

OLD STRATFORD ANNUAL OPEN MEETING
to be held in the Memorial Hall
TUESDAY 26th APRIL 2016 AT 7.30PM

**This is your chance to quiz Councillors on
matters affecting Old Stratford**

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Minutes of the 2015 AOM (previously displayed nb)**
- 3. Any Outstanding Matters**
(The Swan, Bridge Stores, Blackhorse Field housing
and other development updates)
- 4. Petitions or Questions from Electors**
(required in writing to the clerk by 12 noon 26th April)
- 5. Adoption of Accounts**
- 6. Report from Northamptonshire Police**
- 7. Report from NCC Highways**
- 8. Report from District Councillor**
- 9. Report from County Councillor**
- 10. Any Other Business**

**OLD STRATFORD
PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL NEWSLETTER**

Chairman's Report

I would like to take the opportunity in welcoming all new residents to Old Stratford and Passenham, any resident who would like to attend a Parish Council meeting may do so. Council meetings are held every second Tuesday of each month, only August being the exception when there is no meeting. Residents can see how the Parish Council conducts its business, on your behalf, and during the meeting there is time for residents to raise any questions or concerns that they may have during Public Speaking Time. I look forward to seeing residents joining our meetings.

Residents will have seen that the Blackhorse development is well underway, all be it with some teething problems such as mud on the road and the temporary traffic lights when the developer was installing the entrance to the site, after some lobbying from the Parish Council's Clerk and our District Councillor the mud problem seems to have improved and regards to the traffic lights, this only caused problems for a couple of days; it remains to be seen what sort of delays there will be once the estate has opened.

Regarding Passenham, things do not seem so encouraging regarding the inclusion of Ham Meadow into the Village Conservation Area, for those residents who are not aware of Ham Meadow it is an alluvial river flood plain (field) behind the village houses, it takes its name from its shape, that of a ham bone. Again I would like to thank the Friends of Passenham, County and District Councillors and the Parish Council for all their efforts.

Speeding still appears to be a major problem, especially down Passenham lane being used as a rat run to Milton Keynes and beyond. This subject is also a major concern with Old Stratford, the Parish Council records the number of vehicles travelling through

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Old Stratford over the 30mph speed limit using the illuminated SID's these record those vehicles travelling in excess of 35mph on average there are at least 100,000 vehicles per month recorded. When the Parish Council installed one in Passenham lane for one month it recorded 20,000 vehicles travelling at speeds in excess of 35mph. With such high figure it is very surprising to me that we have not had any really serious or even fatal accidents, I believe there has been several very close calls with fencing down Passenham Lane being demolished but no serious injuries. The current Police and Crime Commissioner has a road safety initiative where he intends to reduce speed by having more mobile speeding cameras perhaps the Parish Council should supply these figure to his office and request that the camera units visit Old Stratford and Passenham Lane.

Over the past few years residents who walk between Old Stratford and Stony Stratford have had some near misses with cyclist who ride their bicycles on the pavement, whilst this action is against the Law, riding a cycle on the main road through the village is extremely dangerous, in rural areas such as this the Police tend to take the view that it is safer for cyclists to ride on the pavement but they must show respect for pedestrians. I feel that both parties should show respect to each other when using the footpaths around the village.

I look forward to seeing the plans and design for the Swan Public House, I understand Mr Wilson has provided this newsletter with a short outline of his proposals and I hope he attends the Old Stratford Annual Open Meeting to present to the village his plans for the Pub's future. Our Annual Open Meeting will be held in the Memorial Hall on 19th April 2016 at 7.30pm, once again I look forward to seeing you all at this meeting.

In 2014 Old Stratford Parish Council adopted its village plan. One of the plan's objectives was to establish a twice yearly village tidy morning, asking villagers to volunteer for up to two hours of their time on a Saturday morning. This objective was keenly supported by the residents when asked for their opinions in the village questionnaire. The Parish Council would like to call on all villagers and Parish Councillors to volunteer some of their time to carry out a

OLD STRATFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman:

Tony Pateman **32 Mounthill Avenue** **567907**

Vice Chairman:

Nicky Lawrence **11 Chapmans Drive** **07967756988**

Council:

Colin Carey **71 Dickens Drive** **560171**

Bruce Clayton **49 Towcester Road** **562778**

Alan Holloway **45 Willow Grove** **562761**

Jacki Ibell **9 Cosgrove Road** **562677**

Donald MacDonald **61 Deanshanger Road** **562035**

Karen Morris **95 Deanshanger Road** **07532161875**

Linda Ritson **The Old Rectory, Passenham** **566014**

Noeleen Ryder **96 Mounthill Avenue** **263244**

Ray Smith **18 Deanshanger Road** **564815**

Clerk:

Derek Everett **10 Deanshanger Road** **569053**
(de@mk196aw.fsnet.co.uk)

District Councillor:

Stephen Mold **4 Kits Close, Hartwell** **07976244170**
(Stephen.Mold@southnortghants.gov.uk)

County Councillor:

Allen Walker **17 Porters Close, Deanshanger** **260302**
(awalker@northamptonshire.gov.uk)

Old Stratford Council website : www.oldstratford.org.uk

Old Stratford Community Hall News.

Another year has passed and we are again extending our thanks to everyone who volunteered to help at our Fireworks Display and Senior Citizens' Christmas Party last year. We really do appreciate how much time you give up to help us at these two events. If anyone is interested in helping this year please let Lesley Peach know by calling the Hall on 01908 307461. Here's the dates for this year: Fireworks Display – Saturday 5th November and the Senior Citizens' Christmas Party – Saturday 10th December. More details to follow later in the year.

A huge thank you also to the Parish Council who have helped us again with their very generous yearly donation. Without this donation we would really struggle to hold these two events, so we are extremely grateful that they continue to support us.

Following our appeal last year for new members on our committee, in November we welcomed four new faces. Thank you for coming along and we hope to see you again at future meetings. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Lesley Peach for more details.

Our monthly Senior Citizen Afternoon Teas are still very popular and it's lovely to see everyone each month. Just a reminder, we meet on the last Friday of every month (except December) in the Memorial Hall on Deanshanger Road. You don't have to be a resident of Old Stratford, everyone is welcome – the more the merrier! There are lots of clubs and group activities available at the Hall so have a look in the foyer or on our page of the Parish Council website to see what we offer. And don't forget, the Hall is available for hire and discounted rates are given to village residents!

The Old Stratford Community Hall Committee

village spring clean. It would be carried out under the control of the Parish Council and all necessary equipment would be provided for this task. The proposed date for the village spring clean would be the Second Saturday in June, any person(s) willing to donate two hours of their time for these tasks please forward your name(s) to the Parish Council via the village website www.oldstratford.org.uk many thanks in anticipation of a great turn out.

Local transport: The bus service for Old Stratford to Milton Keynes, Towcester and Northampton. Once again it would appear that the service has been somewhat cut. The service to Milton Keynes becoming a two hourly service and the one to Northampton being even less although we do have a slightly better service to Towcester that was originally proposed. I fail to understand why bus timetables have to be very difficult to understand I have tried to give a shortened version, with specific timings for Old Stratford. After talking to John Ellerby on Friday 16th February 2016, I now understand that the existing Bus provider, Stagecoach no longer believe that the X89 service financially viable to them and they will only provide a service to Milton Keynes from Old Stratford at 06.25 & 07.45am and there will be NO service during the OFF Peak period, they then will restart the service at 5.07pm and continue until 7.26pm. They will also provide a service from Old Stratford to Northampton at 07.25, 08.35 and 09.31am also they restart this service at 4.04pm, 6.19 and 8.19pm, these buses run from Deanshanger Road. They do not provide a service from Northampton (bay17 Northampton bus station) to Old Stratford during off peak periods. Stagecoach must consider that during these times they cannot take enough revenue to make them financially viable. I think these services are not subsidised and have to stand financially alone or they may be part subsidised. It appears that they did not wish to continue with the 90 service as it is fully subsidised.

The 90 Service which is currently being provided by Stagecoach will no longer be provided by them but will be taken over by a company called UNO Buses, they are a Northampton based company and they will run the 90 service as from Monday 22nd February 2016. This service 90 is 100% subsidised by Northamptonshire County Council.

The 90 service to Milton Keynes (the Point G3) via Stony Stratford starts at 07.20 am this bus can be caught opposite Mounthill Avenue. The next bus to Milton Keynes, which can be caught along the Deanshanger Road is 08.21am and this only runs during the school holidays and the next bus is at 08.31am and this runs during school term times only. The next bus is then 9.44am, this is known as the 90A service, and this bus goes to Stony Stratford only. As from 10.34am it is the 90 service and runs every two hour to Milton Keynes until 4.06pm. The final bus of the day to Milton Keynes as this 90 service is at 5.38pm and this can be caught from opposite Mounthill Avenue.

The service 90 from Milton Keynes (Food Hall B4 and K4 the Point) to Old Stratford, via Deanshanger Road, 10.54, 12.54pm, 2.59pm, runs schooldays and school holidays. The 4.27pm bus goes on to Northampton via Stoke Bruerne. The 6.00pm bus drops off adjacent to Mounthill Avenue.

The 90 serviced to Towcester (Watling Street) and then on to Northampton., the times for these buses are 11.23am and 1.23pm caught along Deanshanger Road. These buses change to an 86 service at Towcester and continue to Northampton, through fares are available.

Service 86 returning from Northampton to Old Stratford 08.58am, 11.01am 1.02pm 4.05pm all these buses run to Towcester at which point they change to a 90 service and continue to Milton Keynes where through fares are available.

The 86 services, Old Stratford to Northampton provides one bus at 9.54am which can be caught adjacent to Mounthill Avenue via Cosgrove and all villages to Northampton.. This service is fully subsidised by Northamptonshire County Council and is run by UNO Buses.

Sunday Service. A two hourly bus service will be provided by Country Lion and subsidised by Northamptonshire County Council. The service runs from Old Stratford to Milton Keynes. From Old Stratford to Milton Keynes 10.23am and this runs until 4.33pm. This service can be caught along the Deanshanger Road. A return service from Milton Keynes to Old Stratford starts at 11.10am and

Highways issues

A reminder that **highway defects** such as pot holes, blocked drains and other highway defects can be reported to Street Doctor 0300 126 1000 (Option 4) or via the Northants County Council website (www.northamptonshire.gov.uk).

However, the best course of action is to contact the Parish Clerk Derek Everett on 01908 569053 or via the website www.oldstratford.org.uk who will do it for you and can keep tabs on repairs or works required on behalf of the Parish Council. This also applies to any **street lighting** defects.

Dog Fouling Continues to be a messy issue, especially on pavements and verges. The football field and areas around play areas are already designated 'poop-a-scoop' areas attracting heavier fixed penalty fines. As a dog owner myself I would like to think that everyone picks up after their dog (even on public rights of way across fields) but, I'm not that naive. In Oxfield Park can we at least keep it off the mown edges to the paths because children play there. Falcon Drive open space has now becoming a serious issue again..

The Parish Council have dog bins installed and you can also use the Litter bins (normally with a bin liner so if double wrapped there should be no excuse)

Litter The thorny issue of litter around the shop and the route to Elizabeth Woodford School and other areas continues to attract adverse comments, even where we have installed new litter bins. With national campaigns to 'Keep Britain Tidy' a kindly word or thought could help, or show by example and make Old Stratford a more attractive place to live.

Derek M Everett MILCM
Parish Clerk

TADD
(Towcester Area Door to Door)

How much does it cost?

Annual membership is from £15.00. In addition to the annual membership, there is typically a 'per journey' cost. Some schemes accept concessionary bus passes to cover the 'per journey' cost.

You will be required to pay the service provider directly and will need to contact the relevant service for further information

Voluntary car schemes operate with volunteer drivers using their own vehicles to take passengers to pre-booked destinations. These must be medically related appointments.

E –Mail : tadd@btconnect.com

Phone: 01327 810300

WHALLEY'S APPRENTICING CHARITY
(Stony Stratford, Cosgrove & Old Stratford)

Applicants of 16 years and over, can claim up to a maximum of £100 towards Books and Equipment required for their chosen profession.

For more information or application form:
please contact

Derek Everett the Parish Clerk on 01908 569053

Old Stratford Craft Club

Meets on Mondays 2—4.30pm in the Memorial Hall,
Deanshanger Road.

continues the service until 5.20pm, the drop off point is at Deanshanger Road Old Stratford.

I hope that this shortened timetable helps in understanding the somewhat complex timetable produced by the County Council.

I would also like to say that if Northamptonshire County Council had not taken our comments seriously and provided a bus service themselves, Old Stratford would not have had any service out of peak periods; as Stagecoach felt that it is not financially viable to run the bus through Old Stratford..

Prior to Christmas and just into the New Year, Old Stratford suffer a Speight of burglaries, with two homes in Mounthill Avenue and one in Deanshanger Road. I would like to remind residents to remain vigilant at all times and if any resident feels that something is not as it should be, call 999 to report their concerns. I have also been informed that there has also been a series of cold callers, if this occurs at any home please call the Police line 101, or Door Step Crime on 0345 2307702. The Neighbourhood Watch coordinator is Mrs Jackie Ibell (telephone N^o 01908 562677) and would be helpful as she would be able to coordinate any Police actions.

As I stated earlier in my report, the Blackhorse field development is progressing at a pace, and as promised **allotments** will be part of this development and should be handed over to Parish partway through the build; anyone wishing to have an allotment should contact the Parish Clerk and register their interest. For more information on all organisations and events in and around Old Stratford and Passenham please look at the village website, notice boards or in the window of Bridge stores.

Finally the Parish Council are looking for keen gardeners who would like to give some of their time and ideas to improve the look of our village, this could be planting tubs and creating small flower borders around the village, please contact via our website or the Parish Clerk.

Tony Pateman
Chairman

Neighbourhood Watch Report

It looks like Summer is almost here so there are a few things I should remind you about, as most of us will be enjoying the Garden.

Sheds and Garages.

Sheds are easy targets. To secure the doors and windows invest in strong locks and key operated bolts. Garages Never leave a garage unlocked especially if it is connected to the house.

Garden

Store all ladders out of sight and lock all garden tools in the shed or garage. Don't make it easy for anybody to break in. Make sure your ladders are padlocked to a wall. Consider keeping hedged shrubbery below one metre high to maximise visibility from anyone Passing by. Installing PIR lights wherever there is access to doors and windows at the front and back of property is also a good idea.

Holidays

When a property is going to be empty for a night or more, speak to a trustworthy neighbour. Tell them how long you will be away and ask them to remove all mail from the letter box and if possible to park their car there for a few nights.

Have a lovely Summer.

PHONE SCAM ALERT.

There are several scams around where people have lost thousands of pounds. The Police and Banks will NEVER ask you for banking details or PIN number on the phone or on the doorstep, similarly they would never send a 'Courier' to collect bank cards or money. Any such occurrences should be reported by phoning 101. ***Please be aware of this.***

Jacki Ibell
Neighbourhood Watch 01908 562677

Passenham United Charities

Passenham United Charities exists to give small grants to local people who live in, or have connections with the parishes of Passenham, Deanshanger, Old Stratford and Puxley.

Grants can be given to any in need; they are most frequently given in the event of a funeral and to voluntary groups. The Trustees will also give grants to parents of schoolchildren for school trips and other expenses. This would normally be arranged through the School.

The Charities' income is quite small and so grants will normally be in the region of £50 though the Trustees will consider requests for higher amounts. The Charity is unable to assist in cases requiring on going support.

Anyone who thinks that they may qualify for a grant and wishes to apply should contact the following in complete confidence:

Rev Christopher Murray 01908 262371
A/Clerk to the Charity 01908 564725