

Staplehurst Parish Council - Village Enhancement Group

30<sup>th</sup> September 2015 Report Author Adele Sharp

Present:- T. Burnham, J. Reardon, A. Sharp.

Apologies P. Kelly, J. Buller, P. Butcher

\*Saddle bag planters on rail top outside Michael's hairdressers and spuds and buds.

1. A lorry crashed into the railing
2. Highways Agency said it would be ok but only if the planters were only on the pedestrian side and any maintenance only to be done on the pedestrian side. This would rather defeat the idea of it looking nice from the road.
3. Insurers were asked and they said 'no'.

\* Marden Road Land

SPC have now got ownership of this strip of green.

The group discussed whether we could do a meadow / wildflowers strip through the middle?

Possibly poppies? This would mean only the edges would be mown and the rest left wild.

Clerk confirmed KCC is responsible for mowing.

\* Planters

Group commented that these are well established and generally have a good show of plants.

Geraniums seemed to have suffered a bit this year. Group discussed ideas of less high maintenance plants and height to the centre, trailing plants to cover some of the concrete sides of the planters.

Growing concern, possible to contact them and discuss different plants?

Sponsor a planter? Different village groups and / or scouts, guides, horticultural club?

Clerk confirmed Growing Concern plant them and is part of MCCH, registered charity no. 1156486

<http://www.mcch.org.uk/>

-2015-16 budget is £3,095 (see monthly summation)

☑ Growing Concern is receptive to suggestions; otherwise they'll plant as they see fit. Central point of contact is Julie Fahy - [j.fahy@mcch.org.uk](mailto:j.fahy@mcch.org.uk) 01622 718867

\* Welcome signs as enter Staplehurst.

Suggested that some planting there such as daffodils and tulips for Spring.

Adopt a flower bed? Horticultural club?

\* Youth Club garden

This has been discussed at length at SPC meetings, such as a Peter day garden.

Basic question needs to be answered before further discussion.

Does SPC want a garden there?

\* 100 years since WW1 memorial / remembrance bench?

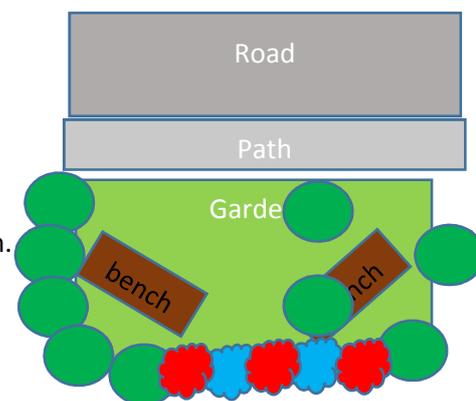
Earlier this year Vic Holdaway posed the question about what the SPC would be doing to commemorate this.

AS will contact Graham Sivyer for details.

\* Parade area

This continues to be an eye sore. There is nothing SPC can do regarding the shops side maintained by Wisprole. Attempts to communicate have been summarily rebuffed.

Some areas maybe KCC maintained such as the library area and closed toilets.



\* Sainsbury green hoarding at Texaco garage and station site, graffiti needs repainting, does Sainburys do this? Also the Tesco sign on station garage still there?

Clerk confirmed that Sainburys has repainted the garage site in the past.

Contact is Barry Taylor at Sainsbury's agent GKA [B.Taylor@gka.co.uk](mailto:B.Taylor@gka.co.uk) .

Station car park site: responsibility rests with car park operator – contact is [neil.edwards@green-parking.co.uk](mailto:neil.edwards@green-parking.co.uk)

Also clerk confirmed Tesco signage was taken down after Deborah wrote to them in July.

Next meeting date TBC