

STANFORD PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2014 ISSUE no 23

It is with great sadness that we report the untimely death in June of Ken Bultitude. He was a thorough, stalwart, and much respected Chair of our Council and we will all miss him. We are thankful that his wife Dorothy will be continuing as our Parish Clerk. We couldn't do without her help.

Councillor Kevin Lohse had to resign during the year owing to ill health. We are indebted to him for his service on the Parish Council and wish him well for the future.

On a happier note, we are pleased to announce the co-option of two new Councillors to fill the vacancies and we welcome Matthew Webb and Pete Maddox, both from Stanford. We are once again up to our full complement of Councillors.

We also have a new Chair, Cllr Mrs Marian Bebbington and a new Vice Chair, Cllr Peter Bebbington who will endeavour to keep up the standards of Ken Bultitude.



Parish Maintenance

The Community Payback Team has been working to help us in the Parish by clearing verges of rubbish and vegetation, clearing our footpaths, repairing the footbridge over the motorway and cutting back trees and vegetation. They have also repainted Spot Bridge and cleared weeds from the path leading up to the church. We appreciate

their time and effort as, I'm sure, do our Parishioners.



War Memorial

As reported in the last Newsletter, Ken Bultitude applied for a grant of £5000 to make some improvements to the area around the war memorial. It is often the case in November that the grass is wet and the ground soggy, so a paved area was envisaged. Shepway DC awarded the grant, but unfortunately we could not accept it as no permission to proceed was received from the Diocese and also the PCC voted not to support the idea because of the future cost of maintenance. The Service of Remembrance will be on 9 November this year at the church. Wear wellies!

War and Peace

This event was with us again for the second year on the Racecourse venue and the show went well apart from the confusion over the access to Stone Street. The Chair has looked into this and is having talks with the various authorities to improve things for next year.

The VW show

This was held the week following War and Peace and unfortunately was not run as well. We had complaints from the residents of Lympne with regard to the noise nuisance. Again, we have looked into this to try to improve things for next year if the event is to go ahead again.

KCC Minerals and Waste Sites Development plan

Shrine Farm is one of six sites being considered in Kent and the legality of this application by KCC is

now being examined by the Secretary of State this autumn. Your Parish Council has re-iterated its views (given in 2012) against the use of Shrine Farm for sand extraction.

Lorry Park opposite Stop 24

A site for a lorry park (to be situated at the small roundabout on the A20 leading from Junction 11 adjacent to Hillhurst Farm and accommodating 300 lorries), has been chosen by KCC at a meeting in their Maidstone Headquarters. Your Chair and Vice Chair attended the meeting and listened from the Public Gallery. We understand that SDC are against the proposal, but at the time of writing this Newsletter we have no other information.

Train Services

The time-table at Westenhanger is to be reduced to one train an hour at off-peak times: we will be giving the link on our website when it becomes available. Local resident (and former Councillor) Martin De Wolf has worked tirelessly to try to stop this reduction in service, but unfortunately his sterling efforts were unsuccessful.

New notice board for Stanford

We are pleased to report that we have been able to replace the old board outside the Drum with a sturdy new one. Thanks are due to our County Councillor Ms Susan Carey for a grant from KCC to make this possible.

Village Hall

At the time of writing we have no further news about the Committee's plans. As mentioned in the last Newsletter, they ran a successful Quiz at the Drum to raise funds to pay a further year's insurance on the Hall.

New use for the Telephone Kiosk in Stanford

The Parish Council 'adopted' the old red telephone box from BT for £1 in 2008. Some other Councils who did the same have made use of their box in innovative ways and we were approached by a young resident who wanted to turn it into a library to be freely used by the community. We feel it is a great idea and are

pleased to see it being put to such good use. Work has commenced as we write this.

Memorial Bench

A wooden bench in memory of Ken Bultitude is on order and will be placed in front of the church wall with a view down toward his home, Tudor Cottage. The Parish Council wishes to thank all those who contributed to this fitting tribute to Ken for all the work he did for this Parish during the past twelve years. Dorothy is writing personally to thank all who gave so generously. She is very touched by the gesture.

Parish Council website

Please keep in touch with us through our website where you will find all sorts of local information as well as all our Council Minutes and other records.

www.stanfordpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Marian Bebbington, Chair



Stanford Mill: now a beautiful landmark