STANFORD IN THE VALE PARISH COUNCIL



NEWS UPDATE DECEMBER 2025

Monthly Parish Council Surgeries

The Parish Council is committed to engaging with all parishioners and helping (where we can), with improving all aspects of living in our village. In addition to our regular public meetings, you can contact any councillor directly to provide feedback, make suggestions or have concerns in relation to something that we manage.

There will be no December surgery due to the Christmas/New Year break. The next "drop-in surgery" at the Stanford Coffee Shop will be on Saturday, 31st January 2026, between 10.00 and 12.00.

Parking on Highway Verges and Village Greens

Please can we make another plea that everyone avoids parking on all grass highway verges and particularly the Village Greens. As we move further into winter, we can all see the damage caused by vehicle ruts. Please park considerately.

Woodland Tree Planting

By the time this newsletter is published Jude Bond and her extraordinary team of volunteers will have planted about 750 small trees (whips) as hedging around the Community Woodland. Many thanks to all involved.

In the New Year the team will also be planting some more some fruit trees in the Community Orchard. If you are able to help with the planting or with the maintenance of our Community Woodland and Orchard please contact Jude Bond jude.bond444@icloud.com.

Millennium Green Trust

The Trustees would like to thank David Wilson Homes for their donation of £500.00 to support the maintenance of the Green

Anti-Social Behaviour

In an effort to stem anti-social behaviour an additional new camera has been installed on the Millennium Green. Cameras are also now installed around the Skate Park and MUGA (Multi-Use Games Area). If you see anti-social behaviour taking place, please do report it to the police.

New Permissive Footpath Link – between River Meadow & Nursery End

It has long been an aspiration of your Parish Council to have a circular footpath around the perimeter of SITV. The footpath around the outside of the River Meadow Estate was part of this plan. We also determined, as soon as the River Meadow Estate planning came forward that there should be a link footpath between River Meadow and Nursery End.

The benefits of this link include:

- Making the 2 developments of Nursery End and River Meadow more connected.
- Allowing residents of River Meadow to have an alternative to the A417 crossing south of the roundabout without having to navigate crossing Ware Road close to the Roundabout.
- Allowing River Meadow residents to access Footpath 3 that leads out towards Shellingford and connects to a wider footpath network, more easily.
- Allowing Nursery End residents to walk the perimeter of the Nursery End Estate and if they want to cross the A417 closer to the football pitch and QE2 field.
- Allowing all residents to walk more of the perimeter of the village in accordance with our adopted strategic footpath plan. (see: https://www.stanfordinthevalepc.co.uk/index.php/planning-projects/circular-footpath-network or contact the clerk if you do not have internet access)

Until your Parish Council took on the management of the Nursery End public spaces, we have not been able to put this footpath in place. We now own the key part of the Nursery End Estate so can make this footpath link a reality.

This will be a permissive path through the woods. It will have a bark chipping surface but will not have drop kerbs at either end. Whilst we appreciate that such a surface and the lack of a drop kerb is not ideal for all potential users it is through woodland and around and over tree roots and it is also important to not damage the natural environment.

There will be a fence chicane but there will not be a stile or gate to the busy Ware Road so please be particularly careful with children and animals around the crossing. A map of the path is below:



Village Wayfinder Trail

Planning permission for our village trailfinder trail is taking longer than anticipated. It is hoped that the trail will now be put in place in the first half of 2026

Thames Water Emergency Repairs

The Thames Water Emergency Repairs at the village sewage treatment plant south of the High Street have been completed.

We are continuing to push Thames Water to repair the damage caused by the tankering operations on the High Street.

Save a life with GoodSAM

Through a smartphone app, the GoodSAM Cardiac system alerts appropriately trained people of someone in their locality who is in cardiac arrest.

Until recently, only healthcare professionals have been able to register as a GoodSAM Cardiac Responder. This has now changed and South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS), as the verifying organisation for this area, will register members of the public who have a qualification and certificate that proves they have undertaken basic life support (BLS).

If you feel you are eligible to be a GoodSAM Cardiac Responder and would like to register, please visit www.goodsamapp.org/register'

Parish Councillor Vacancy

If you are interested in serving your community and getting involved in local decision-making, we currently have a vacancy for a volunteer Parish Councillor. No previous experience is necessary—just enthusiasm and a willingness to contribute. Parish Councillors are

unpaid. If you'd like to find out more or put your name forward, please get in touch with the Parish Clerk or any member of the council.

Additional Information

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

Your County Councillor is Lee Evans (Cons): lee.evans@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Your County Council is Lib Dem controlled. They are responsible for schools, roads and footpaths, transport and travel, recycling facilities, children's services and adult social care; see: 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: 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 20 hours per week (normally Monday, Wednesday & Friday). Contact Details are:

Kevin Middleton (Chair)	kevinfmiddleton@gmail. com	01367 718395
Peter Lewis (Vice Chair)	plewissitv@gmail.com	07941 500442
Bryan Burls	bryanburlsatoxford@gmai l.com	07904 593627
Mike Foulkes	mjfoulkes57@gmail.com	
Simon Howes		07875 249265
Mark Isaacs		01367 718719
Bob Kent	bob_kent@btinternet.com	07501 250407
Jason Page	jpage1970@gmail.com	
Sean Silk	sean.silk@btinternet.com	07795 540360
Parish Clerk (Claire Lewis)	clerk@stanfordinthevale pc.co.uk	07710 760894

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

The Parish Council is responsible for:

- Church Green, Upper Green & Jubilee Green
- The play areas next to the village hall, on Nursery End and the aerial ropeway
 - The QEII field
 - The Skate Park and MUGA
 - The Millennium Green
 - The Community Woodland, Community Orchard & on Nursery End, both the willow tree park & strip woodland.
- Mowing some areas of the village on behalf of the County Council
- Litter picking we employ a litter picker for several hours per week
 - Setting the Village Precept (which is part of the Council Tax). For SITV the Precept is currently £28.83 per year for a Band D property.
 - Managing the budget for expenditure by the Parish Council in the village. The Parish Council spends substantially more than the Precept but raises all the rest of the money that it spends, on specific projects, through (non-domestic) rent, grants and similar applications. It has no debt.



Stanford in the Vale Public Purposes Charity – Update 2025

Introduction - For those who may not already know us, the Stanford in the Vale Public Purposes Charity (PPC) is a registered charity with origins dating back to the 18th century. Our charity manages a portfolio of funds, from which we receive a regular income, and we are also responsible for the management of the village allotments. The PPC award grants to applicants whose activities and funding requests align with our mandate: to serve the broader interests of the local community and to steward our resources for future generations. You

can find details of recent projects on our website: ppcstanford.org.

Changes - 2025 has brought some changes, with new Trustees joining the PPC and helping to lower the average age of our board. Since March, I have taken on the role of Clerk / Correspondent, succeeding Caryl Oliver, who served with distinction in this capacity and continues as a Trustee. The Trustees extend their heartfelt thanks to Caryl for her dedicated service. We also note with sadness the passing of Geoffrey Somerset, who contributed greatly to the PPC over many years and whose hospitality, wine, and humour we have enjoyed.

Projects Supported - So far this year, the PPC has supported a range of community initiatives, including the Village Hall solar panel project, the Village Festival, and projects led by the St Denys Handbell Ringers, the Stanford in the Vale Social Club, the Primary School, the Pre-school, and maintenance of the fabric of St Denys Church.

Call to Action - We are always open to new applications for funding. If you are interested in applying for a grant or joining us as a Trustee, please visit our website at ppcstanford.org or email us at the address below. If you have a project in mind or would like to find out more about getting involved, do get in touch. We would be delighted to hear from you and can guide you through the application process.

Mike Penman - Clerk / Correspondent - mike.penman@ppcstanford.org