

Stansted network

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS

ACTION POINTS UNDER CONSIDERATION IN THE PARISH PLAN

A first draft of analysis and actions to form the Parish Plan is now being considered by the Parish Council. If you have any comments on these proposals please email the Council at parishcouncil@stansted.net, telephone or write to the Council or call a Councillor. By July the Plan should be close to its final form.

The action points are summarised below:

HIGHWAYS

B1383

- Install village entry treatments
- Signpost Airport/M11 traffic to A120
- Full pedestrian crossing by Croasdaile Road
- Reduce pavement/create parking bays
- Remove double yellow lines outside B & R
- Review fountain junction
- Full pedestrian crossing on Silver Street
- Consider a junction on M11 for Saffron Walden

Centre of village

- Stop commuter/fly parking
- More short term parking
- Consider 30 minutes free parking in car parks
- Install pedestrian refuge in Lower Street
- Review phasing of Grove Hill lights
- Traffic calming measures on High Lane
- Pedestrian refuges along Church Road
- Improve safety around railway bridge

Residential Roads

- Introduce 20mph zone on Mountfitchet Estate
- Introduce 20mph zone in Bentfield area
- Introduce 20mph zone on Hargrave Estate
- Extend 30mph to the west side of Bentfield Bower

Other Matters

- Negotiate with ECC to take over lights
- Consider keeping on lights at night
- Request residents to cut back plant growth
- Look for ways to help safe cycling

LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

- Protect green belt - keep parish separate
- Protect woodland/hedges
- Maintenance of twitchells - regular inspection
- Maintenance of footpaths - regular inspection
- Footpath from Foresthall Park to MMCC
- Repair Water Lane
- Renovate fountain area
- Screen recycling bins in Lower Street
- Planting in Crafton Green car park
- Planting in Lower Street car park
- Future maintenance of Churchyard
- Open up Stansted Park for recreation
- New booklet of local walks
- New flowerbeds/troughs etc over 3 years
- Remove verges on Mountfitchet Estate
- Consider verges on Foresthall Park
- Discuss condition of empty properties
- Review resources for litter collection
- Seek ways to reduce litter

CRIME AND SECURITY

- Publish local crime statistics quarterly
- Extend opening hours of youth club
- Consult over activities to involve the young
- Install a more effective CCTV system
- Argue case for additional local police
- Target police resources to problem areas
- Secure longer opening hours of police station
- Build and use Neighbourhood Watch
- Seek to reduce underage drinking
- Strengthen drink/drug education programmes
- More speed checks

LEISURE AND THE ARTS

- Redesign and re-equip play areas - seek funding

- Agree fund more opening times at Youth Centre
- Seek partners to run a Summer playscheme
- Consult on improvements to skatepark and better fencing
- Seek to acquire land for allotments
- Contact volunteers to run village events
- Test demand for new activities
- Create a feasibility study for a village hall
- Review use of Crafton Green site

SPORT

- Examine sites/funding for a swimming pool
- Contact landowners to secure land for junior football
- Negotiate to use Stansted Park as open space
- No major development without more open space
- Promote existing sports clubs
- Leisure Centre - seek ways to increase use
- Publish new footpath booklet
- Discuss other facilities with other authorities

COMMUNICATIONS

- Develop Braille and on-line versions inc. Link
- Maintain noticeboards and add (Foresthall)
- Improve layout of newsletter including on line
- Profile staff and councillors in newsletters/website
- Public meetings on specific issues
- Continue to improve website
- Find means to update regularly the website
- Email alerts for interested parishioners
- Promote Helpline
- Information available on facilities and services
- Create a Youth Centre noticeboard
- Section for youth interests on SMPC website

COUNCILS AND COUNCILLORS

- Eliminate duplicated provision of local services
- Provide a Community Information Centre (with UDC)
- Annual conference with local voluntary organisations
- Develop a comprehensive website for SMPC
- Redesign council pages in the Link
- Redraw parish boundary to bring in Foresthall Park
- Consider status - village or town?

HEALTH

- Continue to press PCT to provide a new Health Centre

- Improve appointment system - more advance booking
- Reduce high parking charges at hospitals
- Ensure good public transport for Health Centre

EDUCATION

- Initiate regular contact with local schools
- Discuss ways to involve students in the community
- Analyse future provision for secondary school pupils
- Lobby for provision of a sixth form at MMCC
- Continue discussions on use of St Mary's site
- Consult on range/timing for adult education

HOUSING

- Discuss scale of local need with UDC
- Discuss housing mix - small houses/bungalows
- Oppose development of more flats
- Seek sites for retirement housing

RETAILING AND SERVICES

- Seek ways to increase on-street short term parking
- Enforce parking restrictions
- Pedestrian access from Crafton Green to Cambridge Road
- Improve appearance in terms of street environment
- Upgrade CCTV for security in car parks
- Screen recycling containers in Lower Street car park
- Planting schemes to make car parks attractive
- Strengthen fencing around skatepark
- Consider schemes for Christmas decorations

EMPLOYMENT

- Provide a job vacancy board
- Use CIC to access Job Centre information

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

- Oppose further large scale development
- Give strong support to retaining greenbelt
- Support limited small scale development
- Require development to fit in with surrounding area
- Consider creating more conservation areas

FUTURE OF STANSTED AIRPORT

- Oppose development of second runway
- Press for an adequate rail service

- Seek to mitigate increasing local road traffic
- Help businesses to benefit from airport activity
- Improve flow of information over future plans

PUBLIC TRANSPORT - BUSES

- Adjust timings of 7/7A/301 to improve service
- Extend 7/7A to Walson Way to serve Foresthall
- Seek better timetable information
- Establish flexible ticketing between buses and trains
- Establish direct bus service to airport
- Upgrade quality of buses

These ideas are still under debate and the timescale for achieving results will vary from quite soon to long term. Nevertheless it is important to have a vision of how this community should develop.

ISSUES RAISED AT THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

At the meeting attended by about sixty people, parishioners raised a number of issues which are shown below, together with our immediate comments.

- **The parish website** is up and running but it is intended to become more comprehensive in coverage. If any organisation would like to be linked into the site, please contact the Clerk.
- **The need for a pedestrian crossing on Silver Street** was stressed. This requirement has already been raised with Essex County Highways but the precise location may only be determined once the decision is reached on the new health centre.
- **Concern over parking on pavements** again raised its head. The Council is in the process of convening a meeting with the police and Uttlesford parking attendants. It is hoped that clear guidelines will emerge and be published.
- **Requests for traffic calming on High Lane** were made to mitigate speeding. A scheme has already been drawn up by County Highways – now funding is awaited.
- **The dangers of the fountain junction** were emphasised by more than one person but possible solutions (roundabout or traffic lights) provoked disagreement. This issue is raised in the draft Parish Plan.
- **The proposed relocation of St Mary's School** to Foresthall Park generated some heat with one strong view opposing any

move. Some form of further consultation is expected before long.

- **Criticism of the state of Bentfield Pond** was made. About a third of the pond is covered by bull rushes. The pond receives regular attention with professional help. Vegetation is tackled but, of course, returns.
- **The removal and heavy lopping of trees at Mont House** on High Lane was raised. Whilst the Council is very unhappy with the state of the property and the site, the landowners are not in breach of any regulations.
- **The loss of a seat in 1998 at Burton End** was raised and a resident stressed that a seat with cast iron ends should be provided as a like-for-like replacement. Hopefully this may prove possible.

BULBS AND GRASS CUTTING

The daffodil display in many parts of the village has been uplifting after a long winter. The verges along by Blythwood Gardens have been especially worthy of comment, thanks to a legacy from a former Chairman of this Council, Rita Humphreys. Hopefully, more areas will look like this next year.

Advice has been received that, where bulbs were planted, grass cutting should be delayed until at least mid-June as early cutting risks many of the bulbs growing back blind next year. Please exercise understanding if the grass looks untidy in the near term – it will not be because of Council neglect.

THE 510 BUS SERVICE

Currently, this bus service enters the village from the airport and is scheduled to turn left from Church Road into Walson Way at the newly-opened mini roundabout. It then leaves Foresthall Park via Forest Hall Road. We have contacted Arriva to ask if prior to turning into the new development, the bus could continue down Church Road turning into Maitland Road, round the estate and back out via Mountfitchet Road, back up Church Road to Walson Way. This minor alteration to the route would serve many more people on this 24-hour service.

Arriva have replied to say that they constantly monitor their services for improved quality and that passenger demand plays a large part. Our request has been forwarded to the service delivery manager at Harlow Depot for consideration. If you agree that this would be a sensible addition to the route, please contact Arriva to let them know (customerservice@arriva-shires.com).

STANSTED IN BLOOM

The judging for this year's competition will be Saturday 3 July in the afternoon. We have chosen this date as your summer gardens should be at their best. During the month of June we will be looking out for our prize winning gardens, so now is the time to plan for this event.

If you would like to enter your own garden or that of a friend, you will find an entry form at the end of the Council pages in this month's Link. Please send your completed form to the Council Offices by Friday 25 June.

Subject to response, we hope to have a competition for the local businesses in Stansted, running alongside that for residential properties. We hope that residents and businesses alike will support 'Stansted in Bloom' this year and make our competition a real success.

Contacts:

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Cllr Valerie Trundle | 813433 |
| Mrs Joy Thomas | 813871 |
| Cllr Iris Evans | 815848 |

Stansted in Bloom 2010 Entry Nomination

NAME OF PERSON NOMINATING

.....

CONTACT NUMBER

.....

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

.....
.....
.....

Circle as appropriate:

Front garden

Rear garden

Hanging baskets

Tubs

Please return to Stansted Parish Council, Council Offices, 72 Chapel Hill **by Friday 25 June**

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The next Public Meeting for Neighbourhood Watch in Stansted is Wednesday 26 May at 7pm in Stansted Free Church Lecture Hall. We have invited Martin Ford to our meeting, he is the Community Safety Officer for Uttlesford and he will be pleased to answer any queries or problems that you may have regarding NhW in Stansted. The local police will also be represented.

Please come along and support your local Neighbourhood Watch team who are working with the Police to make Stansted a safer place in which to live.

Some of our on-going projects are well on the way to completion, some of them being the setting up of a NhW website, the replacing of old NhW signs, the installation of many new ones. Also Highways are in the process of placing six large reflective signs at the entrance roads to the village.

Contact: Cllr Valerie Trundle 813433
 Mrs Diane Roberts 813089

COMPOST GIVEAWAY DAY!

Uttlesford District Council has organised a "Compost Giveaway Day" at the Lower Street Car Park on Sunday 2 May. It will run from 9am – 3pm but operates strictly on a first-come, first-served basis, so will end when the compost has run out. Bring your own bags to take the compost away, and come early to avoid disappointment!

HIGHWAYS INFORMATION

We are compiling a list of items to raise with County Highways in the foreseeable future. This will cover general maintenance issues such as potholes, poor road surfaces, redundant or rusty poles and street signs. If you have any to add to our list, please let the Clerk know the street name and a location, ie outside house number, or opposite a...

REPORT FROM PCSO STUART STRANGER

Every month Stuart provides the Council with a report on his activities for the month. The report for March is due as we go to print, so what follows below is an extract from February:

"During the month I have continued to conduct foot patrols around the village focusing on the Mountfitchet Estate, skatepark and Hermitage House. I have also patrolled around the station area due to youths congregating outside the Indian takeaway.

"We have had problems at Hermitage House with youths gaining access to the underground car park. We have communicated with residents and the management company regarding improving security around the complex.

"The Neighbourhood Action Panel (NAP) which meets regularly has identified speeding as one of its priorities so I have completed speed checks on Cambridge Road. I have also looked around the village at different places to conduct the speed checks so the location may change after the next NAP meeting.

"I continue to receive calls from the public to the mobile phone which we carry (07801 461666) and it is good to know that the public feel they can call – the feedback we get is positive.

"I have also been patrolling on my pedal cycle – this enables me to cover a bigger area, but I try to split my duty time between cycling and walking. One of the main issues for the public at the moment is parking and we are working with the Parish Council to try and offer some guidance in this regard."

NEWS FROM UTTLESFORD D.C.

Cllr Alan Dean writes...

Good news on conservation areas which, I said last month, presently have little force behind them. I raised my concerns at the last council meeting. It has since been agreed to employ someone to complete the work that was started three years ago so that legal orders can be brought in. These will allow protection and even improvement to special features in the conservation areas that make much of Stansted a place of interest.

I met in April with representatives from Essex County Council to push for action to make Water Lane safer for pedestrians. I am waiting for feedback on what ECC will do and when. Action by the county council is more critical because I have discovered that Uttlesford and Essex failed or were unable to require the future developer of the former gasworks site to make up the road when the approved houses are built. The planning system sometimes seems negligent towards its responsibilities to the wider community.

Walson Way was opened through to Church Road at the end of March, finally bringing Foresthall Park closer to the rest of Stansted. The council is pressing the developers to open the children's play area in Hampton Road. Rerouting of the 510 bus along Walson Way is now being arranged. The rules say the change has to be advertised for 56 days before it comes in and so it is not likely to happen before July. I recently visited Foresthall Park with a council officer in an attempt to sort out the inadequate street signage. It's a bit of a muddle, to put it kindly!

By the time I write my next Link contribution we will have had a general election. Everyone seems to be promising more power for local people and local councils to get on with sorting out local needs without interference from on high. I will not be holding my breath!

Cllr Geoffrey Sell writes...

Stansted Airport Update

I attended recently a meeting of the Council's Stansted Airport Advisory Panel. Mr. Nick Barton, Commercial and Development Director of BAA was present to answer questions from councillors. As readers will know BAA won planning permission for full use of the existing runway estimated to be 35 million passengers per annum. The economic downturn has affected business at the airport quite significantly. The table below highlights the extent of the downturn.

The airport is very reliant upon one airline, namely Ryanair. On questioning Mr. Barton he said that it was to the order of 68% of passenger volume. The airline pays the airport

| Year to... | Million passenger Per annum | Passenger Air Transport Movements |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| End March 2008 | 23.5 | 178,218 |
| End March 2009 | 21.64 | 159,984 |
| End February 2010 | 19.84 | 155,456 |

£100 million in landing fees per annum. Employment at the airport stands at approximately 10,800 down by about thousand from two years ago.

The Council recognizes the economic importance of the airport. The main area of contention is the second runway. All councillors are resolutely opposed to it. It was clear from Mr. Barton's comments that BAA remains committed to pursuing a second runway at Stansted. He accepted that realisation of their plans would be contingent upon the outcome of the next general election.

A new decision making structure?

The council is seeking residents views on introducing a new decision-making structure. Currently Uttlesford has a stream lined committee system. There are three policy-making committees. Most councillors serve on one of these, some myself included are members of two committees. Each committee has a Chairman who is elected each year. Most councils no longer operate the committee system but have an executive system either Leader and Cabinet or an Elected Mayor. Because of Uttlesford's size it was allowed by the government to keep the committee system.

The current administration wish to move towards a Leader and Cabinet decision making system. Decision making would therefore be concentrated in the hands of relatively few councillors. The Leader would have a Cabinet with perhaps five or six councillors having specific portfolios. The argument is that it would speed up decision making and that most councils now have such structures.

At the last full council I expressed reservations about this proposed change. Currently particularly in committees if one makes a good

case it is sometimes possible even if you are in a political minority to influence other councillors and thus have a real say in policy-making. This I believe is good for councillors and good for those who elect us.

If you have a view on whether Uttlesford should change its decision making structure you have until 31 May to do so. Responses should be sent to:

John Mitchell,
Chief Executive,
Uttlesford District Council,
Council Offices,
London Road, Saffron Walden,
Essex CB11 4ER.

Alternatively you can email your response to democratic@uttlesford.gov.uk
Further information is available on the councils web site.

Contact Details

Uttlesford District Council Members

Alan Dean Tel: 01279 813579
Email: cllrdean@uttlesford.gov.uk
John Hudson Tel: 01279 814489
Email: cllrhudson@uttlesford.gov.uk
John Salmon Tel: 01279 814789
Email: cllrsalmon@uttlesford.gov.uk
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 0AA
Tel: 0207 219 5214/Fax: 0207 219 5600
Email: haselhursta@parliament.uk

Police

PC Tom Bastendorff Tel: 01279 812211
Non-emergency number 0300 333 4444
PCSO's (Stuart/Kelly) Tel: 07801 461 666

DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

| | |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12 May | Full Council, then Annual Council Meeting (followed by Open Spaces FGP & Civil Protection to elect a Committee Chairman and V/Chairman) |
| 19 May | Finance & General Purposes |
| 26 May | Open Spaces |

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Catherine Dean | 813579 |
| Iris Evans | 815848 |
| Jo Freeman | 812524 |
| Bridget Gott | 814440 |
| John Hudson | 814489 |
| Peter Jones | 813252 |
| Janice Loughlin | 812346 |
| Tudor Owen | 812825 |
| Ruth Rawlinson - <i>V/Chairman</i> | 814222 |
| Jonathan Rich | 813112 |
| John Salmon | 814789 |
| Dan Scott | 815098 |
| Geoffrey Sell - <i>Chairman</i> | 815925 |
| Bill Stiles | 813172 |
| Valerie Trundle | 813433 |

CONTACT US!

Clerk - *Ruth Clifford*
Admin Assistant - *Anne Court*
Email: parishcouncil@stansted.net
Phone/fax: 01279 813214 10am - 1pm
www.stansted.net

This month, on the next page, we've also included the Live Case Report from Uttlesford's planning enforcement team.

Planning Enforcement cases that have commenced

| ENF ID: | Planning Enf Ref | Date Rec'd: | Action by : | Parrish: | Case Status: | Address of Allegation: | Suspected Allegation / Breach or Offence: |
|---------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|----------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2126 | | 01/10/2009 | 27/11/2009 | Stansted | Under Investigation | The Nook Burton End | Steel containers and a possible office on site. Amnexe used as dwelling |
| 609 | ENF/143/08/ | 25/07/2008 | 28/11/2008 | Stansted | Under Investigation | Land at Bentfield Barns Pond Lane | Storage of portable site offices/toilets behind 2m high security fencing. |
| 1651 | ENF/117/09/ | 12/06/2009 | 16/06/2009 | Stansted | Under Investigation | Foxglove Cottage Chapel Hill | Breach of condition C.90B on UTT/1436/08/FUL; breach of conditions C.67 and C.90A on UTT/1247/08/FUL; erection of a building to the front of dwelling. |
| 2111 | ENF/272/09/ | 08/10/2009 | 25/11/2009 | Stansted | Under Investigation | 10 Cambridge Road Stansted | Possible breach in connection with airport related |
| 608 | ENF/142/08/ | 25/07/2008 | 28/11/2008 | Stansted | Case Closed – Planning Compliance Achieved | Land at rear of Pond Lane | 'A' frame barn and land in front being used for storage of building materials. |
| 1317 | ENF/176/05/ | 27/07/2005 | 13/02/2009 | Stansted | Under Investigation | Brickyard Plantation Eisenham Road | Roadways constructed, hardcore laid. |
| 2519 | ENF/38/10/B | 10/03/2010 | 08/04/2011 | Stansted | New Case - Waiting Investigation | The Garden House Bentfield Road | Outbuilding being converted to living accomodation |
| 2163 | ENF/281/09/ | 12/11/2009 | 04/12/2010 | Stansted | Under Investigation | 70 Bentfield Road | Free standing construction without any permission |
| 2013 | ENF/251/09/ | 28/09/2009 | 21/10/2010 | Stansted | Under Investigation | 40 Lower Street | Operating outside hours permitted by planning consents. |
| 2012 | ENF/249/09/ | 22/09/2009 | 20/10/2012 | Stansted | Under Investigation | Land r/o 35 Cambridge Road (Cawkeell Close) | Brick building being erected which may need planning permission. |
| 1012 | ENF/257/08/ | 25/11/2008 | 08/12/2008 | Stansted | Under Investigation | Park House Eisenham Road | Non-compliance with conditions, being used as a dwelling UTT/0793/07/FUL. |
| 1853 | ENF/196/09/ | 13/07/2009 | 19/08/2009 | Stansted | Under Investigation | 40 Lower Street | Illuminated advertisement displayed without express consent |
| 1822 | ENF/179/09/ | 01/06/2009 | 13/08/2009 | Stansted | Under Investigation | Land adjacent to Ryders Burton End | Concrete rubble at side of property. |
| 2356 | ENF/14/10/B | 15/02/2010 | 23/08/2010 | Stansted | New Case - Waiting Investigation | Potash Cottage 15 Millfields | Extension approved under UTT/1128?83 with condition not to be used for separate accomodation. |
| 1202 | ENF/26/09/B | 20/01/2009 | 23/03/2009 | Stansted | New Case - Waiting Investigation | Land to rear of Rochford Close | Houses constructed larger than permision |
| 1904 | ENF/228/09/ | 24/08/2009 | 01/09/2009 | Stansted | Under Investigation | 8 Lower Street | Premises used as a fitness studio with advertising boards outside. |
| 1900 | ENF/225/09/ | 17/08/2009 | 01/09/2010 | Stansted | New Case - Waiting | Endeavour House | New company trading out of Endeavour House parking. Investigation called webuyanycar.com |