



Parish Council Update

Issue 2 • January 2017

Stoke Mandeville Parish Council
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Welcome to the Issue 2 of the *Parish Council Update* - keeping you up to date with the latest news from Stoke Mandeville Parish Council. If you are aware of friends or neighbours who live in our parish and would like to receive the Update please ask them to forward their email details to smparishcouncil@btconnect.com. The Parish Council will not share email details with any third party.

Burial Ground

The burial ground in Swallow Lane is nearing capacity and is likely to be closed for burials within the next 3-4 years, the Council has therefore been investigating options for the future provision of a burial ground.

One option is to apply for change of use on a piece of land owned by the Parish Council in Marsh Lane which is adjacent to the allotments. It was designated allotment land but the Council has secured permission from the government to use it for alternative purposes.

The next stage will be to apply to Aylesbury Vale District Council for the change of use and to work with Transport for Bucks to ensure the access is fit for purpose. The land will need a lot of work to make it suitable for use as a cemetery and the Council will be tendering this contract should planning permission be granted for change of use.

Street Lights

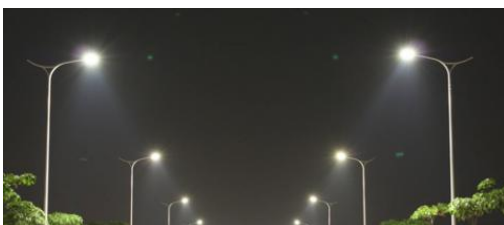
Faulty lights

With the dark evenings it tends to be more noticeable when street lights are not working. Some street lights are the responsibility of the Parish Council and should be reported to the Clerk. These are the lights in the village and Stoke Leys.

Street lights in Hawkslade, Stoke Grange and along Wendover Road are the responsibility of Transport for Bucks and should be reported to them on 0845 230 2882 or via their website – <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/transport/tell-tfb/>

Replacement LED street lights

The Council will soon be going out to tender for the next stage to upgrade its street lights to LEDs. The next tranche of street lights to be upgraded are those in Stoke Leys Ward, the work will be carried out in spring. Whilst the upgrade is costly, the new lights are more environmentally friendly and will also result in reduced ongoing maintenance and running costs for the Council.



New Parish Councillor

The Council is delighted to welcome new Parish Councillor for the Village Ward – Gillian Watts. Cllr Watts has lived in Stoke Mandeville for 14 years and was co-opted to the Council when it met on 13th December.

There is still one vacancy for the Hawkslade Ward – please contact the Chairman or Clerk if you are interested in joining the Council.

Street Furniture

A new bus shelter has been ordered for Hawkslade and will be sited on Orwell Drive, opposite the junction with Lambourne Avenue. It is due to be installed w/c 23rd January.



If you notice any issues with benches, bus shelters, litter and dog bins, please report to the Clerk (details above).

Planning News

There are a number of planning applications in Stoke Mandeville currently being considered by Aylesbury Vale District Council, the larger ones are listed below and residents can comment via AVDC's website

- <https://publicaccess.aylesburyvaldc.gov.uk/online-applications//search.do?action=simple&searchType=Application>

- 16/04238/AOP - 375 houses to be built on land west of Wendover Road
- 16/04608/AOP - 125 houses to be built on land off Lower Road, Stoke Mandeville
- 16/04243/AOP - 81 houses to be built at Thornbrook House and Roylands, Risborough Road

There will be a meeting of the Parish Council's Planning Committee on Thursday 26th January at 10.30am in the Methodist Church Hall, This meeting will look at the application for 375 houses to be build off Wendover Road (opposite the Marroway). All meetings of the Council and its committees are open to the public.

The application for 73 houses to be built on land behind Eskdale Road and Station Road is due to be considered by AVDC's committee soon, possibly on 3rd February. AVDC meetings are also open to the public, the times and agendas can be found here - <http://democracy.aylesburyvaldc.gov.uk/mgCalendarMonthView.aspx>

Residents may also be aware of two applications for land off Lower Road which were considered by AVDC Development Management Committee in July last year. One for 190 houses by the BCC Sports and Social Club and the other for 117 on land opposite The Bell PH. Both applications were deferred and delegated to officers for approval subject to completion of legal agreements with Bucks CC and AVDC to secure financial contributions towards educations, leisure and offsite highways works and provision of affordable housing. Both applications still remain as "awaiting decision" on AVDC's website.

Precept 2017-18

For the next financial year starting on 1 April 2017, the precept of the Parish Council will increase by just 10p per week for a property falling into council tax band 'D' and will vary from that upwards or downwards according to which council tax band your property falls within. The increase is necessary to deal with a number of high cost projects which have to be completed over the next three to five years as listed below.

- development of a future burial ground for the Parish
- upgrading the street lights for which we are responsible
- completion of a Neighbourhood Plan to help to manage the future growth and development of our Parish
- continued delivery of services devolved from Bucks CC with reducing subsidy



After the proposed increase in the precept, this parish should remain in the bottom 50% for the level of parish precepts within Band D council Tax across the whole of Aylesbury Vale.

Parish Council Meetings:

The upcoming meetings are as follows – all meetings are open to the public.

Date	Time	Details	Venue
26 Jan	10.30am	Planning Committee	Methodist Church Hall
14 Feb	7.30pm	Parish Council	Community Centre
23 Feb	10.30am	Planning Committee	Community Centre
28 Feb	7.30pm	Governance & Resources Committee	Community Centre

Allotments

- **Allotment plots to rent** - the Parish Council has some vacant allotment plots available to rent, please contact the Clerk if interested
- **Existing allotment tenants** are reminded not to park on the grass verge by the allotment entrance during the wet weather to avoid the pavement being made muddy and dangerous for pedestrians. Please use the layby outside the school or the car park at the Bell PH.

