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# STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL

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## NEWS UPDATE February 2020

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### Localised Flooding

Further to our previous reports on this matter, we continue to press both the highways drainage team at Oxfordshire County Council and your County Councillor to see the matter is properly resolved and as quickly as possible.

### 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.

### Strategic Site

In December we received the 5<sup>th</sup> major amendment to the planning application for two segments of the Strategic Site (between Ware Road and the A417). We have since met with Vale's Planning Officer and discussed our outstanding concerns. Whilst these amendments don't fully address our outstanding concerns, particularly around density, the application does now align to Vale planning policy and there is therefore little more that can be insisted upon.

### Play Equipment / Skate Park

Further to our last update, refurbishment to the zip wire on the recreation ground was completed before Christmas and the infant swing seats have also been replaced. Meanwhile, our Recreation and Leisure sub-committee are currently exploring options for a major refurbishment of the equipment in the play area, albeit this is only at the early planning stage.

We regret that, despite our best efforts, repairs to the (currently fenced off) "Half-pipe" in the skate park are ongoing, as the weather continues to limit the opportunities to undertake the repairs.

### Footpaths

Dog Fouling – please, please clean up after your dog – it has been Vale's policy for a number of years that any public bins can be used to get rid of the waste. 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.

### A417

We were liaising with Earthline, (the operators of the Shellingford quarry), before Christmas as there had been a substantial amount of concern towards the road conditions. We believe this to be a combination of factors, including the substantial rainfall that has been experienced in recent weeks and, in addition to their vehicles, the road also suffers from farm traffic as well as other HGV operators. Whilst not all of the mud/debris is exclusively caused by Earthline vehicles, the introduction of a second sweep has significantly improved matters. There is an existing wheel wash facility within the quarry, but there are longer term plans to extend the paved roadway between the wash and the road, which will reduce the quantity of debris that is able to escape from the site.

### Vandalism

There were a number of incidents of petty vandalism around the village at the beginning of December, including graffiti, broken glass being left on the Millennium Green (resulting in an injury) and projectiles being thrown at passing cars. If you see any such incidents or have dashcam footage of similar, please do report the matter – these are completely unnecessary acts which absorb time, effort and taxpayers money to repair.

### Speedwatch

We have previously supported a local Speedwatch group which shares a police-approved camera amongst a number of parishes to monitor/deter speeding within the 30mph limits. The police have recently approved better and more cost effective devices for this, and we're currently looking at securing a device dedicated to the village, rather than being shared.

### Chris Stallard

On behalf of all residents, we'd like to thank Chris Stallard, whose weekly rounds of litter picking have helped to ensure that the village is kept looking neat and tidy. After many years of sterling service to the village Chris has decided it's time to retire from this role.

### 2020 opportunity to visit the bio digester

Tours are limited to 15 people per date, and places will be allocated on a "first come, first serve basis". With this in mind if you are interested in any of the below dates, please send an email to [waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk) with the name of the attendees, contact numbers for attendees, and an emergency contact. All tours start at 10am.

#### Viridor Energy Recovery Facility, Ardley (Black Bin)

- Monday August 24<sup>th</sup>
- Tuesday October 6<sup>th</sup>
- Wednesday December 2<sup>nd</sup>

#### Severn Trent Green Power Anaerobic Digestion Plant, Wallingford (Food Bin)

- Thursday June 11<sup>th</sup>
- Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup>
- Tuesday November 17<sup>th</sup>

### Part time Vacancy

*Stanford in the Vale Parish Council has a part-time vacancy for a street cleanser/litter picker. Approx 1-2hrs per week @ £9/hour. Would suit someone who enjoys walking and making a difference in our community. Contact the clerk.*



#### **Peter Lewis**

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

### PPC News – A new decade begins!

On 23 January the PPC Trustees met for their first meeting of the year – including new Trustee Tony Gunby. Tony has had a home in the Village since 2002 but has not spent a lot of time here due to work commitments around the World with the RAF. Now retired we will see a great deal more of him and he makes an energetic new addition to our Board.

There is still a chair at the table for one more Trustee if you are interested in making a contribution to the Village!

It was a busy end to 2019 and PPC achieved the goals it set itself for the year. You may already have noticed that we are providing more support for the Newsletter as it is a vital means of ensuring everyone in the Village knows what is going on.

We will be making announcements as we start work on new ideas and more grants for our Village.

Oh yes, and for those of you perplexed by the ever changing status of the time shown on the Church Clock. Pigeons on the hands!.... Watch the clock as we find solutions...

Caryl Oliver

Clerk/Correspondent

Public Purposes Charity



### Neighbourhood Policing Newsletter

**Rural crime:** Hare coursing continues to be a priority for the Faringdon Neighbourhood Team. Hare coursing is the pursuit of hares using hounds. Participants spread in a line across a field and disturb the hare from its home. They then release their dogs to give chase. A bet is made on which dog will catch the hare first with large sums of money changing hands. The most obvious sign is a group of vehicles parked in a rural area perhaps by a gateway to farmland, on a grass verge, on a farm track or bridle path. There will usually be estate cars, four wheel drives or vans. They may contain evidence of dogs inside – such as muddy paw prints and dog hair. If you see an event taking place we would advise you not to approach the participants but contact us immediately on 101, or 999 if it is happening at the time.

#### Fraud and identity theft

Understanding how to keep your personal details and identity safe is one of the best ways to prevent yourself from falling victim to fraud or identity theft. Be cautious of anyone asking for your personal or financial details. Your bank, the police and other reputable companies will never ask for this type of information over email or the phone.

#### **To protect yourself:**

- never give personal details to anyone who contacts you unexpectedly
- don't carry documents or bank cards unless you need them
- always shred unwanted documents such as bills, bank statements and even mail
- keep personal documents in a secure place
- report lost or stolen bank cards and personal documents immediately
- check bank statements as soon as they arrive and always report any unusual activity
- always keep your card in sight when paying at a shop or restaurant
- don't respond to unsolicited phone calls or emails

### **Online:**

If you shop, bank or use your card online, it's important to take a few simple steps to make sure your details are protected. To help keep your details secure:

- create a strong password and use different ones for different accounts
- only enter card details on secure websites, look for the padlock icon in the address bar
- check the address starts with 'https://', the letter 's' means it's secure
- make sure all devices have up-to-date anti-virus software and a firewall installed
- always use the latest version of your web browser and regularly check for updates
- never respond to suspicious emails asking for personal information

### Witness Appeals

There was an incident of criminal damage on Christmas Day (25/12) between 7.45 – 8.15pm in Watchfield/ Shrivenham. A silver 4 x 4 vehicle was seen driving erratically on the Watchfield Recreation Ground which resulted in damage to the field. The vehicle was also seen driving close to the College Farm pub. If anyone has any details of who this could be or any other information please report it on our website, call 101 and quote reference number 43190403650.

### Staff Changes

We would like to welcome PC Carly Meads to the team! Carly has joined us as a Neighbourhood Specialist Officer and a permanent replacement for PC Tom Pryor.

### **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](https://www.facebook.com/tvpsouthandvale)

Phone: 101

Always phone 999 in an emergency

### **Pop Up Business School**

The PopUp Business School will be returning to Didcot to run a FREE five-day course to help anyone thinking about setting up their own business and to advise existing small businesses on how increase profits.

From Monday 27 January, the course will run daily from Monday-Friday, at Didcot Civic Hall at 10am-3pm, and will include tips on marketing, how to create a website, attract more customers through social media and how to shape the business to suit – all without spending any money.

During the informal sessions, trainers help build people's confidence to kick-start their new venture by teaching them the vital skills on how to set goals and what they can do when faced by new or unexpected challenges.

Last time the PopUp Business School visited Didcot in 2018, 53 people attended, from South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse district areas with others coming from further afield from Reading, Witney and Swindon.

Through the week 15 brand-new businesses were created, including a wedding photographer, a vegan fast food retailer, a life coach service and an entertainment hire company and, by Friday afternoon, nearly all had made their first sale. The other 38 attendees that attended all week were almost ready to kick-start their own enterprise too.

Cllr Robin Bennett, Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Regeneration, for the council said, "The PopUp Business School is a brilliant project, which has already helped many budding local entrepreneurs, and that's why we're bringing it back to Didcot. The course is free and open to anyone, whether you already run a business or are thinking of setting one up. It covers many of the skills you will need running your own business, in a fun and engaging way."

The workshops are being held in partnership with Soha Housing as part of South Oxfordshire District Council's national award-winning project to support new business start-ups in the southern Oxfordshire area.

Anyone can sign up to attend the school via [www.popupbusinessschool.co.uk/didcot](http://www.popupbusinessschool.co.uk/didcot)

<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>