

# Stansted network

## NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS

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### REPORTING ON A WELL RECEIVED ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The meeting on 23 March was attended by about 46 people. In the course of two hours a short presentation on the Local Citizens Advice Bureau was made, Cllr Peter Jones reported on the accounts and the budget for 2011/12, Cllr Geoffrey Sell (Chairman of Parish Council) delivered his Annual Report while about 20 parishioners raised some 24 issues.



An indication of the concerns are summarised below:

- *The qualification in the accounts* suggesting that the Parish Council had failed to provide evidence that it had carried out an adequate review of the effectiveness of its system of internal audit related not to the information but to the format. *It is ironic that Parliament has now scrapped this requirement for Parish Councils for the 2010/11 i.e. the period for which the Council was criticised!!*
- *The provision of more allotments* was requested. One site is possible albeit not ideal for parking or access. Other landowners will be approached.
- *Funding for the refurbishment of the Fountain triangle* was raised with the suggestion that parishioners may contribute. Ideas for replanting a tree still welcome.
- *Extending the opening hours of the Parish Council office* was requested. The Council accepts that this may be desirable and is looking to increase resources to meet this and other demands in an expanding Parish (towards 8000 people once Foresthall is completed). Discussions have begun with the Essex Library service, Uttlesford District Council and the police to provide enhanced services at Crafton Green.
- *Concern was expressed over dogs in the cemetery.* The Clerk confirmed that dogs were not permitted in the cemetery and should be secured outside. A notice will be put up to highlight this regulation.
- *A new litter blackspot in Lower Street* was reported. The Council intends to put a litter bin at this point. The good work of Gerard Frogley was commended.
- *The proposal for development on Elms Farm* was criticised and calls for the Council to oppose. The Chairman pointed out that no plans have been submitted and any assessment should wait a planning application. It should also be noted that any such step would require a change in the green belt status of the land.
- *The future of the site of St Mary's School* in St John's Road was raised. Cllr Ray Gooding indicated that no decision had been taken while joint ownership with the Diocese of Chelmsford added a complication. The Parish Council hopes to maintain the playing field as an open space.
- *A number of traffic issues* were raised including obstructive parking at the entry to Woodfields, reducing traffic speed on High Lane, Church Road and Walson Way (schemes for all of these have been requested from Essex County Highways) and the status of the residents' parking scheme for Lower Street/Grove Hill (awaiting analysis of objections).
- *The timing of the parish boundary review* to move all of Foresthall Park into Stansted Mountfitchet. The Clerk explained that this would occur at the end of March 2012 but in the meantime negotiations would proceed with developers, Uttlesford District Council and

Birchanger Parish Council to take over the maintenance of the estate.

- *Other issues covered included* the position with regard to the construction of a new Health Centre (still issues to resolve), the neglect of trees notably along the Cambridge Road (problems with gaining consents from Essex and now Uttlesford Councils) and the disgraceful condition of empty properties (powers to require action are limited but being pursued).

Overall an enjoyable, constructive and informal evening. Why not put next year in your diary now - 21 March 2012 (to be confirmed).

### **CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU - NOW MORE NEEDED THAN EVER**

Kate Robson, who works for Uttlesford Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB), gave a short presentation on the work of the local organisation. CAB has just celebrated its 20th birthday. There are about 3,000 clients of whom 30% attend on a regular basis. In 2009/10 there were over 8,000 visitors and there are four objectives to be worked upon.

- To improve service and staff training albeit Uttlesford CAB is one of the top bureaux in the country
- To secure funding which is raised locally from Uttlesford District Council and town and parish councils amongst others. It is registered as a local charity.
- Raise awareness and profile to reach people who need help.
- To increase preventative work particularly in the area of debt.
- To emphasise community policies including social housing.

CAB has eight paid staff all part-time with offices in Saffron Walden and Great Dunmow. There are outreach offices in Thaxted and Stansted Mountfitchet with our parish having sessions at Spangles, Lower Street on Thursdays. Attendance is by appointment only

The Parish Council helped CAB to introduce its service here and is making a grant of £600 to help in the current year. This is a valuable, and in some cases a life resuming, service.

If you wish to take advantage of the service offered by CAB, please call 01799 775896 to make an appointment.

### **FORESTHALL PARK TO BE PART OF STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET**

On 31 March the Finance and Administration Committee of Uttlesford District Council approved the recommendation to incorporate all of Foresthall Park into the parish of Stansted Mountfitchet. This change will be effective from April 2012. Negotiations will now take place to take over the maintenance of the estate. Any concerns, questions or ideas should be sent to Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council (telephone 813214 or email [parishcouncil@stansted.net](mailto:parishcouncil@stansted.net)) Other boundary changes already implemented mean that Thremahll Priory is no longer part of the parish - the boundary having switched from being the old A120 to the new road, and that Brook View, and some gardens in Rochford Close/ Stoney Place which were once in Birchanger, are also now in Stansted!

### **PARISH PLAN APPROVED BY UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL**

On 6 April the Development Control Committee approved the Parish Plan. This document will now be printed and circulated to all households and businesses. Now we have to turn ideas into action and achieve results.

### **STREET LIGHTING OUTAGES**

Most problems are dealt with in an acceptable time but sometimes delays do occur. One example is the light in St John's Road (JR5 near houses 40/44 ) which is inconsistent. It is now in the hands of edf Energy as there appears to be a problem with the electricity supply. Please continue to report all problems to the Parish Council. This year an electrical and structural review of all lights will be undertaken.

### **REFURBISHMENT AND REPLANTING THE FOUNTAIN TRIANGLE**

A plan to refurbish this area has been drawn up and is now being costed. Once this is completed funding will be sought.

The replanting of one or more trees on the triangle will take place to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012. (Advice was received not to re-plant until all roots have died back). If you have ideas of the species of tree(s) to be planted, please let the Parish Council know.

## RESIDENTS PARKING SCHEME FOR LOWER STREET AND GROVE HILL

A number of objections have been received by Essex County Highways relating to a small part of the scheme on High Lane. These are being considered by the legal department of Essex County Council. The Parish Council would prefer to amend the scheme if necessary to prevent further delay.

## CO-OPERATION AROUND BREWERY LANE

Essex County Highways, following requests from residents and the Parish Council, has placed kerbing at the entrance of Brewery Lane from High Lane to prevent erosion of the verges. The Parish Council has organised vegetation to be cut back courtesy of the work of Levi Loveridge, a volunteer, while the residents of Brewery Lane have offered to cut the restored grass verges. All in all a successful co-operative effort.

## STANSTED AIRPORT GRANTS

The Stansted Airport Community Trust is inviting applications for grants from community and voluntary groups. The closing date is 31 August 2011 and forms can be obtained by e-mailing the name and postal address of the organisation to [cllr.susan.barker@essex.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.susan.barker@essex.gov.uk) or by telephoning the administration office on 01245 430233.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

As NhW is now fully in place in Stansted, we have decided to have just one Public Meeting annually and this will be on Wednesday 25 May 2011.

- \* Venue: Stansted Free Church Lecture Hall
- \* Time: 7.30 pm
- \* Refreshments available after the meeting
- \* Guest Speaker
- \* Police input

Please endeavour to attend this meeting as it is your chance to have your say.

Contacts: Cllr Valerie Trundle - 01279 813433  
Mrs Diane Roberts - 01279 813089

## DIGITAL SWITCHOVER SCHEME

We have received information relating to the introduction of digital TV in this area, particularly aimed at older and disabled people. The scheme is run by the BBC and aimed at people who are over 75 years of age, OR have lived in a care home for six months or more, OR receive Disabili-

ty Living Allowance (DLA), OR Attendance or Constant Attendance Allowance, OR Mobility supplement OR is registered blind or partially sighted.

They can arrange for an approved installer to supply and install everything that you will need to switch one of your televisions to digital. For further information, request a leaflet from the Parish Council (we have a few copies), telephone 0800 40 85 900 (free calls 8am-8pm Mon-Fri, 8am-6pm Sat and Sun). Free textphone service on 0800 40 85 936 or look at their website [helpscheme.co.uk](http://helpscheme.co.uk)

## WINDMILL

As we go to print, the issue of the "sticky" paint is still to be resolved. The contractors will be re-painting all of the doors and window frames, and possibly the sails. We had hoped that the work would be completed prior to Easter opening, but unfortunately we have encountered delays.

## STANSTED IN BLOOM

### *Important Information*

- \* Entry form for Competition overleaf.
- \* Last date for entry is Friday 24 June. Forms to the Council Offices, Crafton Green by this date.
- \* Date of judging for Competition is Saturday 2 July between 2 - 5 pm.
- \* Date for distribution of prizes - Saturday 9 July. Venue: Stansted Free Church Lecture Hall, time 3 pm.
- \* Judges: Mrs Anne Berrisford and Mrs Diane Newland

Please help to make our competition another great success this year and enter your garden in our competition. No separate categories this year.

Contacts: Cllr Valerie Trundle - 01279 813433  
Cllr Iris Evans - 01279 815848  
Mrs Joy Thomas - 01279 813871

## DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

11 May	Full Council & Annual Council
18 May	Open Spaces

## CONTACT DETAILS

Clerk - Ruth Clifford  
Admin Assistant - Anne Court  
Email: [parishcouncil@stansted.net](mailto:parishcouncil@stansted.net)  
Phone/fax: 01279 813214 10am - 1pm  
[www.stansted.net](http://www.stansted.net)

**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Catherine Dean 813579  
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Iris Evans 815848  
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Valerie Trundle 813433  
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**Uttlesford District Council Members**

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*Geoffrey Sell* Tel: 01279 815925  
 Email: *cllrsell@uttlesford.gov.uk*

**Essex County Council Member**

*Ray Gooding* Tel: 01279 813103  
 Email: *cllr.ray.gooding@essexcc.gov.uk*

**Member of Parliament**

*The Rt Hon Sir Alan Haselhurst MP*  
 House of Commons, London SW1A OAA  
 Tel: 0207 219 5214/Fax: 0207 219 5600  
 Email: *alan.haselhurst.mp@parliament.uk*

**Police**

*PC Tom Bastendorff* Tel: 01279 812211

Non-emergency number 0300 333 4444

*PCSO's (Stuart/Kelly)* Tel: 07801 461 666

**Stansted in Bloom 2011  
 Entry Nomination**

**OTHER CONTACTS**

NAME OF PERSON NOMINATING

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CONTACT NUMBER

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ADDRESS OF PROPERTY TO BE INCLUDED IN JUDGES' TOUR OF THE VILLAGE

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Please return to SMPC, Council Offices, 72 Chapel Hill, by Friday 24 June