STILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Monthly Newsletter



Nearly there.....

Those who have passed the Pavilion recently will have noticed the activities for installing the new Pavilion Play Park. Already the playground fencing (suitably designed to protect the Play Park users from flying footballs!) has been constructed; and, by the time SCAN is published, Fenland Leisure (our chosen provider) will be installing the new play equipment. Their work should be completed by mid-September and, all being well, the Play Park will be open for ourunder-12's to enjoy.

Purchase of the green in Gala Close

The Parish Council only found out last year that the large open green space in Gala Close still belonged to the developer who built the surrounding houses (Jelson Homes). To add to the confusion, since the area was still classed as “highway”, Cambridgeshire County Council are responsible for maintaining the grass and trees growing there (though they contribute to the Parish Council who contract the necessary work).

It seems that Jelson’s too were rather surprised to find they still owned the land and immediately offered to sell it to the Parish Council for a nominal sum provided the Parish Council undertakes not to use the land for anything other than an open green space or playground. Since the Parish Council has no intention to use the land other than maintaining it as it is, this is not a problem.

In order to comply with Stilton Parish Council’s Financial Regulations to purchase land a report must be provided to Council giving “valuation and surveyed condition of the property (including matters such as planning permissions and covenants) together with a proper business case (including an adequate level of consultation with the electorate)”. The business case and other documents are now available on the Parish Council website (www.stiltonparishcouncil.org - where you will also find all agendas and minutes for our meetings) or from the Clerk (clerk@stiltonparishcouncil.org or at the Parish Room, Church Street, Stilton, PE7 3RF).

This announcement, together with those on social media and on the website, are part of the consultation process. The Parish Council will also convene a public meeting on **Saturday 18th September at 10am at the Pavilion**. To give plenty of time for public consultation, the Parish Council will discuss the purchase at its October meeting.

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH NEEDS YOU!

There's no doubt, Speedwatch calms traffic speeds in Stilton when it operates. Our Speedwatch sessions remind drivers of keeping to 30mph, but also our measurements provide evidence for getting County Council funds for more control measures – such as the speed display equipment and the 40mph "buffer zone" north of the village to be installed this year. Speedwatch is needed but, unfortunately, several of our Speedwatchers are unable to continue at present. Our team is much depleted and we must have at least three people present for every 1 hour session.

Please come and join the team in its important work for the village. Contact Keith Bull (csw.stilton@gmail.com or on 07484863226) for more information.





Stilton celebrates The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Her Majesty The Queen will celebrate her Platinum Jubilee in 2022 and will be the first British Monarch to have celebrated 70 years of service having acceded the throne on 6th February 1952when she was 25. Plans for an extended bank holiday have been put in place from Thursday 2 June to Sunday 5 June to allow people to celebrate nationwide.

We would very much like Stilton to mark this event with a village-led celebration on one of the days and to that end, we are currently bringing volunteers together with ideas and skills of any kind including project management, baking, singing and entertaining. We need to put forward some structure to what we would like to see and how we can make it happen. If anyone is interested in being involved in any capacity, big or small, even if you just want to send ideas, email **vicky.dorling@stiltonparishcouncil.org** who will get back to you.

Building links with our Neighbourhood Police Team

Our County Councillor, Simon Bywater, recently organised a meeting between our Neighbourhood police and representatives of parish councils in our area. The aim was to establish better links between the police team and the Huntingdonshire area they serve.

The meeting was well attended with representatives from Sawtry, Elton, Holme, Glatton, Alwalton as well as Stilton. Our District Councillor, Tim Alban, also attended. PC Tom Russell, our local neighbourhood officer provided much useful information on ways that we can improve our links with the force to address local issues. It was clear in the discussions that our neighbouring villages have many of the same issues to deal with as Stilton; speeding, parking and drugs are particular local concerns while the police also identify burglary and rural issues such as farm equipment theft and hare coursing as important local problems.

The Huntingdonshire team have had good successes already this year and are looking to build on these in the future. PC Russell explained the local police team are well trained with diverse skills and so they are able to deal with most local problems. But to target these they need feedback and reporting from the public. The police can't be everywhere, but they can be anywhere! And it's up to us to help point them in the right direction!

To get a better idea of what the local team are up to there is a Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/HuntsCops.HuntingdonTeam/. They are also on Twitter: https://twitter.com/huntscops?lang=en

But reporting, is our most important contribution to neighbourhood policing. In emergencies, we all know we should phone 999, but reporting in non-emergency situations should also be done promptly to help the police evaluate the need for action. Dialling the non-emergency police line, 101, will enable the report to be logged. You can also report on line through:https://www.cambs.police.uk/report/Report.