

## **STOKE MANDEVILLE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **AUTUMN EDITION PARISH MAGAZINE**

**New Councillor.** At our July meeting we were pleased to welcome Santosh Kirve as a co-opted Parish Councillor for Stoke Grange ward. We still hold a vacancy for a further Parish Councillor to bring us up to our standard number of twelve. Anybody interested in taking on this vacancy and becoming a Parish Councillor for Stoke Mandeville should contact the Clerk for further details. 01296 613888

**Change of Speed Limit.** Consultation concluded on 22<sup>nd</sup> July for changes to the speed limit from 40mph to 30 mph along sections of Risborough Road and Lower Road. A grant from the New Homes Bonus Fund was received from AVDC to cover the legal costs, new signage and ancillary works. The cost of necessary consultation has been met by the Parish Council.

**Neighbourhood Plans.** The Neighbourhood Plan area has been designated as the entire Parish of Stoke Mandeville. It is anticipated that work on the Plan will take some eighteen months to complete and we are keen to have this agreed before the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan is approved. Therefore, in order to make the task easier the preliminary work will be done within three sections based on District wards, being Hawkslade, Mandeville (Stoke Leys and Stoke Grange) and Village. Residents are needed to come forward to join us and participate in developing a Plan for Stoke Mandeville which demonstrates sustainable growth in a planned and structured way rather than ad hoc speculative proposals from developers. A number of community consultations are required throughout the process culminating with a referendum. We have already seen two large planning applications for residential development in the Parish and until we have a Plan of our own showing which areas we consider should be developed this will continue.

**Grass Cutting.** The cutting of roadside grass verges was taken on by the Parish Council at the beginning of the season as a devolved service for which Aylesbury Town Council has been appointed as contractor. It is pleasing to note the high standard which is being achieved and our congratulations and thanks to Steve and his Team from Aylesbury Town Council. Likewise the cutting of open areas at Hawkslade is done by Aylesbury Vale District Council as well as green spaces throughout the Parish including the Queen Elizabeth Field in Eskdale Road.

**Roadside Parking in Stoke Leys.** Notice has been received from County Councillor Brian Roberts that a new street plan showing adjustments suggested as a result of the earlier consultation will now be circulated to residents as a [further] consultation document with a response date of four weeks. All received comments will be analysed with a final document going to the legal department of BCC for approval. The Parish Council has been critical of the way this matter has been handled for the time it has taken and the initial consultation being

shown closed on the BCC website prematurely despite our being advised that this would remain open until the multi storey car park at Stoke Mandeville Hospital became operational.

**Allotments.** The waiting list has considerably reduced and a number of allotments have changed hands. If you require an allotment to prepare throughout the autumn/winter months for spring planting please contact the Clerk. Half plots are available which are easier to manage but large enough to provide you and your family with fresh vegetables and berry fruits. A new contract between the Council and allotment tenants is to be circulated giving twelve months notice before implementation.

**New Street Lights.** The Council has agreed to replace the existing street lights with LEDs in the Stoke Leys and Village Wards. This will be on a staged implementation basis aimed at completion by 1 April 2021 at a total estimated cost of £80k which will be recovered by revenue savings. Several lamp columns are also being replaced due to safety factors. Bucks County Council has already changed street lighting to LED along Wendover Road and many other main roads in the county.

**High Speed Rail 2.** Four Select Committee MP came to Stoke Mandeville on 11<sup>th</sup> June to meet MP David Lidington, local Councillors including Parish Councillors and residents. Visits were made to the Goat Centre in Old Risborough Road; Stoke House and the Old Church site, Risborough Road; the Belmore Centre in order to see the site where the diversion of the A.4010 will emerge in Lower Road; Booker Park School and Oats Close, Hawkslade. The MPs heard about how HS2 will impact on local businesses, farms, the village Primary School, Booker Park School, homes and residents. The Chairman of the Select Committee Robert Sym MP, was clearly impressed by the way the Parish Council and Action Group had worked proactively to develop solutions to local issues such as the A4010 realignment. MPs expressed surprise at the closeness of the rail line to homes on Hawkslade and were sympathetic to requests for better mitigation.

At the same time local authorities, conservation groups and resident groups from south of Wendover, put their case to the Select Committee for an extended twin bored tunnel through the Chilterns at an additional cost of £400m. We made known our objections to this proposal and whilst remaining supportive of a tunnel through the Chilterns in principle we believe that extending the exit portal this way would have a serious adverse impact on Stoke Mandeville for years to come and to the surrounding area including Aylesbury town during the three to five year construction period. However, the Select Committee has in the meantime rejected the proposal but the proposers will actively continue to canvass for its implementation.

**Salt Bins.** County Councillor for Hawkslade, Brian Adams has donated £220 from his Bucks County Council Leaders' Fund towards the purchase of a salt bin to be sited on Anton Way near Ravensbourne Road. It is anticipated that this will be in place before the winter weather begins.

**Community Assets.** AVDC has advised that three of the six applications for registration as a Community Asset had been successful being the Bull PH, The Woolpack PH and the Bucks County Council Sports Ground and Social Club. Should any of these properties be put up for sale a six month holding period would be necessary to enable any bids from the community to be made.

**Decisions on Planning Applications.** The Local Planning Authority has advised of the following decisions on applications submitted in respect of the Parish of Stoke Mandeville.

**a) Permitted Development**

- Single Side Extension , 4 Patrick Way, Aylesbury.
- Single Storey Rear Extension, 52 Station Road, Stoke Mandeville
- Single Storey Rear Extension, 6 Lydiard Close, Aylesbury
- Two Storey Side Extension, 33 Dalesford Road, Aylesbury
- Erection of detached outbuilding and swim spa, 2 Swallow Lane, Stoke Mandeville
- Single Storey Side and Rear Extension [amended plan] 4 Chess Close , Aylesbury.
- Conversion of garage into habitable room, 27 Patrick Way, Aylesbury
- Erection of Fencing and replacement of five bar gate, 71 Lower Road, Stoke Mandeville.

**b) Refused**

- Erection of Seven Dwellings, Land at Whitethorn Farm, Stoke Mandeville

Jenny Hunt

Chairman Stoke Mandeville Parish Council

1 August 2015