



Stockbridge Parish Council Newsletter

Newsletter Date: April 2021

Welcome to our first edition

from Alex Lawrence, Chair of the Parish Council

I'm very pleased to be able to welcome you to our first Stockbridge Parish Council newsletter. The Parish Council are conscious that not everybody in the village has the time to be able to follow what we do, and as a result we wanted to produce a quarterly newsletter to be delivered for free, to all households in the parish so that we can keep you up to date with what we've been doing.

The past year has been a very difficult one for us all and the Parish Council has had to get used to a new way of meeting and a whole new set of challenges.

As the vaccination roll-out continues to be a



success it appears to be putting us all in a very different position to this time last year. The Council hopes that before too long we can all start to adjust to the 'new normal', and the Council can focus on serving Stockbridge.

We have some excellent photographs in this first edition, reproduced with the kind permission by our very own, Herry Lawford. .

Successful CIL bid to improve School Traffic Safety

Stockbridge Parish Council is delighted to confirm that the Council's application for the CIL funding from TVBC, for the last outstanding traffic safety measure around the Primary School, has been successful. This safety measure, to make Old London Rd one way, going from the White Hart roundabout to the A30, is intended to make the narrow residential road a safer environment for residents, parents and school children. It compliments the safety measures already agreed by HCC; to provide brighter clad-

ding on the bollards, school flashing signs, refurbishing road markings and measures to reduce the approach lane to the A30 to a single lane.

The one-way street is set to improve parking for parents at the Primary School because it will ensure that all vehicles will drive into the road and park in one direction, this will ensure a safer drop-off and pick-up for children and parents. Old London Rd residents have also had to put up with fast moving traffic using the road as a cut through to avoid the two roundabouts, when following a slow lorry down the A30. This can be especially dangerous at school pick-up time.

This is a very exciting development which will make a real improvement for the residents of Old London Rd and the parents and children of Stockbridge Primary School. The Council would like to thank Cllrs Iain Bell and Guy Boney for working with the community to lead the project and the Clerk for completing the successful CIL bid with Cllr Bell.

CIL is community infrastructure Levy which is payment by developers to contribute to infrastructure costs.





What is the Council doing about parking on the High Street?



"HCC has praised the Stockbridge layout as an example of what works and what does not."

In May 2020 the Council's Traffic Parking Working Party decided to poll all high street residents and traders, between the White Hart and the Longstock cross-roads, to understand their views on parking. This feedback would be used to inform any proposal by Hants County Council (HCC) to impose parking restrictions/charges on the village. The majority of the respondents were against parking restrictions being imposed. Their replies also contained comments that (1) parking spaces should be marked on the high street to ensure maximum use of the available space; (2) the use of parking spaces for commercial purposes by residents should be banned/discouraged; (3) all daytime/overnight parking by "dormitory parkers" should be banned; (4) more use should be made by employees of traders of the 32 extra parking spaces between the two A30 roundabouts.

The Traffic Parking WP drew up detailed plans embodying all these comments, which were approved by the Rt Hon Caroline Nokes MP at a Zoom meeting (this meeting included

Gerald Dodson, Chair of the SBA). She agreed to put SPC in touch with the relevant personnel in HCC.

Further progress on this project has had to be put on hold due to the Covid pandemic and the necessity to make high streets a safe environment. HCC worked with the Council to decide the positioning and types of the barriers that were required so that the best solution for the community was put in place. HCC have since praised the Stockbridge layout and have been promoting it throughout the borough as an example of what works and what does not.

This was followed by a meeting in Sept 2020 between Cllrs and HCC Highways. HCC agreed to draw up a design for the High Street to be put to the Council and the community for consideration.

At present the project is moving slowly because of Covid uncertainties. However, the Council are considering instructing a third party consultant to advise on the wider aspects which may go beyond parking, e.g. safety, speeding. It is work in progress and the Council awaits the suggested HCC design.



Helen Jackson – Our New Councillor

Cllr Helen Jackson was co-opted end of January. Helen explains "I first started coming to Stockbridge in the 1980s to shop and admire the wonderful antique shops. Subsequently, I acquired Squirrels and created the tea rooms on the first floor. After a house move and massive renovation project, I relinquished the business but in 1998 my daughter opened The Owl and The Pussycat, and shortly after this I moved into Stockbridge

permanently. I worked full time at The Owl and enjoyed many years of meeting residents and visitors alike. My daughter has now sold the shop on and I am now learning to enjoy retirement"

She adds "over the years the parking controversy hasn't changed much! but I hope I can serve the people of Stockbridge well as a member of the Parish Council."

Keeping the High Street Clean



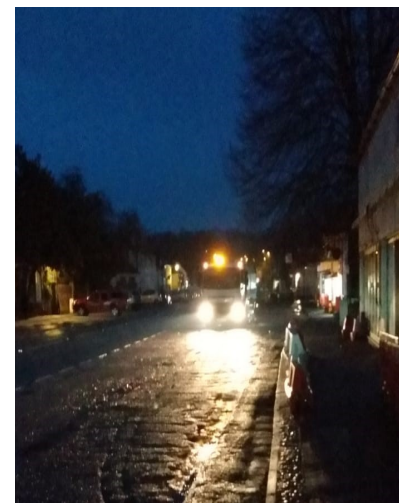
Few residents of Stockbridge would disagree that last year brought an increase in the volume of visitors to Stockbridge. Sadly this has meant an increase in littering on the High Street. Mindful of the inadequate and outdated drains in the High Street, which only have 10% spare capacity and which would be in danger of blocking with the excess rubbish, Cllr Bell has been working with TVBC to organise sweeping each the side of the High Street on a weekly basis.

The first deep clean went very well and the Council and TVBC were very grateful to all members of the community who moved their vehicles on the evening of Sunday 21st February and Monday 22nd February in order to allow the gutter cleaning machines access to the side of the road. However,

after this initial successful clean, Stockbridge Parish Council and TVBC took the decision that the appropriate course of action would be to reduce the number of times that the gutter cleaning machine is used on the High Street. It was agreed that the machine would be used every other week and in the interim period the gutters would be manually swept. This is to make allowances for members of the community who expressed disquiet at having to move their cars too many times.

Any changes and further details will be posted in the News section of the Stockbridge Parish Council website.

The Council will be approaching the coffee vendors to persuade them to encourage their patrons to bring their own re-usable cups, as we move out of Covid.



Vehicles will need to be moved on the following dates:

11th and 12th April

25th and 26th April

9th and 10th May

23rd and 24th May

6th and 7th June

Election Time

May 6th is election day. Elections will be for the Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner and for the local Hampshire County Council Councillor (Cllr Gibson will not be standing at this election). It is also possible that a by-election will be held for a new Councillor for Stockbridge Parish Council.

As usual the Stockbridge polling station will be at the Town Hall but there will be a range of adjustments to ensure the polling station is kept Covid secure such as one way systems, floor markings, hand sanitiser sta-

tions at the entrance and the wearing of face coverings. Voters will be asked to keep socially distanced and it would be preferred if voters bring their own pencils.

The deadline for applying for postal votes is 20th April and for applying for proxy vote is 27th April. You may apply online at [Electoral Registration | Test Valley Borough Council](#) or email postal.voting@testvalley.gov.uk For further information about the elections visit hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/electionsandvoting

*SPC would like
to thank all
members of
the
community
who moved
their cars the
night before*





What's on in Stockbridge

The Council would like to use this part of the newsletter to list upcoming events in the next three months. Obviously due to the pandemic there are fewer events than would normally take place but hopefully this will change. In the meantime if you would like your event to be included please contact the clerk via email clerk@stockbridgeparishcouncil.org.uk. For times and more information about these events please refer to www.stockbridgecinema.org.uk

| When | Where | What |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Wednesday 19th May | Stockbridge Town Hall | Little Women |
| Friday 18th June | Stockbridge Town Hall | The Perfect Candidate |
| Wednesday 23rd June | Stockbridge Town Hall | A Personal History of David Copperfield |
| Friday 16th July | Stockbridge Town Hall | Cinema Paradiso |



A Plea to Dog Owners

It has been observed that at least 100+ dogs use the Stockbridge Lilly's/Kudos marsh path every day. The vast majority of them 'perform' within a 50-100 metre arc of the footbridge giving access to the water meadow preceding the marsh. The Dog Fouling Act of 2016 places responsibility on "the person in charge of the dog" at the

time of the misdemeanour. No one wants to step in dog mess, and everyone deserves to enjoy safe and clean public spaces. Picking up after your dog is one of the easiest ways any responsible dog owner can do their part for the environment. Your neighbours and other walkers will thank you, too!

As a responsible dog owner, please pick up after your dog – and remonstrate with those who do not!

A Quick round up of News

HCC is holding a consultation looking at electric charging for vehicles. Please go to <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/electric-vehicles> to give your views..... Trout n'About will not be taking place this year but the online portal that was in operation last year (vital.tnastockbridge.co.uk) will be up and running for the event.....**Two sisters have been fined** over £1500 for flytipping in Test Valley..... **Nightingale Lodge**, new independent living accommodation providing 24hr care if needed is due to open in Romsey in the Summer, see Hampshire Home Choice for details.....**HCC wants to encourage** everyone to work together to 'Respect, Protect and Enjoy' our countryside and the RoW network See <https://mailchi.mp/e634c313c262/accessteamsmarch-2021-newsletter> and a video for Dog owners: <https://youtu.be/nixVnq6DejY>**The Council has**

written to HCC expressing serious concern with the degeneration of Lily's path. Social distancing and the sheer numbers of visitors has worn the side of the path to the extent that it is a cause of concern. **Please sign up for the Council's email alerts** available from the Council's website. Information regarding road works, fraud/scam warnings, Stockbridge activities and local announcements are posted on the news section of the website and will go direct to your inbox. You can also sign up for events.

