contractor to renovate the "zip-wire" on the recreation ground, which will benefit from a complete new cable, trolley, brake and seat in the coming weeks. We are also in the process of replacing the seats on the infant swings which have become damaged.

## **Highway Defects**

Following an incident with a bus taking the wrong turn, the kerbstones on the corner of Church Green have been damaged and we're working with the County Council to have these fully reinstated.

## **Footpaths**

The Parish Council is very grateful to Mr Baylis who has repaired the rotting timber footbridge on the footpath that links Bow Road to the "Hatford Footpath".

**Dog Fouling** – please, please clean up after your dog! If you see anyone allowing their dog to foul within the village without clearing it up, please report the matter to [env.health@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:env.health@southandvale.gov.uk) / 01235 422403, with details and photos or anything else that might help to identify the individual. The Environmental Health team will either issue a fine or seek to prosecute.

## **Peter Lewis**

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

## **Christmas Tree Collection**

If you have a Brown Bin you can put any real Christmas trees out next to the bin on the scheduled waste collection day in January. Trees must be less than 6ft. If you do not have a Brown Bin you can take the tree to the tip.

### **Admission to infant and primary school**

Parent or carers of children born between **1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016** (inclusive) need to apply for a Reception in 2020/2021 school place for their children.

From **1 November 2019** you can apply online for a primary or infant school place.

The deadline for receipt of completed school applications is **15 January 2020**.

If your application is late, it will be processed later in the year, and you are far less likely to get a place at one of your preferred schools

### **Public Purposes Charity**

#### **2019 Reflection**

We reach the end of 2019 with the warm glow of knowing that many local organisations are enjoying the support we have been able to provide through grants for Community benefit.

The Parish Council, The Primary School, the Pre-School and St Denys are amongst our 'regulars' but we have also approved some significant grants for Millennium Green, The Social Club, Rainbows, Brownies and Guides and Home-Start Southern Oxfordshire. We are especially pleased to have made small but needed contributions to Jumpin' Beans and the Pickleball Group!

Check out some of the projects at:

<http://ppcstanford.org/projects>

Watch this space for some interesting and innovative new projects under discussion that we will be able to tell you more about next year!

The Allotments have been the focus of work in the past few weeks under the enthusiastic eye of Tim Mills. All are now allocated and we have a growing waiting list. If you are interested in getting onto that list check out the website and submit an online form.

<http://ppcstanford.org/allotments>

At our AGM at the end of November we said farewell to Kathleen Campbell-Cave and Alan Robinson who have been two of our long-standing Trustees.

Kathleen has been a valuable contributor to PPC for many years and we will miss her but wish her the very best as she takes on new challenges. Alan has been a constant voice of clarity in our administrative processes and we will miss his quiet counsel.

The AGM also re-elected Roger Griffin as Chair, Caryl Oliver as Clerk and Felipe Vizoso as Treasurer.

There are now openings for new Trustees. Being a Trustee is not as dry and boring as you might think – you can be a key player in how money is spent around the Village to make it a better place for all of us to live in.

You can find information and application forms at:

<http://ppcstanford.org/contact>

PPC wishes all the residents and organisations of Stanford in the Vale a wonderful Christmas and a joy filled New Year. Keep an eye out for Santa at work in the Village and drive carefully around him!

Caryl Oliver

Clerk/Correspondent

Public Purposes Charity

### **Litter Picking**

We would like to thank W&S Recycling for carrying out another litter pick in the community woodland. Now that autumn is coming, this will help the woodland look at its best and we would like to express our gratitude to them for their help in maintaining our natural environment. This is a lovely time of year to get outside and experience the autumn colours. Even if it's only for 5 minutes, getting out in some green space can be a real boost, and our woodland provides a way to connect with nature on your doorstep.

The kerbstones on Church Green suffered some damage recently when the Thames Travel bus got stuck there. Our local highways officer has been very helpful in attending promptly to assess the damage and arranging for the area to be made safe until a permanent repair can be made. If you want to raise road or street problems with Oxfordshire County Council you can do this using their FixMyStreet website, at <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>. The parish council are in the process of arranging a meeting with our highways officer to discuss the current backlog of repairs on FixMyStreet and how they can be progressed.

### **Hatford Footpath**

In the last Parish Council Newsletter we reported that the footbridge on the path from Bow Road towards Hatford was in need of maintenance - some rotting planks were making it difficult to cross safely. The bridge has now been repaired. The Parish Council would like to thank the landowner, John Baylis, for carrying out the repair. We are grateful to him for maintaining the footpath for the enjoyment of our community.



### **Neighbourhood Policing Newsletter**

**Burglary:** As a neighbourhood team we have been focusing on the burglaries in and around Faringdon, our main focus is the routes the offenders are using to get into our area. Offenders have been gaining entry via rear doors of properties. We urge for

members of the public to be extra vigilant and report any suspicious behaviour.

Please visit

<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/police-forces/thames-valley-police/areas/advice/home-security-guide/> to download our security guide which contains a range of physical and digital security measures to protect your home. There is also advice on how to avoid invalidating your home insurance through poor security and a handy checklist when going away. You can also click on a link to sign up to Thames Valley Alerts to receive local crime updates from us.

**Rural Crime:** The team are having great success thanks to the Rural WhatsApp which has 70 members and these people are our eyes and ears in the community. Vehicles are dogs continue to be seized from these organised criminals. Rural crime week saw six arrests and three dogs seized. The new 4X4 is our latest asset to help us deliver in this area of business. You said we did

We have received numerous reports to drug dealing down Canada Lane and the surrounding roads. Working with the local community we attended Canada Lane and a group were searched and drugs/drug paraphernalia were seized, the investigations are ongoing.

#### Witness appeals

We have had reports of suspicious people in Great Coxwell Faringdon, if anyone has any details of who these people maybe or any information please call 101.

Please remain vigilant and report all suspicious vehicles and people. We ask for any suspicious people taking interest in vehicles or property to be reported to us due to the burglaries in the area. If any vehicles are seen we ask if indexes could be obtained.

#### Home security

Now is the ideal time to look at your home security. If you're not at home during the hours of darkness, you may be at an increased risk of burglary. If no light is on in your home, curtains are not drawn, and no car is in the drive, it's an obvious sign to an opportunist burglar that nobody is at home. At this time of year it pays to secure your home.

There are a number of simple and free ways to do this, all of which will help reduce the chance of your home becoming a target.

- Visit a local retailer and pick up a 24-hour segment timer for under £5. The timer can be used with a lamp, radio or TV to give the impression that someone's home. Remember to use an energy efficient light bulb.

- Register your valuables on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com) it's free and takes just a few minutes and if your valuables are stolen, will allow you to tell the police,

your insurer, and the second-hand trade to assist in recovering your property and catch the thief

- Keep valuables out of sight.
- Lock your doors and windows, if you have a UPVC door, make sure you have double locked it.

#### Speed Watch

Faringdon neighbourhood Policing Team (NHPT) have been liaising with local parishes in moving forward with the community speed watch initiative to try and cut down on speeding through our small local villages.

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

**Victims First**, which supports victims of crime and abuse across Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire, has launched a video to raise awareness of coercive control and emotional abuse in relationships. The video, 'Don't Disappear' can be viewed here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d6rt8w5HBWw&feature=youtu.be>

It highlights the red flags to look out for in a relationship, which can be the warning signs of controlling behaviour and abuse. Coercive control became a criminal offence in 2015 and involves an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse by a perpetrator that is used to harm, punish or frighten their victim.

If you have been affected by coercive control or domestic abuse you can access support through **Victims First** on 0300 1234 148 or online at [www.victims-first.org.uk](http://www.victims-first.org.uk).

<b>Mike Dew (Clerk)</b>	-	<b>01367 710387</b>
<b>Cllr. Amanda Bailey</b>	-	<b>07777 691336</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. John Williams</b>	-	<b>01367 710705</b>
<b>Cllr. Karin WilliamsCuss</b>	-	<b>07771 614101</b>