

# Stansted Network

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS

## BIENVENUE À RUNGIS!

Our village recently welcomed a delegation from the small town of Rungis in France who had approached the Parish Council with an exciting proposal to form a town-twinning agreement. They had spent three years researching a suitable twinning partner and concluded that Stansted Mountfitchet fitted the bill exactly. Several members of the Rungis council made a visit to the UK and met with a number of residents and councillors here to discuss their proposals. This would involve forming closer relationships and exchanges with local schools, local businesses and families over the coming years. As soon as they arrived in the village, they fell in love with Stansted straight away and were impressed by the history and character of the village.

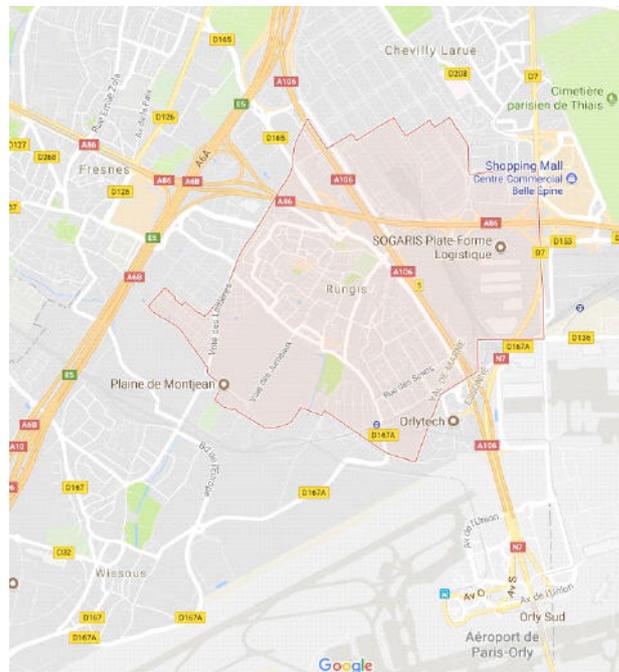
Ruth Clifford, our Parish Clerk and Maureen Caton, Chair of the Parish Council then made a reciprocal visit earlier this month along with Peter James and Martin Budzinski as representatives of Stansted Business Forum and Sully Sautron, a French teacher from Forest Hall School. They are photographed here with the Mayor of Rungis, Cllr. Raymond Charresson, Cllr Patricia Korchef-Lambert and Jessica Topper, the Rungis International Affairs officer.



Our delegates were impressed with the hospitality and friendliness of the people they met and their enthusiasm for establishing a twinning arrangement was infectious. They concluded that a town-twinning arrangement would be an excellent development and provide opportunities for everyone in the village, especially those hoping to improve their French!

Rungis has many similarities to Stansted Mountfitchet in that it is quite close to Orly Airport and just outside Paris. There is a technical institute supporting the airport, similar to the new college being established at Stansted Airport, as well as a secondary school and two

primary schools. The village dates back to 1124 and there is a similar-sized population to that of our village. However, Rungis has a real claim to fame as it hosts the largest food market in the whole of France.



If you would like to find out more about the town, then go to their website at <http://www.rungis.fr>

## What do you think of the proposal?

The cost of pursuing such a scheme would be fairly small but does require the enthusiasm of the local community. We would like you to tell us what you think of the proposal to twin with Rungis. Ideally, please complete our online survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/W99WFLQ>

Alternatively, write to the Parish Council stating whether you think the idea is worth pursuing and your reasons:

Town Twinning Survey  
Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council  
Crafton Green, Stansted CM24 8AQ

Email: [parishcouncil@stansted.net](mailto:parishcouncil@stansted.net)

## MEMORIAL GARDENS

The hard landscaping work in the Memorial Gardens was completed by the end of July. Hopefully by the time you read this the grass will have regrown and the gardens will be looking at their best with the new planting offsetting the the new layout.

The next stage of planned work in the Memorial Gardens is to do some restoration work on the War Memorial. Our appeal to residents to sponsor a name on the memorial got some support and we have had generous donations from commercial sponsors so we are well on our way to raising the funds needed to get the memorial cleaned and all the names redefined in time for next year's centenary of the end of WWI.



Our photograph above shows Church Warden Michael Howes with Trevor Lloyd from the Parish Council and Keith Honour from D H Honour and Son who did all the landscaping work.



Christian French took this excellent photograph of the War Memorial illuminated by the new floodlight. We are working with the conservation officer at Uttlesford District Council on a plan to carry out restoration work on the memorial. Our appeal fund has benefited from some significant contributions from Bloor Homes and Russell Property.

### VILLAGE POND

An ecologist from Affinity Water has identified an invasive weed from New Zealand which we need to deal with. Its Latin name is *Crassula Helmsi* but it is also known as New Zealand Pygmyweed or Australian Swamp Stonecrop. The weed can grow very quickly and has the potential to cause significant environmental damage to the pond.

The Open Spaces Committee has accepted an offer from the owners of Hole Farm to spray the pond with an approved herbicide in order to try and eradicate the problem. Although the treatment poses no health issues, we will post warning signs when spraying is scheduled to take place.

In order to minimise the risk of spreading *Crassula* to any other waterways, we will not be holding any pond working group activities until we are certain the weed has been eradicated and we urge residents not to enter the pond or walk over areas that have dried out.

### NEW BENCHES

In addition to the new benches in the Memorial Gardens we now have a new bench outside the Day Centre. The bench was donated by Cllr Geoffrey Sell and his brother Chris in memory of their parents, Ken and Jane Sell who lived in the village for many years and were active in many aspects of village life. Our picture shows Geoffrey with other members of their family, Day Centre Manager Julie Beck along with Day Centre customers and volunteers.



We also have a new bench in the cemetery donated by Richard Shervington in memory of his wife, Inga.

The bench that had to be removed from Windmill Fields has now been replaced with a more robust bench relocated from the Memorial Gardens.

### MP TO MEET WITH PARISH COUNCIL LEADERS



Our recently elected MP, Kemi Badenoch, has accepted an invitation to meet with Parish Councillors who will brief her on the issues that the village faces. Following the meeting she will have lunch with some of our more senior residents in the Day Centre.

Kemi has yet to confirm her surgery dates but as soon as she does we will publish details in *The Link* and on our website and Facebook pages. Meanwhile you can contact Kemi at House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA telephone 0207 219 1943 or email: [kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk)

## PLAY AREAS - TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

We are fortunate to have a number of play areas in the village which are in good order and serve the needs of our younger children very well. Apart from the MUGA (multi use games area) on the Mountfitchet Estate, provision for older children leaves something to be desired and it is frustrating that we lack the space in the village to provide much opportunity for older children to be active and socialise.

Two possibilities which have been suggested and which we think are feasible, are a basketball ring with practice shooting area and outdoor table tennis tables. These could be located at the Bentfield play area and on The Recreation Ground. Foresthall Park play areas could also be considered once ownership is finally transferred to the Parish Council.

If you have any ideas on these proposals or any views as to how the play areas can be improved please email [trevor.lloyd@stansted.net](mailto:trevor.lloyd@stansted.net)

## NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT

### Cllr Terry Farthing writes

#### Decisions Day

I must admit, many district council meetings are similar to watching paint dry. So it was refreshing to go to Uttlesford's full council meeting on Tuesday (July 25) when key decisions were made for the benefit of the community instead of seeing them kicked further down the track as so often happens.

#### Carver Barracks

After four years of discussion and delay, the council has pledged £500,000 towards the much-needed sports centre at Carver Barracks. Supported by a further £700,000 from the Armed Forces, the facilities will include a running track and all-weather pitch which will be fantastic assets for the district and will cost a fraction of the estimated £12 million required to build elsewhere. It's a win-win for Uttlesford as the site will be maintained and managed by the MoD at no cost to the council.

Speaking to an insider about the future of the barracks, I gather it shouldn't close in 2030 as suggested. However, should it close we have secured a pro-rata refund over the next fourteen years and the site will be safeguarded for the community.

### Science Park

As you may know, London Stansted Airport is owned by the Manchester Airports Group (MAG) which consists of 10 metropolitan councils and an Australian pension fund which share the profits. At long last, Uttlesford District Council is following a similar path by forming a company, Aspire, which has purchased a 50% stake in the Great Chesterford Science Park. Investments are vital to help bridge the gap in funding caused by the cuts to our central government grant. I am proud to be part of a council which is pro-active about solving its funding shortfall, and I firmly believe going forward that this venture will pay great dividends to enable the council to carry out its operations without the need to make cuts.

### Foresthall Park

Together with my fellow councillors, I supported using Section 106 money from the Foresthall Park development to help fund a Parish Council office and library. This is better than having monies sitting around in the bank for years to no benefit of anyone. The Parish has agreed to replace this money and build a fund specifically for the good of residents of Foresthall which I will try to ensure happens in a timely manner.

Myself and Cllr Thom Goddard are also trying to put pressure on Essex County Council to paint yellow lines to stop inconsiderate parking which has forced bin lorries and emergency vehicles to drive over verges and even gardens at certain pinch points.

### Stansted Pharmacy

Discussions continue about the new Stansted pharmacy. I spoke with Professor Ashok Soni and although things have been made difficult for him to operate at times, he is now operational. I would urge residents to pay a visit, where they will be greeted by friendly and knowledgeable staff. We are fortunate to have a pharmacy in that part of the village and I believe this is proving to be a great asset.

### London Stansted Airport

Regarding the airport's bid to increase passengers, I sit on the airport advisory panel and understand the concerns. I hear from both sides: NIMBYs and conspiracy theorists on one side, along with others who say many areas would give their right arm for a major source of employment on their doorstep; but the council's job is to take an objective view. Some may say that considering our funding challenges, the airport could prove to be the goose that lays the golden eggs.

## The Local Plan

The draft local plan is now out to consultation. All interested parties should ensure they have their say. The council is committed to acting where practicable on addressing the public's concerns. The deadline is 5.00 pm on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September. The quickest and easiest way to read the draft plan and provide feedback is via the website [www.uttlesford.gov.uk/draftplan2017](http://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/draftplan2017)

## DATES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

### September

6 Open Spaces  
20 Full Council

### October

9 Civil Protection  
11 Full Council  
18 Open Spaces  
25 Highways 7.00 pm F & GP 8.00 pm

## CONTACT DETAILS

Clerk - Ruth Clifford.  
Assistant to the Parish Clerk-Trevor Lloyd  
Administration Assistant-Emma Philbrick  
Email: [parishcouncil@stansted.net](mailto:parishcouncil@stansted.net)  
Phone/fax: 01279 813214 10.00 am - 1.00 pm  
[www.stansted.net](http://www.stansted.net)

## PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Maureen Caton<br>(Chairman)         | 813914<br><a href="mailto:m.caton@hotmail.co.uk">m.caton@hotmail.co.uk</a>                       |
| Catherine Dean                      | 813579<br><a href="mailto:catherinemarydean@btinternet.com">catherinemarydean@btinternet.com</a> |
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| John O'Brien                        | 816772<br><a href="mailto:johnedobrien@gmail.com">johnedobrien@gmail.com</a>                     |
| Rachel Rands                        | 817413<br><a href="mailto:rachelrands@btinternet.com">rachelrands@btinternet.com</a>             |
| Frances Richards<br>(Vice Chairman) | 812748<br><a href="mailto:frannie.richards@gmail.com">frannie.richards@gmail.com</a>             |
| John Salmon                         | 814789<br><a href="mailto:dandjsalmon@gmail.com">dandjsalmon@gmail.com</a>                       |
| Geoffrey Sell                       | 815925<br><a href="mailto:sellgeoffrey@yahoo.co.uk">sellgeoffrey@yahoo.co.uk</a>                 |

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Valerie Trundle       | 813433<br><a href="mailto:Prtvrt@btinternet.com">Prtvrt@btinternet.com</a> |
| Daphne Wallace-Jarvis | 812259<br><a href="mailto:dwjjwj.444@gmail.com">dwjjwj.444@gmail.com</a>   |

## UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBERS

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Alan Dean      | 813579<br><a href="mailto:cllrdean@uttlesford.gov.uk">cllrdean@uttlesford.gov.uk</a>             |
| Terry Farthing | 661555<br><a href="mailto:cllrfarthing@uttlesford.gov.uk">cllrfarthing@uttlesford.gov.uk</a>     |
| Thom Goddard   | 01371 879122<br><a href="mailto:cllrgoddard@uttlesford.gov.uk">cllrgoddard@uttlesford.gov.uk</a> |
| Geoffrey Sell  | 815925<br><a href="mailto:cllrsell@uttlesford.gov.uk">cllrsell@uttlesford.gov.uk</a>             |

## As we go to press there is one vacancy on the Parish-Council

## ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Ray Gooding | 813103<br><a href="mailto:cllr.ray.gooding@essexcc.gov.uk">cllr.ray.gooding@essexcc.gov.uk</a> |
|-------------|--|

## MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Kemi Badenoch MP contact details:

By post at House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA,

By telephone on 0207 219 1943

By email at [kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk)

## POLICE

Non-emergency 101  
[James.graham@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:James.graham@essex.pnn.police.uk)

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

[www.stanstednhw.org.uk](http://www.stanstednhw.org.uk)

## PARISH PUBLIC TRANSPORT REPRESENTATIVES

Valerie Trundle - 813433 Joy Thomas - 813871

## STANSTED LIBRARY OPENING HOURS

Stansted Library operates from a temporary home in the car park at Crafton Green. The mobile vehicle is now here on the same days and at the same time each week, hopefully making it easier for us all to remember!

Monday 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Mobile Library  
Wednesday 1.00 pm - 6.00 pm Day Centre - Click&Collect Service  
Saturday 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Mobile Library

For more information contact  
[Jenny.Salisbury@essex.gov.uk](mailto:Jenny.Salisbury@essex.gov.uk) or  
[Anthea.Wearn@essex.gov.uk](mailto:Anthea.Wearn@essex.gov.uk)