



# Stockbridge Parish Council Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 2

Newsletter Date: July 2021

## The War Memorial Update

It is fair to say that that Stockbridge's beautiful Lutyens War Memorial is not looking its best at the present time. However, plans are very much coming to fruition for it to be returned to its former state, but, at the time of going to press the Working Party was still waiting for an installation date from the stone masons. Covid and furlough have played a part in the delays.

The Working party are very happy with the quality of the stone mason's work and the standard of the Portland stone that they are working with. They have been guided throughout by a specialist structural engineer who is there to ensure that the slot through the plinth, that holds the base of the cross, is of sufficient depth to ensure enough support for the cross in all wind conditions. TVBC conservation officers have been kept fully informed.

The cross, currently residing at the stone masons, will now be cleaned by a specialist contractor, with one eye on providing as close a colour match with the new Portland stone as possible. Installation will then be undertaken under the supervision of TVBC and the engineer, hopefully very soon, but definitely before November.



## Improvements to Lily's path

The right of way that runs from the old Lily's Langtry Tea rooms to the NT water meadows has often been referred to as Lily's path. However, the path has been over used in the last year by the numbers of visitors that have been coming to Stockbridge after lockdown. As well

as the numbers, social distancing has meant people have moved to the boundaries to let others pass, and this has put extra stress on the edge of the path next to the water. The Council became concerned that the path was starting to deteriorate, both in its surface and its underlying structure, to the point where in places it was showing signs of collapse. However, because the path is a right of way it legally needs to be kept open unless there is danger to life.

The Council was very surprised when a ranger from HCC visited and decided he couldn't see that there was much of a problem. So the Council had to write in strong, legal terms to HCC to say that if the path collapsed and there resulted in a legal case then SPC would say that the HCC had been warned.

HCC thankfully decided to act. They have now inspected the path, allocated budget to the project and have put a plan in place for the repair. The first part of which was to replace some of the broken slats on the bridge. However, because the path runs next to a main river a Flood Risk Environment Permit needs to be applied for and that takes 8 weeks to issue. Therefore, the date HCC is working towards, for commencement of works, is the end of August/September.





# Stockbridge Recreation Ground Trust AGM



*"The  
Recreation  
ground was  
provided for  
the  
inhabitants of  
the Parish of  
Stockbridge"*

The Stockbridge Recreation Ground Trust's AGM should be held 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021. The Recreation Ground Trust is a separate body to the football club and is responsible for the management of the ground and for fulfilling any financial and legal obligations. It is a charity registered with the Charity Commission. The AGM is the ideal time to find out how the Trust operates and works with the groups that use the ground regularly. At the AGM the election will be held for members of the Recreation Ground Trust committee. Any resident of Stockbridge is able to vote for the committee and/or stand for it. The minimum number of committee meetings to be held each year is two. A copy of the Recreation Ground Trust Conveyance, which is the legal agreement that governs the recreation ground, is available on the Parish Council's website under the Recreation Ground tab, although unfortunately it is a photograph and of poor quality. The Conveyance stipulates that the Trust committee should be made up of 2

members of the football club, 2 Parish Councillors and 2 elected members of the community. It is also possible that the committee can agree to co-opt two further members. Other groups that use the Recreation Ground can ask that their group also provides 2 members to this committee. The Recreation Ground was set up in 1976 and the Conveyance stipulates it was provided for the use of the inhabitants of the Parish of Stockbridge for the object of improving the condition of their lives.

At present the Parish Council is represented on the committee by Cllr Halle and Cllr Lawrence. The committee is chaired by Mr Greg Willcox, Mr Paul Barker is treasurer and ??????Mawson is the secretary.

The AGM is likely to be held in the clubhouse at the Recreation Ground at 7:30pm on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

Any changes to these arrangements will be posted on the News section or the Parish Council website



## Susan Hill — Our New Parish Councillor

I have lived in the area, first at Longstock and since 1992 in Stockbridge for nearly 40 years. I worked for The Health Protection Agency up at Porton Down for 20 years before moving on to Andover Hospital for a further 4 before the job was organised out of existence.

I still do a few hours administrative work for The Houghton Club as I have done ever since my husband took over as Head

Keeper in 1990 and have continued to do since his retirement.

I am also a member of the local WI.

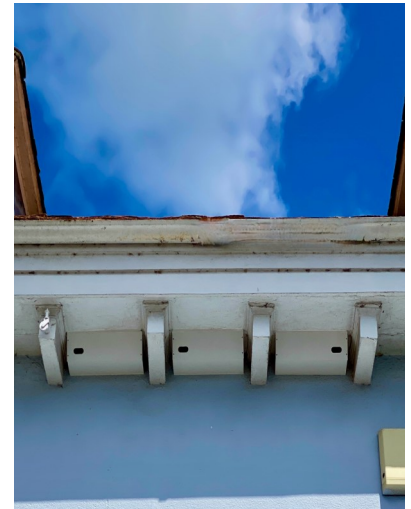
I am looking forward to working on the Parish council and serving the community.





In September 2020 the Parish Council resolved to request that any new housing in Stockbridge should be installed with Swift Boxes. Councillors were keen to do what was possible to encourage these amazing birds make their summer homes in Stockbridge. Members of the SOS community have been encouraging residents to install the boxes on the outside of their homes. They have sourced swift boxes from the Hampshire Swifts and have identified suitable places within the Stockbridge community. To date 30 swift boxes installed

and more are scheduled. Nearby parishes have also made enquiries as they are interested in doing the same. Hopefully, this initiative will mean that the residents of Stockbridge will be able to enjoy the sight and sounds of these birds, screeching, as they swoop and dive for insects on a summer evening, for many more years to come. If you would like to install a swift box on your home for Swifts to make their home next year, it would be best to get in touch with Hampshire swifts directly via [www.hampshireswifts.co.uk](http://www.hampshireswifts.co.uk).



## Social Media and the Council

From time to time, a subject comes before SPC for consideration, on the basis that it is material circulating on social media. The expectation is that because it is on social media SPC must know all about it.

This is quite incorrect. Some councillors are not, and don't wish to be, connected to social media.

However, the Councils would like to encourage electors to feel free to raise any local issue about which they feel concern

and wish council to consider, including anything relevant which has appeared only on social media. The council gently suggests that the best and most appropriate way of achieving this is either by raising it by email with the Parish Clerk in advance of the next meeting, or by attending a SPC meeting in person and raising the matter early on in the meeting. (A slot is reserved in the early stages of each meeting for members of the public to raise matters of concern).

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*Council wishes*

*to encourage*

*electors to*

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*issue*

## David Drew - Our New County Councillor

Cllr David Drew has taken over from Andrew Gibson as the county representative for the Test Valley Central division, which includes Stockbridge. David, who lives in Goodworth Clatford, brings with him a wealth of experience since he has been a County Councillor from 2010 to 2013. He is also the Test Valley borough councillor for the Harewood ward, and has sat on the Andover Town Council.

David says, "My top priorities

are education, road maintenance and the economy: having excellent schools is my aim, as it is for parents. Getting roads fixed quickly is essential, as is support for the economy as it bounces back from the pandemic. I am also a governor of two schools in Andover, a trustee of the Test Valley Arts Foundation and a trustee of the Hampshire & IoW Air Ambulance. I always put residents and their families first and foremost, and am happy to hear from anyone at any time."





## What's on in Stockbridge

### When

Friday 16th July

Wednesday 21st July

Tuesday 2nd September **TBA**

### Where

Stockbridge Cinema

Stockbridge Cinema

Recreation Ground

### What

Cinema Paradiso

Summerland

Recreation Ground Trust AGM

Please let the Clerk know if you would like to promote your event with a listing here.

## Keep yourself safe from phishing scams



We are being constantly reminded to be on our guard against suspicious emails and other forms of cyber crime. This is because preventing this kind of crime is far easier finding the perpetrators. Everyone needs to be cautious about clicking on links from an unsolicited email because you can be taken onto a malicious website that downloads a virus or copies your passwords. The most commonly spoofed organisation reported in phishing emails was TV Licensing, with victims of these emails reporting losses totalling **£5.3m**.

If you receive an email that you

you are not quite comfortable about report it to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS) by forwarding the email to: **report@phishing.gov.uk**. The automated system will scan your email for malicious links and any that are reported will enable law enforcement agencies to take down malicious websites. Since its launch, over **43,000 scams** and **84,000** malicious websites **have** been removed. Suspicious text messages can be reported to 7726, free of charge.

The news section of the Council website posts any updates that come through from Action Fraud and Hampshire Police.

## A Quick Round- up of News

Hampshire County Council is consulting to understand the views of residents and stakeholders across Hampshire on options to help the Authority deliver a balanced budget in 2023/2024. The consultation runs until 18<sup>th</sup> July and is available at [Serving Hampshire – Balancing the Budget Consultation | About the Council | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/serving-hampshire-balancing-the-budget-consultation). Hampshire CC Highways has confirmed that they will be taking the CIL award for the safety measures around the Primary School forward. At present they are putting together a plan of implementation. **TVBC has recently voted** to use the majority of the Borough's CIL money on projects in Andover and Romsey. This means that the large CIL award for the safety measures may be the last such award for some time. **The High Street cleans** are still taking place on a Monday morning and Tuesday night. Please

remember to move your car to the opposite side of where the clean is taking place the night before. **Do you walk our rights of way?** Please let the Clerk know if any of them need cutting back. **Remember to sign up** for email alerts from the News and Event section of the Parish Council website. The news is reflective of the whole community.

