

STOKE MANDEVILLE PARISH COUNCIL WINTER 2015

Speed Changes Risborough Road and Lower Road

The application for reducing the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph from the Old Risborough Road junction to the central traffic island in Lower Road, has been agreed and the legal Order signed off by Bucks County Council. The new speed limit should be introduced once new signs have been installed. Thirty mile per hour roundels will be painted on the roads. Speeding along these roads is well known to residents and it is hoped that the action taken by the Parish Council will improve road safety for pedestrians, especially children and vulnerable and older people, and also for road users travelling through Stoke Mandeville.

Mobile Vehicular Activated Sign [MVAS]

The newly acquired mobile traffic system warning speeding motorists to slow down has been used in Anton Way, Lower Road and Station Road. It will next be used in Wendover Road towards Eastcote Road and near Thornbrook House Risborough Road. The equipment is transported and installed between sites by Parish Councillors and shared with Weston Turville.

High Speed Rail

By the time this magazine arrives through your letter box, the Parish Council after five years of lobbying, collecting and recording evidence, talking to engineers, environmentalist, archaeologists, meeting with HS2 Ltd officials, MPs and Ministers and holding public meetings, will have appeared before the Parliamentary Select Committee. Led by our Agent, Marcus Rogers, we will be pressing for a green tunnel at the rear of Oats Close and Isis Close, sound barriers of sufficient height and uniformity along Risborough Road where grave inconsistency exists, improved screening to protect visual amenity and noise from the maintenance loop and other vulnerable areas, the provision of a facility for placing remains from the old church site, improved safety and noise mitigation at our schools in the village and Booker Park as well as pressing for the diversion of the A.4010 which avoids the construction of two large bridges across Marsh Lane and Risborough Road. Any decisions will be published at a later date.

East West Rail

Consultation has recently concluded on proposals for East West Rail which will link Aylesbury with Southampton, Milton Keynes, Bedford and further afield. Locally EW Rail will follow the route of the Chiltern line between Aylesbury and Marylebone via Princes Risborough, passing behind Stoke Leys and crossing HS2 between Marsh Lane and Hawkslade. The main proposals in the latest consultation involved the future of level crossings including a proposal to close the crossing in Old Stoke Aylesbury. This was opposed by the Parish Council for reason that this crossing was necessary to serve as a link between the Southcourt area and Stoke Road as it has done for many years.

Children's Play Area Hawkslade

The Parish Council is anxious to provide an area for children's play at Hawkslade and although we are able to fund equipment we have no land in the area. The building of twenty four houses at Oats Close will open up land to the rear of the development to be planted as a wooded area. Discussions have taken place with the developers Abbey Homes and Aylesbury Vale District Council about the possibility of the Parish Council taking on this area by a Deed of Variation.

Closure of Aylesbury Magistrates Court

The Parish Council was consulted on the proposed closure of Aylesbury Magistrates' Court with alternative provision being in Milton Keynes and High Wycombe. The Parish Council opposed the

closure believing this would bring hardship to the most vulnerable people and those without own transport. Furthermore the Court should remain in Aylesbury as the county town.

Aylesbury Vale Local Plan – Additional Housing for the Vale

Aylesbury Vale are currently working on a new Plan which will bring 30,500 houses to the District by 2033 of which 10,000 is the estimated requirement for accommodating the unmet needs of neighbouring Authorities. An Issues and Options paper has been published showing potential sites. The consultation document is available on

<http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/vale-aylesbury-local-plan---issues-and-options-consultation>

and includes sites in Stoke Mandeville. Although in the early stages of the consultation process the Issues and Options paper is important and comments are required by 4th December 2015. Our website will carry a continuous brief on this subject. As Aylesbury Vale has not as yet a Local Plan Stoke Mandeville remains vulnerable to speculative development as we have recently seen from the two Gladman applications received during the summer on which decisions are still awaited.

Experimental Traffic Regulation Order for Stoke Leys

Brian Roberts County Councillor for Mandeville Ward met with Parish Councillors during October to discuss changes to the location of the double and single yellow lines. A further consultation is now underway and information has been delivered to householders. Informal comments from residents have highlighted that car parking is still taking place on residential roads around the hospital despite a new car park being provided for staff. We have been advised that one of the issues is car parking by taxis waiting to pick up their “fares”. Therefore, an approach is to be made to ASDA to find out if they are willing to provide space in their car park for waiting taxis.

Stoke Mandeville Combined School

Congratulations were offered to the Combined School in achieving a national award for promoting road safety and being presented with a Modelshift STARS Award at a reception in London. Parish Councillors met with Governors, school staff and the Head Teacher earlier this year to learn of the tremendous amount of work being done with children to promote road safety. The Parish Council has agreed to sponsor a road safety competition for the design of a road safety sign with the winning entries being displayed throughout the Parish and prizes being awarded to successful entrants.

New In Brief

- New drains have been installed to the Community Centre as well as a computerised heating control system. The former was funded by the Council and the heating system by the Community Association and the Parish Council aided by a grant from the Stoke Mandeville & Other Parishes Charity this being a major expense.
- LED street lights will be provided when existing cells need replacing. This is part of the run in to replacing all street lights with LEDs.
- Ten street light columns have been replaced as they were found to be corroded. These lights have also been upgraded to LEDs at the same time.
- Stoke Mandeville failed in the Best Kept Village Competition organised by the Bucks Association of Local Councils. However, we think that everyone will agree that grass cutting this year has improved despite the wet weather and Aylesbury Town Council our contractors has done well.
- New road surfacing by Buckinghamshire County Council has been a great improvement especially the hatching and double row of “cats eyes” installed along Lower Road.
- Following on from the two successful play days which took place at the Queen Elizabeth Playing Field in Eskdale Road during the summer holidays, the Parish Council is planning to repeat these events funding being available.
- A new replacement name sign has been provided at Misbourne Close, Hawkslade. Our thanks to Cllrs Stephen Pluckwell and Brian Adams.

- Salt bins have been delivered for Anton Way and Ligo Avenue. If you are aware of areas where salt bins are needed please contact the clerk. These can be accessed by residents for use on public areas.

Planning

The following decisions have been made by Aylesbury Vale District Council, the Local Planning Authority.

Approved

- Single Storey Side Extension, 22 Chalgrove End
- Two Story Side Extension , 4 Evans Close
- Single Storey Rear Extension, 77a Station Road
- Construction of Single Storey Detached Teaching Building, Booker Park School
- Demolition of Existing Dwelling and Erection of New Dwelling, 81 Wendover Road
- Construction of Raised Helipad, Stoke Mandeville Hospital

Withdrawn

- Use of land for grazing and stabling of horses, Lower Road has been withdrawn.

**Wishing all our Residents Best Wishes for the Christmas Season and
Good Health and Happiness for 2016**

Jenny Hunt
Chairman
Stoke Mandeville Parish Council
1 November 2015