



Chair's Report

A417 crossing from River Meadow

We have expressed our concerns to the county council over the continuing lack of a safe crossing of the A417 for residents living on the new River Meadow estate. The developer is due to provide a new crossing, and this work should have been completed by August. As residents who live nearby will no doubt know, the work has not yet started.

We don't yet have a date for when the works will be carried out but, in the meantime, we have requested that a temporary crossing be installed so that pedestrians have some means of safely crossing the road. We're awaiting further details from the county council as to when this will happen.

New defibrillator

Following our appeal for residents in the Bow Road, Whitfield, Fry's Meadow, Kiln Close & Brick Kiln Rise area who might be willing to host a defibrillator, we would like to express our thanks to Jason & Helen Page, who have very kindly agreed to have the new defibrillator housed on the exterior of their property at No.1 Whitfield. This extends considerably the number of residents who will now be within the recommended 400 metres of their nearest device.

The parish council have purchased the new device which should be installed at around the time of the publication of this newsletter. Once it is up and running its location will be added to the national network that registers defibrillator locations. You can find your nearest one, including those already installed around the village, at <https://www.defibfinder.uk>.

Broadband updates

We have been working with Oxfordshire County Council's digital infrastructure team and the installer, Gigaclear, to remedy the defects to public

spaces – damage to paths, pavements and grass verges – that were identified during broadband installation. The majority of these have now been rectified, except for minor repairs to some grass verges that are due for completion in the next few weeks.

The parish council is not itself responsible for broadband infrastructure but if you are experiencing issues with broadband within the village that you can't resolve with your service provider, please reach out to the County Council Digital Infrastructure Team at broadband@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

If you would like further information on digital infrastructure projects run by the county council within Oxfordshire, you can find out more at <https://digitalinfrastructureoxfordshire.co.uk>.

As well as information on current and future broadband projects, this website also includes some advice and resources to support digital inclusion – helping people who are less confident about the internet and digital technologies to access the internet and get the full benefits of being online.

FixMyStreet superusers

Would you like to help to improve the state of the roads in our village? If so, there is an opportunity to become registered as a superuser on FixMyStreet, the website used to log problems with local roads, including potholes, damaged curbs or blocked drains.

FixMyStreet is the online portal used to register any highways defects for the county or district council to action. Anyone can register and log a defect as a normal user, and we encourage people to do this; even if it doesn't always result in rapid resolution of the problem, it's a first, and necessary, step to getting highways repairs done by the local authority.

Becoming a superuser enables you to prioritise defects for repair and provides a means of getting more rapid attention for urgent problems. You don't need to be a parish councillor to do this. If you are interested in volunteering as a FixMyStreet superuser, please contact the parish council clerk or chair. Becoming a superuser involves a day of training at the county council's offices and you would need to have an hour or two to spare every few weeks to inspect and log any defects in your local area.

Highways defects can be logged online by anyone, superuser or not, at <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk>.

Bus stops on High Street and Upper Green

You may have noticed that work had started on the installation of hard-standing bus stops on High Street and Upper Green but was then paused. This was because the works commenced before the parish council had had an opportunity to respond to consultation, including considering the views of nearby residents.

The parish council wants to see work go ahead in principle and is supportive of anything that improves accessibility of public transport, but we are also mindful of the location of both sets of stops within the conservation area and the protected nature of Upper Green. We are currently in discussion with the county council over the implementation of the stops and have arranged a meeting with the Head of Transport Policy at Oxfordshire County Council, in our village later this month.

Speed indicators

We have now collected around two years of traffic statistics from the two speed indicator devices that we have in the village. Monthly average speeds are in the region of 19mph to 24mph. This is in line with our application for a village-wide 20mph zone; department for transport guidance on setting speed limits recommends that limits should be self-enforcing, and so a 20mph limit will typically only be judged to be appropriate where existing average speeds are at or below 24mph.

Regarding our application for a 20mph zone, we are still waiting for the county council to publish its

consultation on the scheme, along with a separate consultation on extending the 30mph zone along the A417. Both consultations, when they appear, will be available here: <https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/hub-page/highway-traffic-regulation-orders-and-public-notice>.

Traffic noise on Ware Road

We have met with the owner of White Horse Business Park and are continuing discussions with them as to how vehicle noise might be reduced.

Refurbished Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) facilities

Did you know that you can play tennis, netball and pickleball at the MUGA as well as basketball? The MUGA is situated at the football field and managed by the Parish Council. It has



been resurfaced, re-marked and new equipment purchased, using money that developers pay when they build new houses in the village. All the nets are available onsite;

contact the Parish Clerk for details of how to access them. There is also a yard brush should you wish to give the court a quick sweep before you start. We welcome groups, teams and individuals who want to use the space and there is no need to book, unless you want to reserve a regular slot. The MUGA is free to use for all parishioners.

New play fort



We have received lots of praise for the large play fort which was installed over the summer in the playground. This is the first step of a programme of renovations and replacements in the play area. With two slides, wobbly bridges, fireman's pole and climbing areas, it offers hours of fun and adventures and is suitable for children from age 3. The fort was funded jointly by the Parish Council and the Stanford in the Vale Public Purposes Charity. The council thanks the PPC for its ongoing support in improving our recreation facilities.



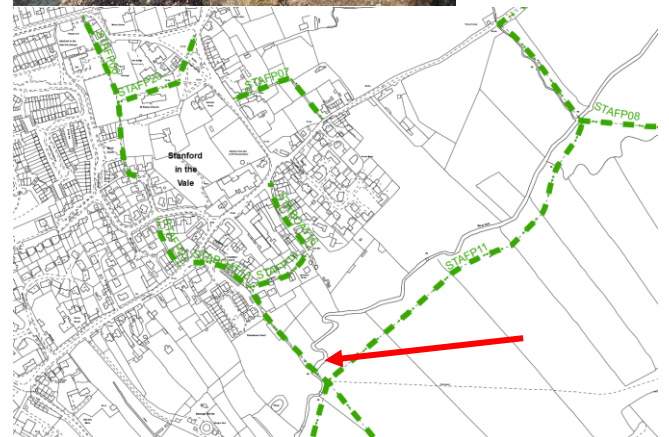
Also, special thanks to Justin Riggs for providing a fork-lift truck and unloading the playfort at very short notice and to the Preschool for allowing us to store equipment during installation.

It is lovely to see so many children using the new equipment and hear positive feedback from parents. Preschool children recently gave it a road-test and the verdict was "Brilliant!"

Footbridge over the River Ock at the end of Marlborough Lane

The parish council are pleased to report that after over a year the replacement footbridge over the River Ock is now in the process of being replaced by the County Council.

It is envisaged that this bridge should re-open within the next few weeks



Use of footpaths

The parish council have received some disturbing reports from a farmer in the village that they have had cases of Neospora which has caused pregnant cattle to abort their calves before term. Neospora is mainly caused by cows eating dog faeces. Please always collect your dog poo in 'poo bags' and then place the 'poo bags' in litter bins or take them home with you.

Separately, a farmer has complained that many people are not sticking to the public footpaths through fields. Please do remain on designated footpaths.

New Parish Councillors wanted

Do you have time to get involved as a Parish Councillor? We currently have 2 vacancies. All councillors are unpaid volunteers. Although formally we only meet on 1st Wednesday of each month there are several other working groups and activities that take place outside meetings. An enthusiasm to help get things done and a passion to get involved are the key requirements. If you would like to become a councillor please do contact the clerk or feel free to contact any councillor to ask what is involved.

Newsletter Additional Information Section

This month as a trial we have added an additional information section. We welcome feedback to our clerk (clerk@stanfordinthevalepc.co.uk or 07710 760894) as to whether this is a useful addition that should be incorporated in future newsletters.

Additional Information

Your Member of Parliament is Olly Glover (Lib Dem): olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk

Your County Councillor is Juliette Ash (Cons): juliette.ash@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Your County Council is a coalition of Lib Dem-Green Party alliance as a minority administration. They are responsible for schools, roads and footpaths, transport and travel, recycling facilities,

children's services and adult social care; see:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

Your District Councillor is Sue Caul (Lib Dem)

sue.caul@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Your District Council is Lib Dem Controlled. They collect Council Tax and are responsible for planning, rubbish & waste services, leisure facilities, housing, benefit management and running elections; see:

<https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/>

Your Parish Council by convention does not operate along party political lines. All councillors are unpaid volunteers. Our Parish Clerk is employed for 15 hours per week

Contact Details:

Kevin Middleton (Chair) kevinfmiddleton@gmail.com	01367 718395
Peter Lewis (Vice Chair) plewissitv@gmail.com	07941 500442
Bryan Burls bryanburlsatoxford@gmail.com	07904 593627
Mike Dixon	01367 710713
Simon Howes	07875 249265
Mark Isaacs	01367 718719
Bob Kent bob_kent@btinternet.com	07501 250407
Sean Silk sean.silk@btinternet.com	07795 540360
Parish Clerk (Claire Lewis) clerk@stanfordinthevalepc.co.uk	07710 760894

The Parish Council lobbies District & County Councils over issues in the Parish and scrutinises and comments on Planning Applications. The District Council decides most Planning Applications.

The Parish Council is responsible for:

- Village Greens
- The play area next to the village hall
- The QEII field
- The skate park and MUGA
- The Millennium Green
- Mowing some areas of the village on behalf of the County Council
- Litter picking – we employ a litter picker for several hours per week

We also deal with many issues and projects. Our current list includes:

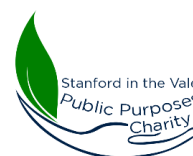
1. New Bus Stops in village (this is County Council matter, but we are lobbying to get them completed quickly but sympathetically)
2. Highways & footpath issues, including speed limits and roadworks on the A417 - (County Council matters but we are lobbying)
3. The QE2 Field planning, archaeology & obtaining grant funding
4. The Community Woodland, Community Orchard & planting more spring flowers, trees and their maintenance
5. Installation of a Waymarked Art Trail around the village
6. The takeover of responsibilities for the Nursery End play area and several other areas
7. Rolling programme of playground repairs and replacement equipment
8. The replacement footbridge over the River Ock (this is County Council matter but we lobbied to get it completed more quickly)
9. Installation of new defibrillators
10. Discussions on renewal of the Football Club lease
11. Village asset mapping

We are currently looking for volunteers to help with several other projects including:

1. Specifying, arranging community consultation and obtaining grants for a replacement Skate Park
2. Woodland Guardians for our Community Woodland & Orchard
3. Volunteers to plant trees

4. Footpath Wardens
5. 'Fix my Street' Super-Users

If you think that you can help- please contact the Parish Clerk: clerk@stanfordinthevalepc.co.uk or 07710 760894



TRIED OUT THE NEW FORT YET?

Sadly, for adults, this fort is for children only, but it is great to see the newest addition to the Playground installed and being used. PPC is delighted to have been able to contribute to this project.

From ancient to modern we have supported repairs to the Church organ and upgrading of computers for the Primary School. I trust we will be hearing songs of praise from both groups!

We watched our elite sportsmen and women bring us medals, pride and heartbreak at the Olympics in Paris and I hope we were inspired by the Paralympians who won over 100 medals as well as overcoming their disabilities to perform. It is worth reflecting on accessibility and for all of us think about how easy or difficult it is around us for those with vision, mobility or invisible problems with their physical environment.

PPC is in a unique position to help local groups obtain that which they may need to nurture budding talent and increase inclusivity in their activities

Check out some the projects we have supported and see the grant guidelines at: <https://ppcstanford.org/projects>

The Trustees are always happy to discuss what we can do to make our Village just that bit more special for those of us living here! See the website at www.ppcstanford.org and do make contact if you have a project that benefits the community and needs some support.

Caryl Oliver Clerk/Correspondent

Caryl.oliver@ppctanford.org

