STILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Newsletter - Autumn 2026

Welcome to our newsletter - village information is also available via our website, on village notice boards or our Facebook page. Deputy Clerk job vacancy - see back page!

Barn Close Under-6 Play Area

We now have a new playground at Barn Close for 6 years-old and younger children.

The Parish Council, after liaising with village groups and users, obtained various designs and suitable layouts from several companies. Residents were consulted on which design they preferred, providing us with feedback at the Annual Parish Meeting in May. We then applied for, and were very lucky to be awarded, a National Lottery grant of £20,000. This, together with CIL money (contributions from property development in the parish), paid for the new equipment and planting area. We are just putting finishing touches to the play area before the grand opening.

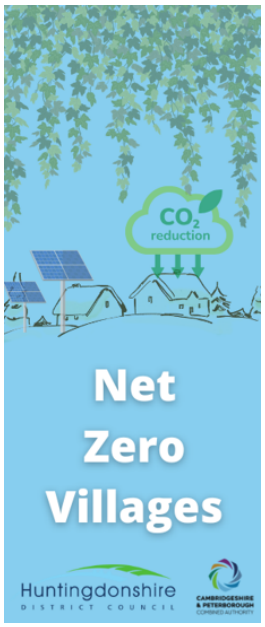
COMMUNITY FUND



Apreece Wildlife Garden

As you may be aware, last year we planted hundreds of seeds and plants however, they unfortunately succumbed to poor conditions with the majority being lost.

We are continuing to foster the area into a wildlife sanctuary and will address the need for further planting. Find a new bench in the garden area for visitors and residents to enjoy.



This project would not have been possible without the support of the Net Zero Villages initiative by Huntingdonshire District Council.

NET ZERO project

In 2025 we were awarded a grant to provide battery storage, improving utilisation of the Solar PV installation at the Pavilion. This project was completed at the beginning of this year. A new enclosure was installed for the batteries, located away from Pavilion building due to concerns about the fire risk. The battery installation provides 36kWh of useful battery storage and stores excess solar energy during the day for use at night.

Since February the electricity bill for the Pavilion has been reduced substantially. A saving of 5.7 MWh in energy from the grid has been achieved, saving 6.6tonnes of CO2 Emissions, with the equivalent of 9 trees being planted.

This is just the start of our Net Zero plans. With the likelihood of more hot summers in the coming years, we'll investigate how we can utilise the energy that we currently export to the grid as this could be used to supply air conditioning to cool the building on those very hot days at low cost - watch this space for future plans!

Skate Park



The highly successful Stilton All-wheeled skate park, Sk8z was opened in April 2009 following serious and dedicated fundraising by young residents.

It has always been very well used and it's great to see so many people navigating the ramps all year round.

The Skate Park is inspected every week, has an annual safety check and then maintained as required. However, it is now reaching the end of its life and how to update this amenity is being considered by the Parish Council. We'll update soon on how we're planning to get your feedback before making any decisions.

As we begin this journey we need to hear from our residents.

Burial Grounds

There are four differing burial areas in Stilton. The oldest is the **Closed Churchyard** which immediately surrounds the church and is closed to any new burials. This is maintained by Huntingdonshire District Council.



Garden of Remembrance, is an area dedicated to cremated remains. It's a quiet area under the trees with seating. This is owned and maintained by the Parish Council, shown here. There are plots available for new interments.

The New Churchyard is the Parish Council owned burial ground situated beyond the row of trees to the back of the Churchyard and behind the Garden of Remembrance. We have a limited number of burial plots available but this area is likely to become full too in the next few years.

New Cemetery

This is the burial ground on the opposite side of the road to the Church and contains the Parish Room which was originally the village morgue. Also owned by the Parish Council, we are working to improve the area - more details shortly.

For help with burial matters, including information on how to reserve a plot or place a memorial, please contact the Parish Clerk (clerk@stiltonparishcouncil.gov.uk) or visit the Burial section on our website (www.stiltonparishcouncil.gov.uk/cemetery).

If you would like to be involved with the planning and implementation of burial ground improvements we have a Cemetery Working Group where members of the public can get involved, contact us to find out more.

Tree Survey 2026

Every 3 years the Parish Council surveys all trees on public land in Stilton. There are over 260 trees that have a visual health check and a report written on them.

On each tree can be found a little metal circle with a number on it and from that, we log the health of the tree, who bears responsibility for it and Cliff (the arboriculturist) determines if there are any 'A' rated (meaning urgent works are necessary), 'B' rated (works should take place within the next 6-12 months), 'C' rated works or that no works are needed.

Public trees in Stilton fall under the Parish Council's responsibility, Huntingdonshire District Council's or Cambridgeshire County Council. It can be confusing but we have a data base with tree maps, tree locations and their current health status so can usually determine ownership.

Stilton's trees are generally healthy but we do have an issue with the rather large leaning Wellingtonia in the Cemetery that you might have noticed overhanging the road. It is likely at some point the tree has been struck by lighting, causing the trunk to split and even though it's still relatively young in tree years, has some substantial weight over the footpath and road which is causing a bit of concern.



The decision has been taken to remove the tree as public safety is paramount. This tree can never 'right' itself and will present more pressing issues as it grows. It's a 'B' rated job so there's no urgency. We do have a plan with the trunk though as would like something positive to come from this difficult decision. More details to follow.

What to do if you're concerned about a tree?

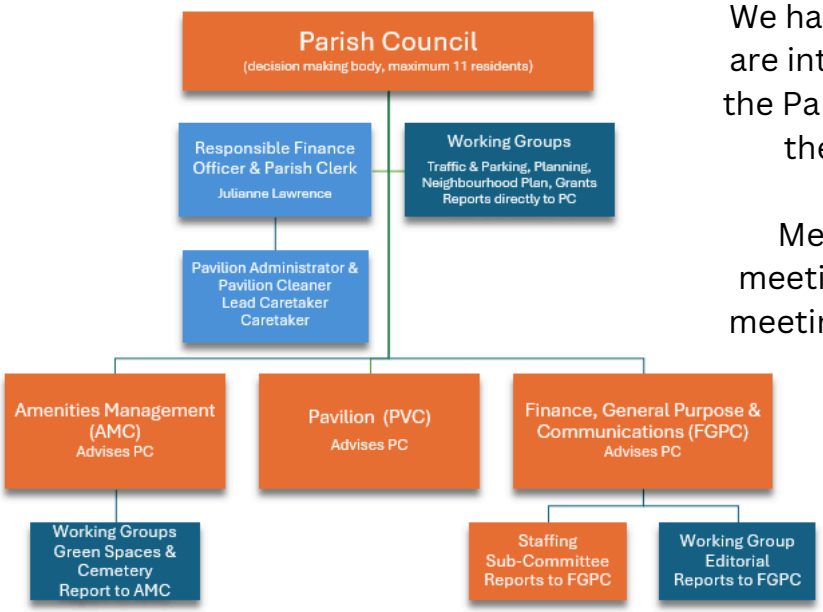
Contact us - we can let you know who bears responsibility and how to forward concerns (we aim to add this info to our website soon).

Thinking of giving a public tree a trim? This can increase risk of injury to the public, cause structural damage, spread disease or encourage the tree to overgrow. Let us know and we'll try help.

Tempted to fell a tree on public land? Trees can have TPOs (Tree Preservation Orders) or be within a conservation area. These require special permission for works. We recommend speaking to the local authority responsible for the tree before taking any drastic steps as unlimited fines/prison sentences can result.

What do parish councillors do for Stilton

Parish councillors are democratically elected members, volunteering their time to represent the interests of local residents, and helping to shape the future of the village. They work together as the Parish Council, making decisions on local matters, supporting community initiatives and helping maintain important village facilities.



We have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. If you are interested in finding out more please contact the Parish Clerk. We always welcome members of the public to join our Working Groups too.

Member of the public are invited to attend meetings to raise concerns or simply attend the meeting to see what happens and what decisions are made. These take place:

2nd Tuesday of each month
Church Meeting Room
At 7.30pm
Full meeting calendar on our website.

Parish councillors serve the whole community and are committed to helping Stilton remain a vibrant, welcoming, and well-maintained village for current and future generations.



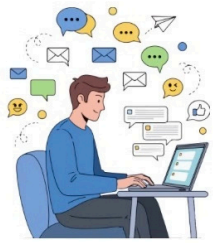
STILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Join Our Team!

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS 25 OCTOBER 2026



DEPUTY CLERK (NEW POSITION)



SCAN ME!

Find the Deputy Clerk Recruitment Pack at: www.stiltonparishcouncil.gov.uk/news

EXAMPLES OF KEY DUTIES (TRAINING PROVIDED) ...

You could be:

- Supporting admin for Parish Council meetings
- Managing Pavilion bookings
- Working with Council finances
- Assisting with risk assessment and compliance
- Helping manage the burial grounds
- Organising events, projects or community activies
- Contributing the to website, social media and newsletters

This is a genuinely varied role, working across Council administration, community facilities, bookings, finance, property and assets, health and safety, communications, events and projects.

We don't expect you to arrive knowing it all - willingness to learn counts!

12 hours per week initially
Salary from £15.56 - £16.61 per hour

SEND A CV/COVERING LETTER TELLING US WHY YOU CAN SEE YOURSELF IN THIS ROLE TO: clerk@stiltonparishcouncil.gov.uk
The Parish Room, Church Street, Stilton, PE7 3RF
or call
01733 639106 for more information

How to contact us

Email clerk@stiltonparishcouncil.gov.uk or call 01733 639106
Complete contact form on our website stiltonparishcouncil.gov.uk

How to book The Stilton Pavilion

Complete enquiry form on website or email pavilion@stiltonparishcouncil.gov.uk