



20mph zone

We had a total of 266 responses (24% of households) to our survey on a 20mph zone. 171 people (64%) supported an application to reduce speed limits to 20mph while 89 (33%) opposed it (6 people did not express a preference). Similar numbers felt that the current 30mph limit was too high. Full results are shown in the table below.

On the basis of the survey, the parish council will be applying to Oxfordshire County Council for a 20mph zone throughout the village, with the exception of the A417, The final decision, however, rests with the county council

We'll provide further updates in subsequent newsletters.

20mph survey results

	Yes	No	No response
Is the 30mph speed limit too high?	173	85	8
Where would a lower limit be beneficial?			
School/Coop/café	97		
High St/Chapel Rd/Bow Rd	64		
Whole village	97		
Other	58		
Do you feel unsafe as a pedestrian?	128	132	
Would you feel safer driving with a 20mph limit?	147	109	

Would you feel safer cycling with a 20mph limit?	125	92	
Would you feel safer walking with a 20mph limit?	148	115	
Would you support a 20mph application?	171	89	
Are you concerned for children's safety walking/riding to school?	185	70	

Internal auditor wanted

The parish council is required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2105, to 'undertake an effective internal audit to evaluate the effectiveness of its risk management, control and governance processes, taking into account public sector internal auditing standards or guidance'.

Our current auditor is stepping down and we are looking for a replacement for next year. There is no requirement to be professionally qualified but an understanding of basic bookkeeping and accounting processes, an awareness of the principles and practice of financial and other risk management, and some knowledge of the process of auditing would be an advantage.

If you are interested in the role, please contact the clerk (clerk@stanfordinthevalepc.co.uk). The role has been carried out in the past on a voluntary basis but a paid role can also be considered.

New litter pickers

We're pleased to welcome Kay and Bruce as our new litter pickers (and our thanks to Nicky, who has been carrying out the role for the last three years). Please make their job easier by placing litter in the bins provided.

Motorbikes on the QEII Field

Could we remind parishioners that motorbikes are not permitted on the QEII Field, or indeed on the surrounding county council land adjacent to the recycling centre. The terms of the parish council's lease for the field do not permit motorbikes and there is a clear hazard to horse riders, dog walkers, and others who use the field on foot.

The former landfill site nearby, on which bikes have also been spotted, has some ecologically sensitive areas which are easily damaged by bikes and, given its nature, is a potentially hazardous due to the presence of monitoring boreholes.

Parish footpath wardens

Some of our footpath wardens for the village, having helped us considerably in assessing the status of our local paths and identifying areas for attention, are stepping down, and the parish council is looking for some volunteers who might be interested in taking up the role. No particular qualifications are needed other than to enjoy being outdoors and an interest in helping others make the most of the countryside that surrounds us. This is one of those roles that can take up as much, or as little, time as you wish and would involve things like helping us to investigate reports of problems with footpaths, getting out to check paths are unobstructed and in good order and, optionally, helping us to organise working parties to repair paths. If you're interested, please contact Kevin Middleton (kevinfmiddleton@gmail.com).

The Vale Way

Now that the summer holiday season is here, you might be interested to know that Stanford in the Vale is on The Vale Way – a walking route through the Vale of White Horse devised by Vale of White Horse Ramblers. This is a 27-mile east-west route connecting Abingdon, Wantage and Faringdon and passing through Stanford. The route uses existing public rights of way throughout and travels from the source of the River Ock to where it joins the Thames at Abingdon. You can find further details, including a map at <https://www.ramblers-oxon.org.uk/thevaleway/valeway.htm>.

Jubilee Roses

The parish council has recently planted four new rose bushes in the vicinity of the village hall. There are two shrub roses – Queen Elizabeth II (pink) and John Ystumlllyn (white) – and two climbers – Sympathie (red) and White Star (white). They were purchased in celebration of

the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 and were funded by the Oxfordshire County Councillors' Priority Fund. John Ystumlllyn, after whom one of the roses is named, was an 18th-century gardener and the first well-recorded black person in North Wales.

New councillors

We are pleased to welcome two new councillors, who were co-opted at our June meeting – Cllrs Gerry Austin and Bob Kent.

Kevin Middleton

Chair – Stanford in the Vale Parish Council
kevinfmiddleton@gmail.com

Asset of Community Value

As part of our efforts to protect community resources the Parish Council is attempting to have the Horse and Jockey listed as an *Asset of Community Value*. If successful, what this would mean that in the event that the Jockey is put up to sale by Green King - which I would stress is not the case at the moment - the village would have a period of six months in which the pub could not be sold, in order to try and raise funds to purchase it on behalf of the community.

"To do this WE NEED YOU! If you have ever participated in a club or community event at the Horse and Jockey, we want to hear from you - and the more the merrier. The more clubs and events we can list and provide evidence for the better chance we have got. Similarly, for those people involved in such activities it is vital that we collect evidence documents from villagers about what they have done at the pub and what these activities have meant to them and the community.

"To do this if you could contact the Clerk in the first instance (clerk@stanfordinthevalepc.co.uk) to say you would like to help with this process and a member of the Parish Council will be available to help you contribute your evidence to our formal application."



Pets Reunited

There are reports of scam calls to owners of missing pets listed on Pets Reunited. Please be vigilant, these scam calls are often very convincing!

The caller claims to be from a vet, the RSCPA or a rescue centre informing owners they need to pay immediately as their beloved pet needs an operation, Or they may ask for a small 'release fee' (around £5) in order for a pet to be released back to its owner.

PLEASE DO NOT BE TAKEN IN BY THIS, THIS IS A SCAM.

If you're unsure if this is a genuine call about your missing pet - take the name of the vet or rescue centre and google it, find the contact details yourself and then contact them directly. If they are genuine they won't mind you contacting them. Do not use the number the scammers offer you. Hang up the phone! If you're using a landline, make sure that they are not still on the line after you've hung up.

Local Website
<https://www.petsreunited.com/local/oxford>

21 million scam emails reported

Almost 21 million reports have been made to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS), resulting in the removal of over **235,000 malicious websites**.

SERS was launched by the [National Cyber Security Centre](#) (NCSC) and the City of London Police in April 2020 to enable the public to forward suspicious emails to an automated system that scans them for malicious links. Since its launch, almost 21 million reports have been made to the service.

Mobile phone providers also offer a service that allows customers to report suspicious text messages, by forwarding them to the number **7726**. The service is free of charge and enables providers to takedown malicious websites and block malicious texts from being sent across their network.

As of 31 May 2023, **54,000 text message scams have been removed** as a result of suspicious texts forwarded to the 7726 service.

How to protect yourself from scam emails and texts

Received an email or text that seems suspicious? Report it. Your reports enable us to remove the emails and websites criminals use to commit fraud and cyber crime.

1: Forward suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk . Send emails to this address that feel suspicious, even if you're not certain they're a scam - we can check.

2: Forward suspicious text messages to 7726 (it's free of charge). Your provider can find out where the text came from and block or ban the sender.

3 - If you've lost money or provided personal information as a result of a phishing scam, notify your bank immediately and report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040. In Scotland, call Police Scotland on 101.

Please note: Sometimes a forwarded email may not reach us because it is already recognised by spam detection services. You can also take a screenshot of the email and send it to report@phishing.gov.uk

Cllr. Gerry Austin machinemanausto@gmail.com	-	07795 387606
Cllr. Karen Boyle karenboylesity@gmail.com	-	07411 228554
Cllr. James Brooks jamesahbrooks@gmail.com	-	07464 056839
Cllr. Chantelle Dabek cdabekpc@gmail.com	-	
Claire Lewis (Clerk)	-	07710 760894
Cllr. Mike Dixon	-	01367 710713
Cllr. Simon Howes	-	07875 249265
Cllr. Mark Isaacs	-	01367 718719
Cllr. Bob Kent bob_kent@btinternet.com	-	07501 250407
Cllr. Peter Lewis (Vice Chair)	-	01367 710166
Cllr. Kevin Middleton(Chair) kevinfmiddleton@gmail.com	-	01367 718395