

From the Old Stratford Community Hall:

FIREWORKS DISPLAY

We are holding our annual Fireworks Display on **Saturday 5th November** at the Community Hall. Gates open at 5.30pm and the event finishes at 7.30pm. Adults are £2; children under 16 are free. The display usually takes place around 6.30pm but please come along earlier to help support your local groups with their much-needed fundraising activities, as well as enjoying the popular band, BBQ and activities for younger children. **Please remember**, for licensing reasons, only alcohol purchased in our on-site bar can be consumed at the event. Anyone trying to enter the car park with alcohol will be asked to dispose of it or stay off-site. Fireworks can be dangerous – please keep a close eye on your children and don't allow them to wander beyond the roped off area for their own safety.

SENIOR CITIZEN AFTERNOON TEAS

We meet on the **last Friday of every month (except December), 2pm – 4pm, in the Memorial Hall**. We welcome anyone from Old Stratford and neighbouring villages and there's plenty of hot drinks, sandwiches and cakes to tempt you. We alternate between a raffle and Bingo each month with all money raised for the year donated to a charity chosen by the group. If you haven't been before, come along and give it a try - we promise you a warm welcome!

SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

This year our Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch is **Saturday 10th December**. Invitations will be delivered in the next couple of months but please reply promptly as we are restricted on numbers. If you are new to the village or have never been before and would like some more information, please contact Lesley Peach on 01908 307461 and we will send you an invitation. We welcome any resident of the village over the age of 65, however if you have a partner who is under 65, they are very welcome to join you. Come along and enjoy a festive afternoon with us!

OLD STRATFORD PARISH COUNCIL AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

Chairman's Autumn Report

We have had quite a busy time since my last report:

Village tidy:

Parish Councillor's, residents and children helped with the village tidy-up in June; this was a really good event and all those who took part enjoyed the experience, so much so they all would like to do another one. Those involved managed to collect 25 sacks of rubbish, an old burnt out microwave and some scrap metal. Once again thank you to Residents, Parish Councillor's and children who all helped. (see note Page 4)

Heavy Goods Vehicle Problems:

At the July meeting of the Parish Council several residents were concerned about the number of heavy goods and construction vehicles passing through Old Stratford, the Parish Council are; at the time of writing; conducting traffic surveys. The information collated will be used to try and reduce or eradicate the through flow of these heavy vehicles. Residents living on the A5 have reported that these heavy vehicles are causing structural damage to their properties and they are having an effect on resident's health and wellbeing. The local Highways department have already been informed of these concerns regarding property structural damage and the wellbeing of the resident's involved. Since this meeting the Parish Clerk, a representative from Northamptonshire County Council, the Leader of South Northamptonshire District council and the Leader of Milton Keynes Council have had discussions on this subject and the Leader of MK Council is discussing these issues with his transport sect to investigate the possibility of a weight restriction over the river bridge between Old Stratford and Stony

OCTOBER 2016

Stratford. Regarding the traffic from the Milton Keynes western expansion the MK Leader is undertaking discussions with his planning department to see if they can control this problem better.

Local Bus service:

I understand that there have been a number of issues regarding the 90 bus service, i.e. buses not turning up, buses being late and buses going before the allotted timetable time. This service is provided by UNO Buses and is 100% subsidised by Northamptonshire County Council. The Clerk and I have spoken to Northamptonshire County Council Transport department and have talked to Mr John Ellerby, Transport Manager, He suggested that any one experiencing any difficulties should contact him direct at the time of the incident or as soon as possible after the event.

Contact: John Ellerby

Telephone Number: 01604 364344

Old Stratford Round About (RAB):

Some confusion occurred over many months about who was responsible for the RAB maintenance since the responsibilities of the Highways Agency passed to Highways England, that is until now, thanks to the efforts of the Parish Clerk Highways England (Area 7 & 8) now accepts full responsibility for the RAB and splitter islands (junction quadrants) and after the recent grass cuts, SNC have been asked to deal with the litter

News in General:

The Blackhorse Field development is now moving at a pace and I believe that phase one is almost complete. I am not certain when the village will take over the allotments as the sites store area is still in the allotment allocated area, watch this space.

Passenham quarry is still on going and the Parish Council have discovered that the sites owners have applied for a license to store six lorries and six trailers on the quarry recycling site, the Parish have made objections. The quarry extension application is still with the Planning Inspectors with a decision expected soon.

Seasonal Crime Prevention

At this time of year as the nights get darker in late afternoon put some lights on and draw the curtains. If you are out all day purchase a couple of time switches and set one on a lamp in the hall and one elsewhere so that more than one room looks occupied. Keep all doors locked and Windows closed.

Do not leave car keys in view and as Christmas is nearing do not leave presents wrapped or unwrapped in view.

When recycling empty boxes, fold the card inside out so you don't advertise you have a new tv Or big gifts.

FRAUD & SCAMS

TAKE FIVE is a campaign launched to help stop financial fraud and is a moment for you to think and remember some simple advice.

- 1 Never disclose security details i.e. PIN number or full password
- 2 Don't assume an E mail request or caller is genuine.
- 3 Don't be rushed; Genuine banks or organisations won't mind giving you time to think or phone back.
- 4 Listen to your instinct! If it's sounds too good to be true then it probably is!
- 5 Stay in control have the confidence to say NO to requests for unusual information.

Stay safe. To contact Northants Police in a Non Emergency dial 101. Emergency 999,

Jacki Ibell Neighbourhood Watch.

Parish Council updates

In addition to the new roof for the Memorial Hall (which is 100 years old in 2019). Updated lighting and other improvements. Internal maintenance continues thanks to Kevin Peach and his good work, hampered recently by a large wasps nest in the rear lean-to which had to be dealt with before he could finish.

The WW2 Home Guard ammunition bunker rear of the hall has again attracted some attention as it is only one of two that remain in Northamptonshire.

St Guthlac's has seen work carried out on the many mature trees in the churchyard. The Parish Council has also financed the repair of part of the wall fronting Passenham Lane as a goodwill gesture.

Your Parish Council has also agreed to refurbish the children's play area at Chapmans Drive, paid for by Earmarked Reserves and a New Homes Bonus grant.

The Parish Council as you know, is also considering the upgrade of village street lamps to save money in the long term and to be more efficient (green friendly) as required by the powers to be and we thank Cllr Alan Holloway for all his work

District Councillor Surgeries

Our new District Councillor Ken Pritchard will be holding bi-monthly surgeries in the Memorial Hall from 10—11am on Saturdays 7th January; 11th March & 13 May 2017

See website and notice board for future dates

The Parish Council marked the Queen's 90th birthday by providing all the children at Old Stratford's Preschool and the Primary school with the British Mint Queens Birthday Commemorative coins.

Happy Ninetieth Birthday Your Majesty

I have to remind all residents regarding the need to be vigilant with regards to property burglaries, especially at this time of the year, when residents have windows and doors open because of the hot weather. Several homes around Old Stratford have been burgled in the last couple of months. Residents should ensure windows and doors are closed before going out and/or going to bed, and if you are going on holiday always inform your neighbour and ask them if they would mind keeping a look out for your property. Keeping a look out is more especially needed for those who are vulnerable. Any suspicious incidents should be reported to the Police on 101 and/or our Neighbourhood watch Co-ordinator Mrs Jackie Ibell, telephone No: 01908 562677.

I would also like to congratulate Stephen Mold on his appointment as the new Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commissioner, if Stephen works as tirelessly in his new role as he did as Old Stratford's District Councillor he will certainly achieve the goals he has set out in his manifesto. Good Luck Stephen, Also at this point I would like to say that we now have a new District Councillor; Mr Ken Pritchard who was elected as our new representative on the District Council. Congratulations Ken, looking forward to see Ken at our October and regular meetings.

I would also like to thank the Parish Clerk for all the work he conducts on behalf of Old Stratford some of which is beyond his line of duty, but he does it regardless, I think he sometimes feels he is taken for granted, please do not feel this way and I and the Parish Council support all the efforts he tirelessly carries out on behalf of our village.

Autumn Clean Up

As part of our on-going Village tidy campaign the Parish Council are organising another village tidy up. This is to take place on Saturday December 3rd 2016; the tidy up will take place between 9.00am and 11.00am.

All materials and equipment, needed for the tidy up, will be provided.

Anyone wishing to help please meet at the Memorial Hall at the above time, equipment will be provided.

www.oldstratford.org.uk

The second announcement is that the Parish Council are investigating the possibility to install flower baskets and tubs around the village in the spring of 2017.

Any Villager wishing to help with the regular up keep of these floral displays please forward your name to the Parish Clerk via the Village web site. www.oldstratford.org.uk

More information later

Finally, it is with great sadness, I have to report the death of one of Old Stratford's elder statesmen, Donald MacDonald, who sadly passed away in June 2016 after a short illness. Don had served Old Stratford and Passenham as a Parish Councillor for many years. He was also involve with many committees and charities associated with both Villages.

Don served tirelessly to improve both villages; he will be sadly missed by all those who knew him.

Tony Pateman
Chairman

News from Old Stratford Primary School October 2016

I wanted to introduce myself to the wider community and felt that the parish newsletter would be an excellent way of doing this.

My name is Phil Webster and I was appointed as the partnership head at Old Stratford in September. I am also a head of a school nearby in Milton Keynes and am sharing my time between the two establishments.

I have been delighted with the response I have received from children, staff, parents and the wider community at the school and am looking forward to the challenges of creating a new vision while valuing all the great opportunities that have benefited children in the past. The staff are truly dedicated to the school and work tirelessly to create an atmosphere of purposeful learning.

It has been wonderful to see so many fantastic activities go on already and we are particularly looking forward to our 50th Birthday celebrations on Friday 21st October. We want as many people of the local community to be involved as we can and if you have any pictures or stories of years gone by please send them into bursar@olstratford.northants-ecl.gov.uk.

We are always very happy to welcome visitors who would like to know more about their village school. Please contact me by phone or email if you would like to arrange a visit.

01908 267700 head@oldstratford.northants-ecl.gov.uk

You might also be interested to visit our school website: www.oldstratfordschool.org.uk

Kind regards
P.Webster
Partnership Headteacher

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
Clerk to the Charity Sally Willis 01908 561660

Village maintenance

As this Newsletter is about to be printed, County Council contractors are installing new Street Lamps in London Road and Towcester Road originally promised in Spring 2015. Typically just like the Gas Board contractors, they just turned up without warning. Whilst utilities are permitted to carry our emergency repairs these apparent routine schedule works are supposed to be publicised. But apparently not in Old Stratford.

The traffic ignoring the No Entry at the end of Deanshanger Road continues to cause concern, with some finger pointing at those living in Dickens Drive area. This is an issue we are attempting to deal with along with the Police, especially as the congestion at the roundabout is getting worse. The central island just after the Blackhorse Drive entrance In Towcester Road added on road safety grounds is not helping through traffic at morning and evening peaks. This is to be monitored after the completion of the development!

**A reminder that all highway issues, defective street lamps and other parish matters of concern can be reported direct to the Parish Clerk Derek Everett
On 01908 569053 or via the website on
www.oldstratford.org.uk**

**Alternatively reports can be made via the County Councils Street Doctor on 0300 1261000
or online at
www.northamptonshire.gov.uk**

WHALLEY'S APPRENTICING CHARITY
(Stony Stratford, Cosgrove and 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

Craft Club (Mondays 2 — 4.30pm in the Memorial Hall)

Old Stratford Parish Council

**Will be holding its annual
Remembrance Sunday Wreath Laying cer-
emony on 13th November at
11am at the Memorial Hall**

Everyone is welcome

OLD STRATFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman:

Tony Pateman 32 Mounthill Avenue 567907

Vice Chairman:

Nicky Laurence 11 Chapmans Drive 07967756988

Council:

Bruce Clayton 49 Towcester Road 562778

Colin Carey 71 Dickens Drive 569171

Alan Holloway 45 Willow Grove 562761

Jacki Ibell 9 Cosgrove Road 562677

Karen Morris 95 Deanshanger Road 07532161875

Linda Ritson The Old Rectory Cottage. Pass 566014

Noeleen Ryder 96 Mounthill Ave 263244

Ray Smith 18 Deanshanger Road 564815

Vacancy

Clerk:

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

District Councillor:

Ken Pritchard The Barn, Puxley 07764939070
(ken.pritchard@btinternet.com)

County Councillor:

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

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